

BLUE LAW REGIME NOT CONSIDERED, SAYS REV. WADE

Denies Newspaper Charge
Ministers Postpone Con-
templated Action Until Af-
ter Local Option Election.

MEAT SHOP CLOSING NOT OPENING WEDGE

Some Ministers Favor Strin-
gent Sunday Observance,
But Association Never Took
Action to Such Effect.

In terms of indignations just about as strong as within his keeping as a clergyman, one of the most prominent ministers of the city today denounced the story printed in a local newspaper last evening in which the ministers were charged with intention to place the city under a regime of "blue laws" following the local option election. "Just say for me that story is an absolute fake insofar as it concerns any action of the ministerial body," declared the pastor and his displeasure of such "unwarranted and unfair newspaper attacks" was evident from his attitude.

News Not Suppressed.
"None of the contemplated measures of the ministerial association is being held back in order to gain public favor and votes for the local option movement," stated the Rev. R. J. Wade pastor of the First M. E. church and the speaker quoted above. Continuing he remarked: "There may be some individual members of the Ministerial association who would favor closing the confectioneries, cigar stores, drug stores and other lines of business on Sunday, just like when pool and billiards were considered at the Y. M. C. A. But these probably would encounter a hard time in convincing other members of the association that it would be a proper move. When the pool and billiard matter was considered we thrashed it out and decided no interference should be attempted."

No "Blue Law" Regime.
"Again, you may say, the closing of the meat markets is not to be regarded as an opening wedge." This was not undertaken with any view toward putting blue laws into effect in the city, at all. The Ministerial association tried no coercion nor undue influence. A committee was appointed and its members conferred with the meat dealers. Many of them said they would much prefer to close their shops on Sunday, if the others would. So the committee visited all the dealers and tried to induce them to sign a paper signifying their willingness to discontinue with the Sunday business.

"Don't you think, either," continued Rev. Wade, "the ministers would compromise their position by trying to hold off any contemplated move simply because of the local option election and in the hope of securing more votes. It looks to be the newspaper foes of the local option are trying to make the people believe if they vote the county dry, the ministers intend to carry the blue-law idea to the extreme. That is misrepresenting the facts."

Denies Postponing Action.
"The Ministerial association was charged with planning to take steps in regard to the wrestling matches because they over-emphasized the animal side of man. The wrestling matches were discussed in the ministerial meeting but it was not decided to wait until after the election before making a protest, despite what may be alleged in a newspaper. The matter came up and we decided the best thing to do would be to have it out. It was talked over and decided that we could not see just where the wrestling matches were any of our business. I do not deny that some of the ministers may favor a more stringent observance of the Sunday closing laws but never has the Ministerial association decided to postpone anything because of the pending election."

MANY AMERICAN TOUR- ISTS BELIEVED DEAD

(Continued From Page One.)

his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Haggood, were traveling in the vicinity of the earthquake. Great anxiety is felt by him. Another one of the sons is an editor on Collier's Weekly.

DISASTER ON DISASTER.

Another Violent Earthquake Shock Yesterday Completes Ruin.

Rome, Dec. 31.—Minister Titoni last night admitted that the Government's advice placed the known dead in Messina and Reggio at 115,000. The Government officials hesitate to give out all the details they have learned, fearing the effect of worse news on the population, owing to the fact that in his city and Naples persons are going insane in the streets, their reason destroyed by the awful tidings.

On this account the news of another

disaster in the earthquake zone yesterday was not made public.

Another violent earthquake shock occurred at Messina yesterday afternoon. This second shock completed the work of ruin. The few buildings which were left standing in the wake of Monday collapsed, and it is feared that many more persons were killed.

The news of the second disaster reached here yesterday morning and has not yet been published. The ruin of Messina is now complete and absolutely irrevocable.

Practically all the survivors, who were awaiting conveyance by warship from the scene were killed. Many persons who were engaged in the work of rescue were also killed.

Reports from Catania describe the survivors as vainly raking among the ruins for scraps of bread or anything else that can be eaten. They are mostly half naked, and many bear shocking undressed wounds. Numbers of others wander pitifully about, appealing to passersby, who are a little more fortunate than themselves, to help them.

The weather is raw and rainy. A piercing wind adds to the misery. There have been many instances of robbing the dead. The fingers of corpses and even of wounded persons have been cut off in order to get the rings they wore.

That many tourists have perished is a certainty. The bodies of 30 persons have been recovered from the ruins of the Hotel Trinacria, in Messina. These were all apparently suffocated while attempting to escape. Many were in the windows when death came. The Government's agents tell of finding the bodies of several guests suspended by their feet, which were caught in the window bars.

The Mayor's Story.
The Mayor of Brescia, one of the few who escaped from the Hotel Trinacria, says that he occupied a room on the third floor. When the hotel collapsed he was buried in the ruins, but was protected by a beam from being crushed. He worked for four hours trying to make an opening through which to escape. He then cried for help. A man began to assist him, but another earthquake drove him away. The terror-stricken Mayor eventually struggled out and helped to rescue four soldiers. He is covered with bruises. He believes that only one person was saved from the hotel besides himself.

The forces that on Monday overwhelmed the cities also destroyed the means of sustenance. Telegraphic communication has been established with Messina, the apparatus having been established in a railway van. Messages which have come over the line, though they have been meager in details, show that hope is gone. Nothing remains of the city but a mass of ruins that have been swept by fire. A mere handful of survivors are being cared for by the rescuing forces, but their distress is great, and it has been increased by the violent icy wind that followed the deluge of rain.

Destitution is everywhere and appalling. There is little food and less water. Of Messina's 90,000 population it is believed that fully 70,000 perished. Forty thousand people died in Reggio. King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Helena were in Messina yesterday. The King explored the ruins regardless of the danger to which he exposed himself.

The King Wept.
He was often moved to tears at the heartrending scenes he came upon at every turn. The King was loud in his praise of the splendid work accomplished by the Italian, Russian and English bluejackets, who saved many persons who otherwise would have perished.

The Queen spent the day in the wards of improvised hospitals, visiting the wounded, many of whom have lost all that was dear to them. Her Majesty did her best to cheer them with womanly words of consolation, often breaking into sobs as she listened to their dreadful tales of suffering. The King left for Reggio last night.

Catania, the largest city nearest to the zone of disaster, is crowded with refugees and the continuous stream of fugitives coming in, the sight of the wounded and repetition of real or imaginary earthquakes have so alarmed the population that they are becoming uncontrollable. There is no longer any place where the refugees may find shelter. Cardinal Francisca Navalli Bonfille, Archbishop of Catania, has employed all the money in his possession to provide for the fugitives, but the people of Catania also are in great need, as the ordinary business pursuits have been entirely interrupted.

The Government is finding difficulty in ascertaining the fate of the many foreigners who were in the earthquake zone at the time of the disaster, inquiries concerning whom are coming from all quarters of the globe.

Cheney and His Wife Dead.
The commander of the battle ship Admiral Mahanoff, which arrived with fugitives at Naples today, confirmed the report of the death of the American Consul at Messina, Arthur S. Cheney, and his wife, who were buried in the ruins of the consulate. The number of Americans in Southern Italy is believed to be small, and several of them are reported to have been staying at Taormina, which is on the east coast, about 30 miles southwest of Messina. According to the latest reports this place suffered no harm from the earthquake.

AMERICAN RED CROSS
Medium of Transmission of Money Collected in United States.

New York, Dec. 31.—The work of organizing relief for the victims of the earthquake, which was begun here almost simultaneously with the receipt of the first news of the disaster, assumed official form yesterday with the issuance by the mayor of a proclamation calling for subscriptions.

Mayor McClellan will act in conjunction with the American Red Cross

society, forwarding all subscriptions to Jacob H. Schiff, treasurer of the New York branch of the society.

A systematized effort is to be made for the centralization of the many channels of relief through which funds for the succor of the hungry and homeless of Sicily and Calabria are now being collected. The Italian Red Cross society has already been recognized as the agency through which funds contributed by sympathizers in foreign countries are to be distributed. It is now aimed to make the American Red Cross society the medium for transmission to the Italian society of all money collected in the United States.

With that idea in mind Bishop Greer has sent out a proclamation to the clergy and laity of the Episcopal church in his diocese asking that all funds subscribed for the earthquake sufferers be sent through the New York state branch of the society.

George W. Davis, chairman of the central committee of the society, has notified the publishers of the various Italian papers that had opened lists of subscription for the relief of the earthquake victims of the role which it was the intention of the National Red Cross society to play in the present emergency and a prompt response is expected from that quarter. Already the society has cabled \$10,000, which was dispatched on Tuesday. In addition the executive committee of the national society has arranged to remit immediately to the Italian Red Cross society \$50,000. The Christian Herald advanced \$20,000 on a fund which it purposes to raise shortly by contributions from its readers, and cabled the sum to the Italian Red Cross society direct.

Another remittance sent by cable tonight was \$5,000 contributed by the Italian newspaper Il Progresso.

CHINESE METHODS.

Why a Street, Newly Paved, Was Torn Up by Official Order.

M. Mounier, the French Asiatic traveler, vouches for the truth of the following story of how his friend, Hop Sing, a man of means and refinement, was on one occasion sorely victimized. Hop Sing lived in the street of the roasted corn, an unsavory and as ill paved a street as any in all Pekin. The local mandarin was an intimate friend of his, and Hop Sing availed himself of this friendship to press the mandarin to have the street repaved. Certainly, at once. The men would be at work on it before Hop Sing could get back home. A week passed, then another visit, and so on until, in despair, Hop Sing determined to have the street repaved at his own expense. The work was satisfactorily completed.

The surprise of Hop Sing was only equalled by his indignation when on awakening one morning he found a gang of coolies upheaving the newly flagged street. His surprise grew when he heard from the mandarin's own lips that the men were there at his orders.

"You see, my dear friend," said the mandarin, "I am expecting the head inspector around here in a few days. Now, if he were to see the beautiful pavement you have laid down in your street he would come to the conclusion that there was money about, and he would assuredly bleed every vein in my body. This would mean my ruin. Don't you see why your pavement really must come up? It cost me one fortune to secure my post. I don't want to spend another in keeping it."

THE CHARM OF NEW YORK.

An English View of the Metropolis of the New World.

New York ought by most artistic standards of the past to be hideous. Instead (as I made up my mind, with a shock of pleasure, a few weeks ago) she is as beautiful, as individual almost, as Venice. Of course there are her sky and her atmosphere. Even a regular old frump of a city could wear a spurious charm when golden wine of sunshine dripped over her from a crystal cup studded with turquoise or in a sunset such as heaven and Turner alone could conceive, glittering like a heap of jewels behind a veil of sprinkled gold dust. But the startling, bizarre beauty of New York could exist even in a London fog.

What is there to say of a vast city where all the architectures of the world and some that were never seen (anywhere else) on land or sea rub shoulders together? Would you not think that they would refuse to speak to each other, even if they didn't fight in disastrous battle? I don't know. But go to New York and see. I said to myself as I drove about New York that the gay, colorful city was like a huge flower garden where the gardener had sown his seeds anywhere—crimson hollyhocks, golden sunflowers, dainty pinks, modest violets, tall white lilies, larkspurs, pansies and a thousand other early things helter skelter, leaving them to come up all among each other as they chose, and instead of the experiment being a failure it turned out a glorious success.—Mrs. C. N. Williamson in London Chronicle.

Obesity and Will Power.

Obesity is easily cured with the exercise of the proper care and restraint on the part of the patient. Without this, however, the cure is impossible, and no physician or medicine can be of any help. The happy-go-lucky dispositions of fat people, their tendency to regard their ailments lightly, cause them to look upon nothing seriously, to deny themselves nothing. These characteristics, which generally are responsible for their ailments, furnish the greatest obstacles in the way of curing them. As a rule, the fat person does just the opposite of what he ought to do. He eats the very foods he should avoid, avoids those he should eat, shuns exertion of every kind, indulges in rest and luxury and seeks the way of the easiest resistance generally.—"Will Power."

KEELOR RIDES GOAT.

Ralph Keelor was given the Master Mason's degree by Webb lodge last night. Following the work, which was attended by a large number, luncheon was served.

JOY IN ONE ROOM, SORROW IN ANOTHER

Young Woman Weds Almost
by Side of Father's
Body.

FUNERAL AFTER WEDDING

ARRIVAL OF THE DEATH ANGEL
DOES NOT PREVENT FESTIVE
CEREMONY AS PER ARRANGE-
MENT.

Eldorado, O., Dec. 31.—One of the most impressive wedding ceremonies consummated in this community for many years was that of Frank Parks and Miss Flossie Harrison of West Manchester, Monday. The couple was married at the home of the bride. In a room adjacent to that in which the ceremony was performed lay the corpse of the bride's father, W. H. Harrison. He died Sunday. The wedding ceremony was pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Wahl of the United Brethren church, who the day following preached the funeral sermon over the body of the dead father. All the persons concerned are members of wealthy families and highly respected.

Arrangements for the wedding of the daughter had been made and the date announced before the father died. He was seriously ill, but it had been expected he would survive a few days longer. When it was found the death angel had carried him to the great beyond, it was agreed that no violations of respect for the deceased would ensue and the wedding took place almost exactly as planned for.

THE 'SUBLTLE' FEMALE.

How She Wheedles and Bullies the Poor Man Creature.

As woman gradually impressed upon man the futility of strutting around in finery and the necessity of being practically useful his garb has become more and more sober and workaday in appearance. Ethnologists tell us that the decorations of primitive man were intended to fascinate feminine eyes. But woman presently began to make it clear that she was not hunting for "a fine, showy article," but something solid and plain and useful, warranted to stand wear and tear. As for the ornamental role, she was going to represent the family herself in that line.

In fact, when one reflects how man has been stripped of gauds and wheedled out of his flipperies one by one, one cannot help feeling a tender pity for this victim of feminine self-aggrandizement. Poor, timid trembler! A vague, general fear of the female sex haunts him. Afraid of being married against his will, he is circumvented by some subtle female creature who makes him think that it is his will to marry her. An observer remarks that a man very often in running away from the right woman runs straight into the arms of the wrong woman. And the wrong woman, that great opportunist, is always waiting there to block his headlong flight and switch it toward the altar.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

An Easy Job.

Indifference displayed in the face of the uncertainties and dangers of life is characteristic of the Wessex dwellers in the "Islands of the Vale," according to Eleanor G. Hayden, the author of the book of the title, who supports her statement with a story of humorous turn.

A certain cottage and its old mistress had improved so greatly in comfort and appearance that a visitor shrewdly surmised that the son of the house, a lady never do well, had turned over a new leaf. He inquired about it.

"Yes, sir, my son's in work now," said the smiling old mother. "Takes good money, he does too. All he has to do is to go twice a day to the circus and put his head in the lion's mouth. The rest of the time he has to himself."

Not infectious.
I used to be very much afraid that my children while playing with others would be exposed to some contagious disease, and they were constantly on the lookout for trouble of this kind.

One day little Louise, aged four, came rushing in from the street where she had been playing with a crowd of children. In a very excited manner she burst out, "Well, mother, two of the Meyers children have something, but sister says she don't think we'll catch it, though."

"Well, what is it, darling?" I asked.

"It's the pigeon toes," she replied.—Dellenator.

How Pike Kill Perch.

From careful observation I am satisfied that pike kill their prey before swallowing them, and they do this by holding whatever fish they have secured crossways in their powerful jaws for some time before bolting it. I once watched a pike hold a perch in this way for twenty minutes, and then he moved off out of sight, but from five to ten minutes is the usual time.—W. H. Armistead in "Trout Waters, Management and Angling."

Information Wanted.

Mrs. Benham—Before we were married you said that life would be one grand, sweet song. Benham—Well, what of it? Mrs. Benham—I'd like to know where you do your "singing."—New York Press.

An Added Attraction.
"Ah, Elsie, it is fine to be married to an officer—such a beautiful uniform and so many decorations!"
"Yes, and, besides that, he'll have a band at his funeral."—Wahre Jacob.

ERRATIC SCIENCE.

Some Wonderful Answers by School-room Small Boys.

"Mushrooms always grow in damp places, and so they look like umbrellas," wrote a small boy in the science examination. Other examples of the "howler" are compiled by a writer in the Scientific American:

"Air is the most necessary of all the elements. If there were no such thing as air I would not be writing this essay now, also there would be no pneumatic tires, which would be a sad loss. "Electricity and lightning are of the same nature, the only difference being that lightning is often several miles in length, while electricity is only a few inches.

"Air usually has no weight, but found to weigh about fifteen pounds to a square inch.

"The axis of the earth is an imaginary line on which the earth is supposed to take its daily routine.

"The difference between air and water is that air can be made wetter, but water cannot.

"Gravity is chiefly noticeable in the autumn when the apples are falling from the trees.

"Things which are equal to each other are equal to anything else.

"A parallel straight line is one which if produced to meet itself does not meet.

"The blood is putrefied in the lungs by inspired air."

TIPS IN SCOTLAND.

An Example of How Some Servants Win Their Wages.

A gentleman was invited to a shoot in Scotland at two places close together. He arrived at the first place, and immediately after his arrival at the first house received a telegram calling him back to town. He, however, determined to have one day's shooting and to proceed to town by the night mail.

At the end of the day he gave the head keeper £1 and asked him to send his gun and cartridge bag over to the other place for which he had an invitation and where he proposed proceeding in three or four days' time.

On his arrival there after his visit to town he found his gun, etc., had not arrived, whereupon he wrote to the keeper, asking him to forward it at once, and he received a reply stating that when he (the keeper) had received the other £4 to which he was "entitled" the gun would be forwarded. It was detained till payment was made.

THE GENTLEMAN WROTE TO THE KEEPER'S MASTER AND RECEIVED A REPLY THAT "HE (THE MASTER) NEVER INTERFERED BETWEEN HIS GUESTS AND HIS SERVANTS IN THE MATTER OF TIPS."

The gentleman ascertained that the master in question paid the keeper no wages, but left him to get what he could out of the guests.—London Times.

Luck In Horseshoes.

The superstition about luck in horseshoes dates back too far for record, but it was not always confined to the horseshoe. Any piece of iron found in one's path was accounted a sign of good luck, and as horseshoes were more commonly picked up than any other article of that metal that particular object at last became the standard emblem of good fortune and the supposed defense against bad luck.

In Aubrey's "Miscellanies," written 200 years ago, the author mentions having seen the horseshoe nailed up in church, and he also says that "most of the houses in the west end of London have the horseshoe on the threshold." The horseshoe to possess virtue must have been found, not purchased or looked up. Admiral Nelson had great faith in the luck of the horseshoe, and one was nailed to the mast of his ship, the Victory.—London Chronicle.

One Thing He Could Not Have.

Although there was no sort of toy which could be bought and for which Harold had expressed a desire that was not in his possession, he still had his unsatisfied longings. "I know what I wish I was, mother," he said one day when his own big brother had gone away and the little boy across the street was ill.

"Yes, dear," said his mother. "Perhaps you can be it, Harold; mother will help you. Is it to play soldier?"

"No, indeed!" said Harold scornfully. "I just wish I was two little dogs, so I could play together."

Youth's Companion.

Bouncing Betsey.
There is an old fashioned flower called "Bouncing Betsey," which every one should love for one trait. We have noticed that it grows on all neglected graves, as if trying to cover up the fact that some one who once lived is forgotten. It may also be found in corners of old fashioned gardens, where it grows and blooms and protests against being pushed out entirely. There are some dear old fashioned people who suggest "Bouncing Betsey."—Aitchison Globe.

Her Latest Luxury.

"Young man," said the heavy father, "do you understand the style in which my daughter has been accustomed to live? She has always had every luxury she wanted." "And now I'm the luxury she wants," murmured the suitor.—London Globe.

Time's Changes.

"Before we were married you said you'd lay down your life for me," she sobbed.

"I know it," he returned solemnly, "but this confounded fat is so thin there's no place to lay anything down."—Harper's Bazar.

LAMB WENT FREE.

Failing to find enough evidence to warrant a case, prosecutor Jessup moved for the dismissal of the charge of assault and battery against Joseph Lamb, colored, in city court this afternoon. The negro was given his freedom.

Visit Knollenberg's Cloak Department Saturday for Children's Coats. \$5.00 and \$8.00. sale price \$3.48.

FORAKER DROPS OUT OF RACE

Columbus, Dec. 31.—As a result of conferences, the senatorial contest is completely settled, Taft and Foraker with drawing. All others have also withdrawn. The agreement provides for the election of Burton as senator and Taft for senator to succeed Dik two years hence; Vorys for governor for state chairman. Taft declared in his statement that he withdraws for the sake of harmony. Foraker's statement says he would have been glad of re-election but withdraws in favor of Burton.

EXPECTS ALL SHOPS TO CLOSE

Dr. Hughes Says Only Two
Hold Out.

"A large number of the meat dealers closed their shops last Sunday and others have expressed their intentions to close next Sunday. The refusals are now reduced to two and we hope will soon be reduced to zero.

"Would be glad to hear by telephone from all who do not close next Sunday," stated the Rev. I. M. Hughes, chairman of the Sabbath closing committee, today.

GILLILANS HAVE BOY.

Word has been received here by Dr. Ewing that Mr. and Mrs. Strickland Gillilan have become the parents of a baby boy born Christmas night. The Gillilans now are at Roland Park, Md. "Strick" writes Mrs. Gillilan and himself are "excellently well apparently."

HERE ON A VISIT.

Mrs. David Hastings of Pittsburgh, with her daughter, Miss Belle Hastings, arrived this morning to visit her daughter, Mrs. Sharon E. Jones, South Thirteenth street.

BRITISH PRINCES.

Very Different From the King in Exemption From Laws.

So privileged is the king of England in his exemption from any and every law that one would naturally expect his children might do pretty much as they like. But Englishmen have always been very jealous of royal prerogatives, and the fact is that princes enjoy very few privileges indeed. A prince of the royal blood may be fined, like any ordinary mortal, if his motor car exceeds the legal limit of speed.

The Prince of Wales cannot be sued personally for debt. If the debt is not paid the creditor may take out a summons, but he must summon the treasurer, not the prince. If the case goes against the treasurer the money is paid out of the prince's assets.

No child of the king who is under twenty-five can marry without the king's consent. Supposing, however, a prince over twenty-five desired to marry and the king refused his consent, then the prince could give notice of his intention to the privy council. After that he would have to restrain his patience for a whole year. If during that time either the house of lords or the house of commons disapproved of the marriage it could not take place. But if both houses of parliament were satisfied the prince could marry the woman of his choice.

A prince has not even the right to educate his own children, for it was long ago laid down that the king has the care and education of his grandchildren while they are minors.—London Telegraph.

The New York Idea.

"Little boy."
"Hub?"
"Do you know where Broadway is?"
"Say, wot youse take me fer?"
"Well, where is it?"
"Aw, don't youse believe I know?"
"Yas, of course, but I don't know. Tell me how to get there from here."
"Aw, youse know how."
"I do not. I am a stranger. I haven't the least idea where it is."
"Quit yer kiddin'."
"Where is Broadway?"
"G'wan!"
"This way or that way?"
"Ter stringin' me."
"Will you tell me where Broadway is?"
"Hey, Jimmy, here's a guy wot sez he don't know where Broadway is!"
—New York Times.

The Brakeman's Advice.

Down in Maine is a town called Burnham, situated on a small branch railroad that joins the main line at Burnham Junction. One day as the train approached the latter place the brakeman entered the car and in his usual stentorian tones went through his regular rigmarole when a station and junction are reached.

"Burnham Junction!" he shouted. "Burnham Junction! Change cars for Burnham! Leave no articles in the car! Burn'am, Burn'am!"—Lippincott's.

USUAL CELEBRATION.

New Year's will be celebrated in the postal service in the usual way, with a business delivery and residence delivery. The office will close at 10 o'clock.

TAKE OFFICE IN MORNING

Robbins and Albertson to Assume Duties.

The new county officers, Will Robbins and Albert Albertson, who tomorrow will become county recorder and treasurer, respectively, together with Linus Meredith, who begins his second term as county sheriff, have made ready to begin their duties at once. Bonds have been prepared as required by law and filed with the county clerk. The oath of office will be administered tomorrow by Clerk Penny.

LADD IN HIS HASTE TOOK WRONG COAT

Today Prosecutor-Elect Was
Searching for His Own.

In the rush and the strain of his impending duties as prosecuting attorney, Charles Ladd, who assumes the office tomorrow, decamped from a cigar store in a hurry yesterday afternoon. He took with him an overcoat that belonged to another man. It was reported about this morning that Ladd's coat had been stolen from a hook in the office of the superintendent of police. Ladd and Chief Bailey deny the possibility of such a thing.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MAKE MANY CALLS

Answered 147 Alarms During
the Year Now Ending.

During the year, which draws to a close today, the local fire department was called to answer 147 alarms. Chief Miller has not prepared his report of the loss nor the value of the property endangered. The loss is expected to be somewhat larger this year than in 1907, owing to the conflagration at the Colonial building.

FREAK PAINTINGS.

A Tiny Work of Art and Rosa's Transformed Marsephard.

Specially prepared canvases and gilded frames are not essential to the making of great paintings. This has been demonstrated by the artists who have painted masterpieces on scraps of board, shells, grains of corn and the walls of rooms and prison cells. Some of the most valued art objects belong to the freak class.

The smallest painting in the world of distinctive merit was executed on the smooth side of a grain of corn by a Flemish artist. On this limited surface the artist painted in perfect detail a mill, a miller with a sack of grain on his back, a horse and cart and a group of several peasants standing in a road.