

IS THE BACK BONE TO ANY LEGITIMATE BUSINESS...

Wants Made Known TO 15,450 PEOPLE DAILY...

A FARE ON THE THROAT

THOMAS KEATING'S GROCERY STORE DESTROYED.

A Disastrous Conflagration Averted by the Excellent Work of the Firemen—Kraze Buck's Paint Shop Burns—Losses and Insurance.

The alarm of fire at 11 o'clock last night from box 41 was caused by the discovery of a small fire in the paint shop of Kraze Buck, at the corner of Third and Second streets.

The firemen from engine No. 2 responded to the call, but before they arrived the fire had gained considerable headway.

The men worked with a will, and the strong wind blowing from the northeast nearly overpowered them, and the flames soon spread to the adjoining stores.

At midnight the fire was entirely extinguished and the firemen returned to their quarters, where they were rewarded by Malachi Kinney and are to be destroyed.

The stock of Mr. Keating, valued at \$25,000, was almost entirely destroyed by fire and water, but is fully covered by insurance.

Mr. Keating is the wealthiest, from what is known of the city, and he can re-engage in trade.

BEKNAK THREATENED.

The Pension Attorneys to Make It Hot for Him.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25.—The disgraceful method of lobbying against the legislation reducing the fees of pension attorneys will be one thing, but the attorneys are coming to light each other.

Representative Belknap was astonished today upon receiving a two page letter from the pension attorney in Detroit, in which the claim agent positively and unequivocally warns Mr. Belknap that he is working his own political ruin by supporting legislation.

The writer cites to Mr. Belknap the influence which can be brought to bear against him by the claim agents and pension attorneys who are being sent to the Washington claim agents working upon the members of congress through the press.

Several other members have received communications from claim agents in various parts of the country, and they are desired to vote against any legislation obnoxious to the interests of pensioners.

Further legislation against interest fees is suspended pending the action of the pension committee on the Docket amendment. The committee report from Secretary Noble upon the practicability of the amendment.

CLEVER FEMALE SWINDLER.

Baltimore News Nearly Believed of a Sauskian Scaque and \$500.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 24.—A clever thief by no means new in Baltimore was placed today upon one of the largest ladies' goods establishments in the city. During the afternoon, when the store was crowded with purchasers, a smart brougham drove up to the door.

The customer being impatient at the delay and soon grew very impatient, the clerk came to the door and asked the customer to wait.

The customer, being suspicious, sent the clerk to the bank and to the bank she demanded her money and declared that she would not purchase any more goods from the store.

DETROIT IS TOO SLOW.

Their Masonic Fair is Almost a Fizzle.

DETROIT JOURNAL: Detroit Masonic ladies yesterday opened the Eastern Star fair at the Grand Hotel, Michigan street.

In fact our business is almost dead. We sell very little patronage from the Masons. In fact our business is almost dead. We sell very little patronage from the Masons.

ONE LAW HELD GOOD.

The Supreme Court Says Chapman's Two-Cent Railroad Act is All Right.

LANSING, Dec. 25.—The fate of the Chapman two-cent fare law, which has been in the keeping of the Supreme court for several months, was decided in an opinion rendered by the chief justice.

The law was an outgrowth of the attempts made in the last legislature to secure a reduction of passenger fares. According to the provisions of the act, railroads whose gross passenger earnings for the year 1889 were less than \$2,000 were required to carry passengers at the rate of two cents per mile; roads whose earnings are over \$2,000 and less than \$3,000 were compelled to charge not over two and one-half cents per mile.

The Chicago & Grand Trunk was one of the roads coming under the 2-cent provision, but after obeying the law for a short time, the company refused to do so any longer, and in Wellman vs. the Chicago & Grand Trunk was a test case to decide the validity of the law.

The court holds that the law is constitutional and that the law is constitutional and valid. The court holds that the law is constitutional and valid.

The Chamber of Deputies Denies His Claim to a Seat.

PARIS, Dec. 24.—Gen. Boulanger is a subject of interest and discussion in the chamber of deputies yesterday. It was reported that he had been elected a member of the chamber in the Clichonau constituency of Montmartre, Gen.

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OLD WORLD AFFAIRS.

MCCARTHY GOES TO FRANCE TO MEET O'BRIEN.

He says There is No Hope for Reconciliation Between the Factions of the Home Rulers—Nolan and Parnell Again.

BOULOGNE, Dec. 25.—Justin McCarthy has arrived in this city. In an interview with Mr. McCarthy, he declared that his idea in coming here was to inform William O'Brien fully in regard to recent events in Ireland.

He said, he was eminently a patriot, and might have left America with the intention of effecting a reconciliation, but events since his departure cause him to find this impossible.

Even negotiations were hardly possible, as he added, as no basis for a settlement of the differences between the two factions was to be found.

The nationalists, said Mr. McCarthy, will never consent to Parnell's election of the Irish leadership. Some of the Parnellites are lukewarm in their adherence and only stick to Parnell for the sake of the money.

Mr. McCarthy spurned the idea that O'Brien would join the Parnell party. "O'Brien's patriotism," he said, "is too well known to admit a suspicion that he would be so easily won over."

He thought it probable that Parnell would be elected, but he did not think it likely that he himself would not go Parnell, as he had long been a member of the Parnell party.

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MUSIC AND DRAMA.

COMRADE GREATLY AIN'T THE BEED.

THE CUMULATIVE VOTING LAW PRONOUNCED UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

A Decision Written by Justice Chapman Says Fred. A. Maynard can Not Sit in the Legislature—1891—Law Cases—Hill Dismissed.

LANSING, Dec. 25.—In a decision handed down by the Supreme court this afternoon, the cumulative voting law was pronounced unconstitutional.

The court's decision in the matter is written by Chief Justice Chapman, Justice Cahill dissenting. The opinion says that the cumulative voting law is unconstitutional.

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FIRE AT EAST CHICAGO.

Food's Opera House and Nine Other Buildings Destroyed.

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—Ten buildings were destroyed in East Chicago, this morning. The fire started in Food's opera house, a large frame structure, and spread rapidly, destroying the entire block.

Total loss is about \$45,000. Property insured. The heaviest losses are Smith's hardware and saloon, 7,000; Specter saloon, \$6,000; Wallenberg, dry goods, \$4,000; Beam & Johnson, grocery, \$3,000; opera house, \$2,000.

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STUDENTS DROWNED.

3rd Fate of Frank K. Dickerson and Miss Gertrude M. Brundage at Ann Arbor.

ANN ARBOR, Dec. 25.—A shocking accident occurred here today, resulting in the death of Frank K. Dickerson, a student in the homophony department of the university, and Miss Gertrude M. Brundage, a student in the medical department.

The couple went skating this afternoon on the ice of the Michigan canal. Dickerson fell through the ice, and Brundage followed him. Both bodies recovered this afternoon.

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WANTS MADE KNOWN.

TO 15,450 PEOPLE DAILY FOR ONE CENT A WORD.

BY THE MORNING PRESS WANT COLUMN.

THE DEATH OF AN UNKNOWN BABY AT 92 Lane avenue last evening, was the refusal Wednesday afternoon of the board of health to issue a permit for the child's burial.

The Manager of the Lane Avenue Institution interviewed by a Reporter—She Does Not Know Where the Child Was Buried—Unfortunate Infant.

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Published daily by the Press Printing Company at Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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Delivered by carrier in the city and suburbs for twenty-five cents per month.

Advertisements are charged at the circulation outside of the city and suburbs.

ADVERTISING RATES: Display Advertisements 5 cents per inch for each 1,000 papers circulated. Local 10 cents per line.

For Advertisements occupying less than three lines space, make for a single edition and those requiring special or preferred position \$5.00 per cent will be added to above rates.

Special rates are charged for advertising department.

CIRCULATION YESTERDAY: Number of papers printed, 5,200.

Delivered by Carrier to City Subscribers, 4,700.

Mailed to Subscribers (not including 1,000 sold to Newsboys), 500.

Total Paid Circulation, 5,200.

Number of Copies of Today's Paper, 5,144.

Subscription and City Circulation Books, Paper, Ink and Postage, are charged to advertiser by postal order or check.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1919.

PROPOSED SILVER LEGISLATION. It is very probable that the next few weeks will witness in congress a remarkable thing in these days of thick and thin legislative legislation.

SOME DISAPPOINTMENTS. Christmas Presents that Failed to Materialize.

Fred A. Maynard—The office of representative to the legislature by the cumulative vote.

Senator Wessellus—A franchise for his electric power plant.

John McQueen—A title clearly American citizenship and the office of sheriff of Kent county.

Edwin Hunter—A favorable verdict in the Allen street opening case.

Prof. Seensberg—Less blow and bluffs than a American silver, would be at all a dangerous experiment.

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WRIGHT MAY BE WRONG.

The LABOR DEPARTMENT'S HEAD GOES FOR THE CRANKS.

He Tells About "Pernicious Statesmen" Who Seem to be Caught in a Trap.

Something About Printers and Machines.

Carroll D. Wright, chief of the department of labor, delivered an address in a Brooklyn church a few days ago in the program of the

office, half of the frames going to each union, and the control of the office to be a sort of mutual affair. The best part of the settlement was that the German union should apply for a charter under the International. It seemed to be a very wise thing to peace between the hitherto contending bodies.

With charters from the International and working under the same laws there need be no more conflict between these two unions than when any other two. Of course the question of office space will always arise, whether it is allowed to make trouble. But if the German union allowed to manage its own affairs—over the laws of the International, of course—there is no reason why the greater harm should not exist generally prevails between the unions of compositors and pressmen. As a matter of fact the situation are about the same.

A poem entitled "The Moneyless Man," and credited to "M. Mead," has been going the rounds of the reform press lately. I remember having seen "The Moneyless Man" in print several years ago, and whether it was identical with this recent publication I cannot say. But a few days ago I read in the machine of Merrill, editor of The Jacksonville (Fla.) Standard, in which the charge of piracy was made against Mr. Mead. Mr. Merrill writes in his column that it was written about, and in justice to Mr. Stanton, as well as himself, he has heard.

Jos. R. BUCKMAN.

To Prevent Strikes and Lockouts.

It seems to me that the

power of congress should be invoked to elaborate a statute instituting a commission, so created and constituted that no question of partiality could be reasonably provoked.

Let there be ten commissioners, whose names should be above suspicion, taken from retired civil and military officers, who have been selected from the classes whose motives to preserve order, justice and fair play are not tainted by selfish interests.

Let there be ten commissioners, five of whom, chosen by lot, should be a quorum to transact business. Those who are chosen by lot should not be confirmed by the majority of seven from the whole number. Let there be ten, with three blanks to reduce their number from ten to seven, or five blanks to reduce their number to five.

Let the commission be composed of men of experience and mature judgment, men whose character and record are above all suspicion, and draw these from all classes, say from retired army and navy officers, judges of the United States supreme court, ex-governors of the United States, ex-congressmen, manufacturers, bankers, diplomats, laboring men, public carriers, artists and merchants.

We have men among us any five of whom, chosen by lot, with the destiny of empire—observing in New York Telegram.

Pronounced Hopeless, Yet Saved.

From a letter written by Mrs. Ada E. Hurd of Groton, S. D. we quote: "Was taken with a bad cold which was settled in my lungs, cough set in and finally terminated in consumption. Four doctors gave me up saying I could live but a short time. I gave myself up to my Saviour, determined if I could not stay with my friends on earth, my Saviour would send me to heaven. My husband was advised to get Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. I gave it a trial, took in all eight bottles; it has cured me, and thank God, I am now as well and hearty as ever. I bought bottles, 10 cents at Thrum Bros' drug store. Regular size, 60 cents and \$1."

For Chicago.

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