

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications for this paper should be accompanied by the name of the author, not necessarily for publication, but so that we may know the source of the writer. Write only on one side of the paper. Be particularly careful in giving names and dates to avoid possible trouble. Such names and dates are often difficult to decipher, because of the careless manner in which they are written.

The Negro Press association devoted a considerable part of its session in Richmond to a discussion of the question whether the word Negro should be spelled with a capital or a small initial letter.

HUMAN hair is absolutely the most profitable crop that grows. Five tons of it are annually imported by the merchants of London. The Parisians harvest upward of 200,000 pounds, equal in value to \$80,000 per annum.

An informant of the Brooklyn Standard Union has a kindly word for the mosquito. He declares that its bite would be harmless if left alone; it merely sucks the poison from our systems, a real benefit in hot weather.

AFTER all the talk about the wonderful speed of electric motors the first electric locomotive, weighing 60,000 pounds, has at last been constructed and is found by actual trial to have a maximum speed of thirty miles an hour.

ONE of the most productive sections of the world is the Russian province of Bessarabia, taken from Turkey in 1878. Its vineyards often yield 300 gallons of wine per acre; the average yield of wheat is 35 bushels and of maize 60 bushels.

THERE are four unique mountains in Lower California, two of alum, one alum and sulphur mixed and one of pure sulphur. It is estimated that in the four peaks named there are 100,000,000 tons of pure alum and 1,000,000 tons of sulphur.

An observant drummer says he can readily tell who is the boss on the farms he passes, the farmer or his wife. If a farm has a large barn and a small house the man is boss, but when there is a fine house and a dilapidated barn you may know that the woman has her own way.

PROF. C. K. JENNESS, of the Leland Stanford university, the sociologist, in order to more thoroughly familiarize himself with tramp life, dressed himself as a tramp and lived among the profession. He was, however, quickly detected and forced out of the ranks of the fraternity.

SOME time ago an Iowa cyclone followed the route of a railroad for several miles, and now there is a theorist on deck who proposes to steer these storms, by means of rails laid and wires strung for the purpose, into open sections of country where they can spend their force without damage.

WITH the aid of the great Link telescope astronomers have made the startling discovery that one of the satellites of Jupiter is double—in other words, that what has heretofore been taken for a single moon is, indeed, two moons, a large and a small one, the lesser slowly revolving around the greater.

M. H. DE YOUNG has returned to San Francisco to nurse an "idea." It is proposed to hold a great winter fair in that city which shall draw on the Columbian exposition for its material. It is declared that 12,000 American exhibitors at the World's fair and 1,000 foreigners have expressed a willingness to remove their goods to the Pacific coast, provided sufficient money is guaranteed to insure success.

IN the horticultural building there is a solid silver filigree model of that structure which cost \$35,000, or about one-seventh of the cost of the larger building itself. It weighs 110 pounds, is 11 feet long, 3 feet 3 inches wide and 3 feet 0 inches in height. To build it required the service of 12 men, working 18 hours a day, 18 months. The work was done by the Mexicans, who are the most adept in the filigree art.

SELDOM is a person so afflicted as the wife of a clerk in the treasury department in Washington. Her husband died a few days ago. The day after he was buried one of her boys broke his leg. On the following day another child broke his arm, and on the third day another child was taken ill with typhoid fever. Her household is turned into a hospital, and she has less than a dozen dollars in her possession.

PROF. BELL thinks the time occupied by inventors in working out the problem of aerial navigation by the usual inflated gas-bags and methods of steering them is wasted. He thinks a feasible means of propelling and directing an air-ship would be by a kind of trolley system where the rod would hang down from the car to the stretched wire, instead of extending upward. He recommends this idea to inventors.

A COLLECTOR of odds and ends in New York has a remarkable representation of fruit in stone. It is a bunch of grapes carved from amethyst of rich purple, with stem, leaves and tendrils cunningly wrought from malachite, serpentine and jade. A basket is also heaped with apples, peaches, oranges, plums, apricots and raspberries that prove on inspection to be made of malachite, rhodonite, jasper and oddly colored marbles.

A YOUNG woman of Portland, Ore., recently went into a trance and did not come out of it for twelve hours. She then related her experience. She said she had journeyed through the unknown world, and saw many acquaintances in the place of punishment, and a few in the haven of reward. Then she named names, and it caused trouble, for many whom the young woman located in the region of perpetual punishment are at present residents of Portland. Those who were fortunate enough to be seen in the other place are satisfied, and believe in the journey.

## BLOWN TO PIECES.

Two Boys Horribly Mangled by the Explosion of a Powder Magazine at Huntington, Ind.—Two Other Dead Bodies Said to Have Been Found.

HUNTINGTON, Ind., July 25.—At 3 o'clock Monday afternoon there was an explosion that shook the earth. People on the streets could not account for it. A huge volume of smoke arose from the south bank of Little river, west of the Lafontaine bridge, and told the story. On the high bank at the point known as the Elm, on the property of M. B. Schaeffer, formerly stood the powder house of Schaeffer & Schaeffer. It was a small brick structure about 6 by 8 feet in size and low. On one side was a window, or rather an air hole.

Monday afternoon some boys were swimming in the river at that point. They saw Homer Householder and Hugh Harvey near the powder house with a rifle. In an instant there was a roar, the earth trembled, and bricks, dirt and stone were hurled in a shower in all directions. When the smoke cleared away the two boys could not be seen. The powder house had exploded.

Not a brick was left in place. In fact, there was nothing left to mark the spot upon which the little building had stood except the torn-up ground and a few charred pieces of wood. The wreck was complete. Bricks were hurled half a mile. Many were blown clear through house roofs, and in one of M. B. Schaeffer's houses a brick carried away a door.

A great crowd soon collected and viewed the ruins. While the people were walking about somebody almost stepped upon two dead bodies. The bodies were lying in the grass on the north side of the river, one being on the Wabash right of way. When found the bodies were entirely naked. Their clothing was all burned off. Homer Householder, the one found on the Wabash right of way, was badly mangled. His arms were gone and his head crushed. The other body, that of Hugh Harvey, was even more mutilated than that of Householder. The head was blown off and the body burned. It had no clothing, but a piece of Harvey's trousers was found near by. This helped to identify him. Crowds surrounded the bodies and viewed the sickening sight.

The bodies were removed to Kenoyer's undertaking establishment, where they will be prepared for burial. An unknown man and boy who were nearer the powder house than Householder and Harvey cannot be found.

This boy and man had been in the neighborhood several days, but were strangers. Late Monday night it was reported that two more heads were found near the powder house, making four dead in all.

A boy named Peden said he had been with Harvey and Householder when Harvey proposed that they go and shoot into the powder house window. Peden refused and ran away, and had gone but a short distance when the explosion occurred. Peden was knocked down and bruised. The heavy iron door of the powder house has not been found.

Andrew Herzog and John Gooley were drilling a well about 150 yards away. The shower of brick and stones about them was frightful. Herzog was struck in the side by a flying brick and knocked down. A brick struck Gooley's left wrist and hurt it badly. Windows were broken in all parts of town. They were broken in the courthouse, Third ward schoolhouse, Catholic church, new Osborne hotel and many other large buildings. George Pastor's greenhouses were riddled.

The powder house was used by Schaeffer & Schaeffer to store away their stock of powder and dynamite.

It was small and had a heavy door, locked with a common padlock. The last person to enter the house was John Kunze, who was there several days ago. Kunze said to a reporter that the house contained about twenty-five kegs of powder and one fifty-pound box of 25 per cent dynamite.

**BATTLE WITH STRIKERS.**

Guards at a Kansas Mine Have an Engagement with the Mob.

WICHITA, Kan., July 25.—The guards at shaft 47 had a pitched battle with a mob of strikers at 10:30 o'clock Monday night. The mob approached the mine quietly and fired into the shaft. Deputy Sheriff Grant, who was on patrol guard, returned the fire and, calling the other guards, defended the mine against the mob. Over 100 shots were fired, but none of the deputies were injured. When the mob saw that the guards were standing their ground they fled. It is not known how many, if any, of the mob were shot.

TOPEKA, Kan., July 25.—Many calls have been made upon Gov. Lewelling for guns with which to arm persons engaged in the strike in southeastern Kansas. President Walters of the Miners' union has asked for arms for the strikers, claiming that they need them for self defense. C. E. Arnold, sheriff of Cherokee county, has also telegraphed to the governor for guns, to which the governor replied as follows:

"Under no circumstances can the state authority permit violence. Strikers must not trespass nor assault United States marshals nor destroy property. Read this to the miners."

The governor will not send arms to the district and will not call out the militia unless it is absolutely necessary.

He has secret agents on the ground who are keeping him informed of the situation.

**STUB ENDS OF THOUGHT.**

JUSTICE is frozen mercy.

AMBITION is a loaded gun.

A SHARP tongue cuts off friends.

A KISS is affection's ginger snap.

Don't take a summer girl on sight.

SOME preachers are the devil's delight.

The laborer is not always worthy of his hire.

UNEXPRESSED thoughts are seed dormant in the ground.

If a woman looed into her conscience as often as she looks into her mirror she wouldn't be any worse for it.—Detroit Free Press.

## FOR FREE SILVER.

Any Man Who Favors the Free Coinage of the White Metal May Be a Delegate to the Convention on Which Meets in Chicago, Tuesday, August 1.

CHICAGO, July 26.—Advocates of free silver will hold a mass meeting in Chicago next week. Pursuant to a call issued on July 4, delegates from every state and territory in the union will gather here in the opening meeting next Tuesday. While it is impossible to estimate exactly the number of delegates who will attend at least 600 are expected to be here.

The following is the call as issued from Washington, D. C., and sent to every state:

"The recent culmination of events of the greatest moment to the people of this country call for wise counsel and determined action on the part of the patriotic citizens. A concerted plan of manifest to seize upon the present opportunity to destroy silver as money, and to establish finally and forever the single gold standard, and at one stroke to change all debts and gold debts with a never-ending rise of gold and silver prices."

"A financial disturbance, largely artificial and needless, has been created as an object-lesson, and falsely attributed to the present silver law, in order out of it to create a manifestation of public sentiment under cover of which the greater crime of overthrowing the money of the constitution and establishing the single gold standard may be consummated. As a part of the same great conspiracy the mints of India have been closed, and the shock is felt around the world.

"Congress has been called to meet in extra session on August 7. If at this session the money standard of the constitution is overthrown and the single gold standard is finally established, to be extended over the world, an economic revolution will have been inaugurated more disastrous to the welfare of mankind, and especially to the producing and laboring classes, than any in the history of the world.

"In view, therefore, of the threatening conditions that have arisen, and in answer to numerous appeals for action, the executive committee of the American Bimetallic league has deemed it proper to call a national convention to be held at Chicago, beginning August 1, and to continue as long as the convention may direct.

"All members of the league are requested to attend, and all who are in favor of maintaining the money of the constitution and opposed to the establishment of a single gold standard in the United States, without regard to party, are invited to attend and participate in the deliberations of the convention. All economic associations and all industrial organizations are requested to send delegates to this convention. A special invitation is extended to members of congress, members of state legislatures. Governors of states are requested to appoint as many delegates as they may deem proper.

"By order of the executive committee.

"A. J. WARNER, President,  
"W. M. BAINBRIDGE, Secretary."

There has been no particular basis of representation. It is to be simply a mass convention, and any man favoring free coinage is entitled to a seat. However, many governors of states and committees of organization have appointed delegates.

The first meeting will be called on Tuesday, August 1, at 10 o'clock in the morning in the First Methodist church, corner Clark and Washington streets.

Gen. A. J. Warner, for many years a congressman from Ohio, but now stationed at Washington, will call the convention to order.

Gen. Warner is president of the bimetallic league, an organization having clubs reaching over all the country. Among the prominent free silver advocates who are to be here and make addresses are: Senators Stewart and Jones, of Nevada; Senators Teller and Wolcott, of Colorado; Congressmen Pence, of Colorado; Senator Peffer, of Kansas; Senator Vance, of North Carolina; Senator Jones, of Arkansas, and others.

**LEFT THE COUNTRY.**

The Man in Charge of the Swiss Display of Watches at the Fair Gets Away with About \$30,000 in Cash and Goods.

CHICAGO, July 26.—H. Bertrand Nemitz, of Switzerland, left Chicago Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock, and is probably now under arrest at Toronto, Canada, charged with \$30,000 in embezzlement. Nemitz came to the world's fair in charge of the exhibit of watches that is made by the famous watch factories of Geneva, Switzerland. He represented thirty firms. It was discovered that he had been making sales of goods and pocketing the receipts. Nemitz took alarm when an inventory of the exhibit was ordered by the Swiss commissioner, acting on the advice of secret service men of the treasury department, and left at once for Canada. From Sarnia, Ont., he wrote to a woman with whom he was living, Josephine Wagnon, directing her to start at once for Toronto, and to meet him at the Rossin house in that city. He instructed the woman in this letter to "bring all of the watches and jewelry that there are in the house and all the articles of value that you can get your hands on." Commissioner Perinard says that when Nemitz left he took everything in the safe, the amount of currency that he obtained in this way being estimated at \$5,000, and the amount obtained from sales at \$25,000.

**POWDERLY TO RESIGN.**

He Will Abandon Labor Agitation for the Law.

NEW YORK, July 26.—General Master Workman Terence V. Powderly of the Knights of Labor is to resign, and his resignation is to be accepted. The news leaked out Monday night and was confirmed by people high in the councils of the order. Powderly has been studying law for some time, and is in a position to begin practice in the Pennsylvania courts. All that delays him now is his duty as general master workman. The knights will not ask him to retire. It is believed that T. B. McGuire will be Powderly's successor.

**RUIN AND DEATH.**

An Explosion of Naptha Demolishes a Brooklyn Factory and Kills Four Men.

NEW YORK, July 21.—Late Thursday afternoon an explosion of naptha exploded in the sweat-bond factory of J. D. Campbell, No. 211 Walworth street, Brooklyn, killing four persons. They are: J. D. Campbell and son Samuel, John Weiss and Jacob Weiss. Mattheus Dering was badly injured. The building, a two-story frame structure is a complete wreck. There were twelve persons employed in the factory. All except the five named were in the basement and escaped without injury.

**MIGHT BE WORSE.**

## HAS LEFT BANGKOK.

The French Minister Departs from the Siamese Capital—The Ministry, However, Hesitates to Declare War—Siam's Plucky Reply Was Unexpected.

PARIS, July 26.—The ministry is now in a quandary. It was not contemplated that Siam would resist, and the cabinet hesitates to incur the odium of bloodshed. According to international law neutral powers are not bound to recognize a blockade except between belligerents, and the French constitution provides that war cannot be declared without the consent of parliament. The situation is one of the greatest difficulty and only success can justify the policy which M. Deveille has adopted. Should he fail the country, already smarting under the long tale of colonial failures, will visit him and his cabinet with the heaviest penalties. President Carnot's absence from the capital at such a critical moment has revived the rumors of his serious illness.

It transpires that the reports current that the French government had notified the various powers of her intention to blockade the ports of Siam were premature. No such notification has been officially addressed to the powers. Lord Dufferin, the British ambassador, and M. Deveille, minister of foreign affairs, will hold another conference Wednesday, presumably on the question of territorial demands made by France on Siam.

BANGKOK, July 26.—M. Pavie, French minister resident, started down the river Tuesday afternoon on the warship Inconstante, accompanied by the warships Lutin and Comete. All is quiet in this city.

LONDON, July 26.—The Daily Chronicle makes the rather utopian suggestion that the government should convene a conference of the great European powers and America and endeavor to arrive at a final solution of the international difficulties in Siam, Newfoundland, etc.

TIEN-TSIN, July 26.—The Chinese government has received the news of France's territorial demands upon Siam with amazement and indignation. That France should lay claim to country up to the twenty-third parallel is regarded as an intrusion upon the rights of China, for at Pekin the contention is that both banks of the Mekong to a point well south of the twenty-third parallel are Chinese possessions. The mandarin party, which is bitterly anti-French, is trying to force the government to interfere.

**MANY CARS DITCHED.**

World's Fair Express on the Baltimore & Ohio Wrecked—Thirty-Nine Passengers Hurt.

AKRON, O., July 26.—A most serious accident occurred on the Pittsburgh & Western railway at Monroe Falls, about 7 miles north of here, Tuesday. The second section of a Baltimore & Ohio excursion train, loaded with excursionists for New York state bound to the world's fair, was thrown from the track by the spreading of the rails, and three of the day coaches loaded with excursionists rolled down a 15-foot embankment and two other cars were derailed.

Thirty-nine persons were seriously injured, three of them fatally. A number of doctors from here went to the scene of the wreck and did all in their power to allay the suffering of the injured. As speedily as possible these were conveyed to Akron, and all are being cared for at the city hospital.

IF REPORTS are true the accident was due to defective ties, and negligence on the part of those whose business it is to keep the track in repair. The train was going around a sharp curve when the accident occurred. Those fatally injured are J. H. Moreick, Humeston, Ia.; Judson Hunt, Philadelphia, and Lela Hunt, Baltimore. All injured passengers were in day coaches. Many of them were asleep when the train jumped the track, and not at once realizing what had happened the greatest confusion prevailed. The last coach was smashed into kindling wood, and it is a miracle that any of the occupants came out alive.

**HELD FOR MURDER.**

Five Persons Under Arrest at Burlington, Ia., Charged with Causing a Woman's Death.

BURLINGTON, Ia., July 26.—Mrs. Leonard Fritzsche was shot through the heart and instantly killed Tuesday morning while sleeping in her bed near an open window. It is charged that some one from outside fired the shot. The position of the body and wound indicates that the ball was fired from within the house. Five people are under arrest, three neighbors with whom the Fritzsches had considerable trouble and the husband and a hired girl. The relations of the dead woman and her husband were not happy. The case is one of the most mysterious ever occurring in Burlington.

**WRECKED at a Railroad Trestle.**

ALTON, Ill., July 26.—At 6 a.m. Tuesday morning at Riehl's trestle, 6 miles up the river, on the St. Louis, Chicago & St. Paul railroad, a fatal accident occurred. The engine and five cars of a local freight train had passed over safely, when the trestle gave way and the remainder of the train was piled up in the ravine below. William Burrill, conductor, was killed outright, and Johnson and Mathews, brakemen, were fatally injured.