

Special Reports.

WHITE & WILLIAMS.

ILLINOIS.

A Kentucky judge nearly died from a short time ago. Thus it is seen that even mint has its thorns.

Wiman is beginning the world again, and it is safe to say that he will not allow himself to be Duu up again.

A woman, Miss Emma Whitney of Cleveland, who was recording clerk of the Ohio Legislature last year, will likely be re-elected.

Is anything serious troubling Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany? No arrests for his majesty have been reported for a period of fully a week.

To the people who find themselves confused by diplomatic terms we will say that the Monroe doctrine means: "Shiny on your own side."

"Old Glory" should never be floated in front of a wrong. And when it is about, Americans will mass in solid columns behind when the bugle sounds.

Senator Teller may be credited with the introduction into political jargon of a phrase which will go far. But as one likes to be called a "tide-water waster."

Mlle. Yvette Guilbert's visit can have no demoralizing effect on persons who do not understand French and carefully refrain from attending her performance.

There appears to be a disposition on the part of the czar to pat us on the back and say "Bully Boy!" from which we infer that he would like to have England's attention distracted for a few minutes.

A New York paper, referring to the recent Ahlwardt episode, says: "This egg business ought to be stopped." Well, Ahlwardt is doing his full share; he succeeded in stopping three of them the other night.

In Ypsilanti a widower married a widow and on the same day the widow's son married the widow's daughter. It is evident that they do not intend to have the third generation spoiled by a superabundance of dotting grandparents.

Congressman Woodman insists upon hanging his hat and overcoat on the screen behind his seat in the house. The astute member from Chicago hasn't knocked about in that city for twenty years without finding out that he who hangs his spare garments out of his sight is apt to find them in a pawn shop.

A good citizen does not care if there is a policeman on every corner, while the thief fears every bush an officer. The former sees the shield on his breast; the latter the club in his hand. So, to the righteous, God is a sun and a shield; to the ungodly he is "a consuming fire." The former hopes for heaven; the latter fears the bottomless pit.

Worth noting—the assertion of the English trade journals that in case of a brief war between this country and England, the only effect on the grain trade would be increased prices. Against shortness of supply England would expect to be protected by heavy shipments from Russia and India. If the war were prolonged the difficulties about supply would be greater.

Co-operative stores are making headway in France as well as in England. The value of sales of the 206 societies in France is over \$15,000,000 a year, and the total number of members is about 200,000. In addition to these societies in France are the farmers' syndicates, in which about 500,000 persons are concerned. The syndicates buy fertilizers and other chemicals for vine culture, maintain laboratories for the analysis of soils, publish monthly price lists and perform other services for the general benefit.

A peculiar fact in respect to petroleum is the difference of conditions under which it all occurs in Russia and America. In the former it is found in strata of the tertiary period, usually a formation resembling a sandstone and at depths of only a few hundred feet—in this country it occurs at great depths in the older compact sandstones and limestones of the Carboniferous, Devonian, and Silurian periods. The oil of Russia consists of a class of hydro-carbons known as paraffines, belonging to the benzene group, while American oil is mainly composed of paraffine; it is to this difference that the great variation between the products from these oils is due. The American oil yields a very large proportion, say about 70 per cent, of illuminating oil exactly suited for combustion in ordinary lamps, the Russian oil produces far less of this oil and a larger proportion of kerosene lubricating oil.

William Watson, Lewis Morris and Austin have all been considered as candidates for the Victoria. If she had not been chosen she fixed her choice on the chance that she eventually have picked upon a poet.

The alleged offer to the millions of gold to recall the money was made by the bank.

DAY OF PUBLIC OBJURGATION.

Some Observations Suggested by Thanksgiving Festivals.

From the New York Tribune: According to an experienced observer of life in this and other cities it is high time that the state and national government took up for consideration the question of appointing an annual day after the fashion of Thanksgiving, but devoted to exactly opposite purposes. He proposes that this day shall be called the day of public objurgation and blame.

"I have no objection to Thanksgiving," remarked this philosopher the other day. "I appreciate it, and, if I do say it, I think I observe it probably more nearly in accordance with its original purpose than most of my fellow citizens. I have a lot to be thankful for, and give thanks for it on Thanksgiving day. That is perfectly right and proper. But what I say is this, that I have also a lot of things to objurgate and blame, and so, doubtless, has everybody else. Now, why not appoint a day upon which the citizens shall suspend their usual vocations and all repair to convenient halls and assembly rooms and there hold public indignation meetings to denounce the most important and crying evils of the year? I have no doubt that the day could be developed into one of great interest, at least, and probably one of great power for good, though I doubt if it would ever attain the beauty and loveliness of Thanksgiving day or gain such a tenacious hold upon the affections of a whole people. At any rate, wouldn't it tend to sweeten the general atmosphere of society by affording a well recognized vent for the fuming and frettings, the pent-up wrath of a nation. Why, I tell you that it would relieve the tension so that life would be lifted to a sensibly higher plane during the rest of the year. Yes, sir; I am working as a missionary for the adoption of the day of public objurgation and blame, and shall expect better times when it comes."

BEAT THE COMPANY.

Clever Rose of a Philadelphia Woman to Escape the Payment of Fare.

From the Philadelphia Record: One of the street car companies in Philadelphia recently increased its fares. The move is anything but popular, and there are many attempts to beat the company. A woman with much silver in her hair and a determined expression of face boarded a Spring Garden street car at Twentieth street. The conductor came in and reached out his hand for her fare. She gave him a nickel and asked for a pass up Sixteenth street. The conductor, with a weary inflection of voice, because he had to make the demand so often before in the past two days, said, shortly: "Three cents more if you want a transfer."

"Yes, up Sixteenth street," said the old lady, nodding her head at him.

"I want 3 cents," bawled the conductor.

"Hey!" said the passenger.

"Eight cents!" yelled the poor man at the top of his voice.

"I can't understand," said the old lady; "I'm very deaf."

The conductor tried it again until he was blue in the face, but the old lady shook her head. Then he handed her nickel back, and, taking a piece of paper, wrote on it:

"Eight cents for a transfer." The old lady took the paper and squinted at it a moment.

"I can't read," she said; "I ain't got me glasses with me. Here, stop the car. I get off here."

The conductor pulled the bell, and the old lady, with her nickel in her hand, stopped off the platform. As the car started on again she yelled to the conductor: "I ain't deaf, at all. Ye didn't git me to pay ye 3 cents extra, did ye?"

Night Barkeepers Without Work.

Hundreds of barkeepers who used to take the night "tricks" in saloons are now without employment, owing to the strict enforcement of the excise law. Before the present regime, when the police were more lenient, most of the saloons remained open all night and did a good side door business, but now that they are compelled to close promptly at 1 o'clock in the morning, the saloonkeepers have dispensed with their night bartenders, and, consequently, hundreds of them are out of work.—New York Herald.

THEATRICAL NEWS.

Julia Arthur recently signed for another season with Henry Irving. Ffolliott Paget has joined Robert Hilliard's company, replacing Madeline Bouton.

Refans is to have a salary of \$20,000 for playing in the Varieties of Paris next year.

Lote Fuller recently began an engagement at the Palace Variety theater in London.

TRUE RELIGION.

God's promises are heaven's bank notes.

Affection is trying to make brass pass for gold.

The devil is not doing all his work in the stumps.

A lie never stops running when truth is on its track.

It is still as safe to trust in God as it was in the days of Job.

When we measure others we make ourselves the standard.

When the world can't understand a man it calls him a crank.

Truth often knocks at the door of him who has ears to hear.

It costs about as much to be stingy as it does to be extravagant.

Character is something that stays when everything else is gone.

MAY BE A BIG STRIKE.

NOT FOR WAGES BUT FOR SHORTER HOURS.

It is Believed That the Metal Workers Are Preparing to Lead for the American Federation of Labor—Former Delegates Well Remembered.

Chicago Letter.

THE recent convention of the federation of Labor held in New York, a resolution was adopted in favor of a combined eight-hour movement, to be set in motion on May 1, 1896. For twelve months the project has been simmering. It is one of the good points of the federation that it never does anything hastily. Rashness has never characterized its actions. It may be set down as most probable that this crusade will be conducted with as much deliberation and cool determination as have been those of former years, by which so much has been won for the cause.

Each individual of the 1,000,000 composing the various federated labor unions has been informed of the proposal and has had time to take an active part in the preparations. The numerous leaders, wise from experience

will be the whole federation, 1,000,000 men strong.

Just what the results of a demand for an eight-hour day by the metal workers on May 1 next may be it is hard to say. If the manufacturers should resist, as they probably will, the contest will be titanic. A strike of 175,000 metal workers would paralyze many lines of trade. It would close the great foundries in Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia, stop work on many big buildings in the larger cities and throw into



WILLIAM PRESCOTT. (President I. T. U.)

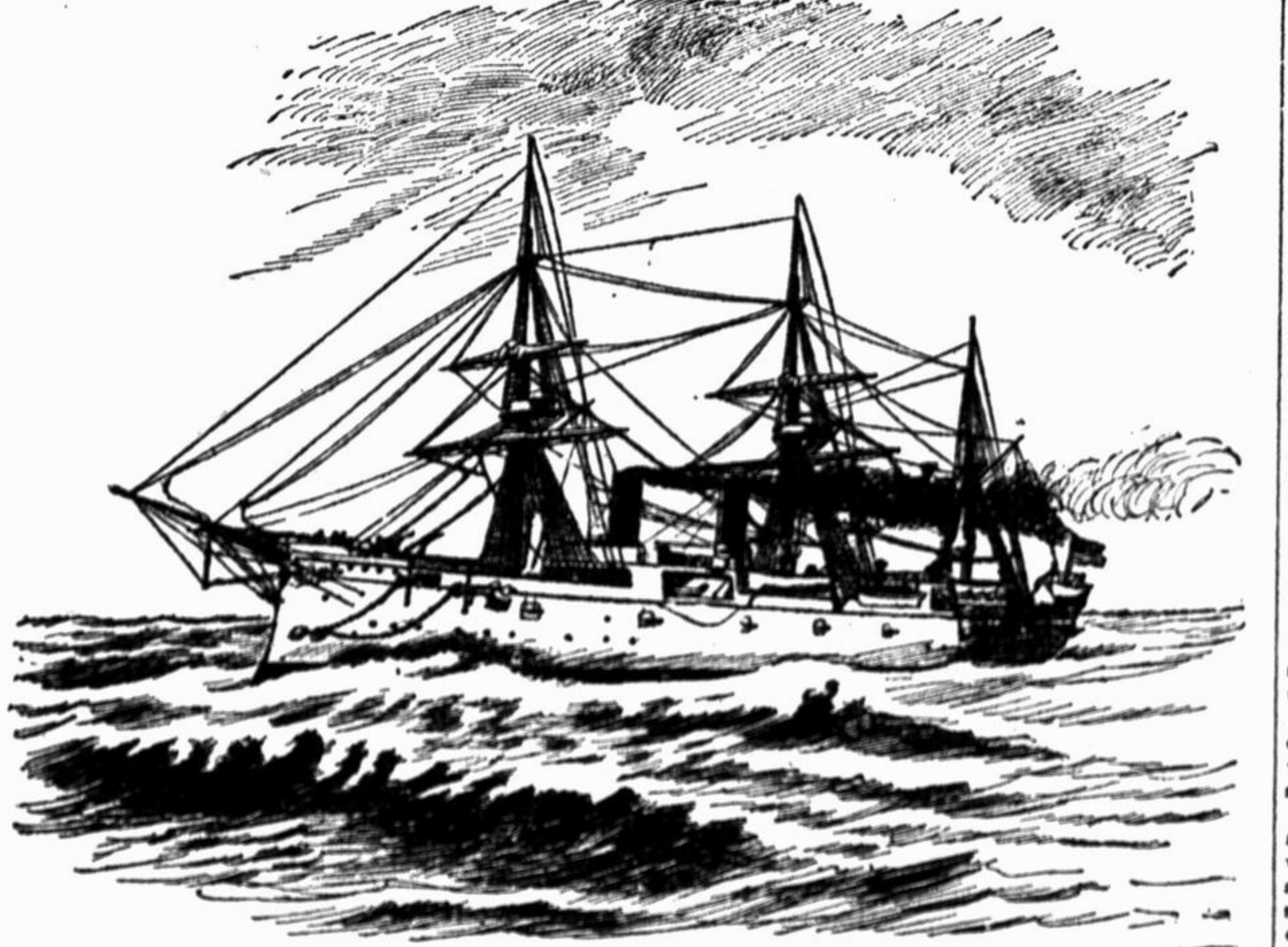
confusion a hundred branches of trade. The conservative nature of the federation is a guarantee, however, that a general strike of this nature will not be resorted to until capital has had

comes from workers in nearly every trade and calling. Of the 633 returns received by the bureau from labor organizations in all sections of the state 636 contain the rates of wages that prevailed previous to organization and those that are now in force, while thirty fall to state the wage rates that predominated prior to organization. Twenty-seven do not answer the question relative to wages. Four hundred and one labor organizations say that they have increased wages, sixty-one report that wages are less now than they were previous to the formation of the organizations, and the figures presented by 174 unions indicate that there has not been any change in the schedule of pay. As to working time 403 organizations report that the hours of labor have been reduced, six state that they have been increased, and the returns from 246 show that there has not been any change. Twenty-one organizations do not report the working time that prevailed previous to organization and seventeen fall to respond to the query." T. H. FIELD.

To Keep Him Cool.

Out in Montana, recently, "Old Bill Lagrund," a saloon keeper and a noted local tough, died. The barkeepers and the girls in his houses all celebrated the event by getting riotously drunk and carrying flasks of liquor to the funeral, where, it is said, they all took a last look at the corpse to thoroughly satisfy themselves that there was no deception that the banner reprobate of the region had really gone to his last account. The

STEEL PROTECTED CRUISER CHICAGO.



Speed—15.10 knots. Dimensions—Length on water line, 325 feet; beam, 48 feet 2 inches; draft, 22 feet 6 1/2 inches; displacement, 4,500 tons; two propellers, driven by compound overhead beam engines—horse power, 5,084. Coal capacity, 532 tons. Protective deck—Slope, 1 1/4 inches; flat, 1 1/2 inches. Armament—Main battery, four 8-inch breech-loading rifles, eight 6-inch breech-loading rifles, two 5-inch breech-loading rifles; secondary battery, ten 6-pound rapid-fire guns, four 1-pound rapid-fire guns, two 37-mm Hotchkiss revolving cannon, two gatling guns. Crew—33 officers, 376 men. Built by John Roach & Sons, Chester, Pa. Keel laid in 1883. Launched in 1885. Went into commission in 1889. Went out of commission for repairs April 30, 1895.

In former combats, have formed plans which will be discussed from now to May.

The plan of attack to be pursued this spring may be somewhat different from those which have been tried before. It has been proposed that some strong organization be selected to make the first demand for an eight-hour day, and bear the brunt of the battle, being supported meanwhile by the entire federation. While this has not been decided definitely, it is most likely that such a course will be adopted.

If this be the case the federated metal trades will probably be the branch to be selected. At the second annual conference of the metal trades held last October at Chicago there was a good deal of eight-hour agitation. This was followed by a poll of the entire organization on the question of making a general demand. The metal workers all over the country voted, and there was

every opportunity to make terms. If the metal workers are successful, then will come the turn for another organization. The financial condition of the metal workers' unions is reported to be excellent at present. Work has been good for many months and promises to remain so for some time to come. Under these favorable conditions the chances for success are good.

The country will never forget the first blow struck her shorter hours by the Federation of Labor. That it was to end in that bloody 4th of May in Haymarket square, Chicago, could not have been foretold by the leaders. No one regretted more than the leaders themselves, who saw much of their work undone. The bomb thrown by the anarchists on that day shattered their hopes of success for many months to come.

It was not until the spring of 1890, that another May-day movement of any magnitude was attempted. This was led by the carpenters, and, although they had the sympathy and encouragement of the federation, it was not a general and concerted effort by the federated trades, and much was won in the way of shorter hours and better wages at this time. Much has been gained since then by the various trades acting individually.

It is by working along distinct lines that the federation has accomplished so much for its membership. In this respect it differs greatly from the Knights of Labor. The Knights have tried sympathetic strikes and have come out of the fray with sore experiences. During the great railroad strike inaugurated by the American Railway Union the question of sympathetic strikes was put fairly before the convention.

Debs called for a general strike. He wanted everybody called out. Gompers, then president of the federation, hesitated. He wanted to see the A. R. U. win, but he did not want to ask all the trades to come out. He ended by asking nobody, and establishing a policy against sympathetic strikes.

What has been accomplished in one state shows something of the result of organized efforts for an eight-hour day. Commissioner of Labor Statistics Dowling of New York state says in his last report: "Nearly one-third of the 155,303 members of labor organizations in this state now enjoy the eight-hour day, and the call for further legislation extending the benefits of shorter hours

most amusing accident was the throwing into his grave, after his body had been lowered there, several palm-leaf fans and a cake of ice. Bill's girls thus testified their sentiments regarding him and their ideas regarding his destiny in the region to which his spirit had flown.

It Might Have Been Red Ink.

A certain actor who wished to introduce innovations into "Hamlet" proposed to play the part of the Danish prince in a red cloak, which intention he communicated to Sir Henry Irving, who said: "Very well; I do not see anything shocking in that." "But is it right?" inquired the interlocutor. "I dare say it is," replied Irving. "Red was the color of mourning of the royal house of Denmark." "But how do you



JOHN B. LENNAN. (Treasurer A. F. L.)

get over this?" persisted the other, quoting the words, "'Tis not alone my tinky coat, good mother." "Well," replied the Shakespearean, calmly, "I suppose there is such a thing as red ink, is there not?"

Longest and Shortest Faced Streets.

The longest paved street in the world is Washington street, Boston, which is seventeen and a half miles long; the shortest is the Rue Ble, Paris, which is barely twenty feet long.

WILL BLOOD TELL?

MR. CRESTON CLARKE, A YOUNG SHAKESPEAREAN ACTOR.

Something About the Young Man—His Abilities, and the Productions That Are Made—His "Hamlet" a Noble Creation.

A tragedian who has never visited Chicago as a star and who of late years has been making rapid strides toward the pinnacle of fame is Mr. Creston Clarke. Very little, perhaps nothing, is known of this youth in Chicago or the central west, who is so bold to brave the title of popular opinion by presenting Shakespearean and classic plays.

Creston Clarke, the second son of John S. Clarke and Ada Booth, was born in Logan square, Philadelphia, in 1865. He was educated in Paris, and made his professional debut in London in 1882, as Ascanio in the "Fool's Revenge," his uncle, Edwin Booth, being



CRESTON CLARKE.

the Bertuccio. He first appeared as Hamlet under the management of the late John T. Ford, in 1887, at Richmond, Va., the same city where his grandfather, Junius Brutus Booth, made his first appearance in this country, in 1821. He has just recently finished a very successful engagement of fifteen weeks in Philadelphia, at the Chestnut Street theater, playing many parts in which his grandfather and uncle achieved their fame. With his uncle he was an especial favorite. Mr. Booth expressed the hope that Creston would follow in his footsteps, and from his late artistic success there is reason to hope that he will fulfill his uncle's wishes, and add lustre to "a line of kings" of the tragic muse.

As a forerunner, and to prove that Mr. Clarke is no novice in his acting, a few paragraphs from clippings picked up at random are here appended.

The Philadelphia Public Ledger recently commented in the following favorable terms on Mr. Clarke's impersonation of "Hamlet":

"That within which passeth show, and whose every mood suggests him who was perhaps the greatest of them all—Edwin Booth. There is almost the same grace of elocution, the same delicacy of expression, and last, but not far from least, much of the same marvellous insight into the meditative, contemplative aspect of the character. Yet without one notices no lavish imitation of the dead tragedian. Mr. Clarke may be considered Booth's residuary legatee, artistically speaking, both on account of relationship and dramatic ambitions, but for all that he is too fine a player to trade on any such coincidences."

The New Orleans Item heads its criticism of Mr. Clarke's "Hamlet" in large "scare" headlines, "His Hamlet a Noble Creation. He is Booth's Successor. A Young Tragedian Who is Capable of Great Things." The article is a signed one, and begins in the following manner:

"Those who believe that the mantle of Edwin Booth has fallen on the shoulders of his nephew, Creston Clarke, of which number I count myself one, found additional reasons for their convictions in his performance of 'Hamlet' last night at the Chestnut Street theater."

The Washington Post has the following to say of a new play produced by Mr. Clarke entitled "Edgar Allan Poe": "It would be unjust not to acknowledge how much the actor assists the playwright. From all the long roster of American players no man could be chosen who would more completely realize the character than Creston Clarke. His resemblance to the best portraits of Poe is so near that it needs only that peculiar drooping mustache to complete the likeness. His interpretation of the role is equally true."

The commentaries are numerous that Mr. Clarke has received, and he has not, in any city so far, been criticised unfavorably. Mr. Clarke's repertory includes: "Hamlet," "Don Caesar," "Richard III.," "Richard III.," "Merchant of Venice," "Much Ado about Nothing," and a new play, "The Raven." His company this year is one of the best, including Miss Adelaide Prince, who is his leading lady, and has been favorably compared with Miss Ada Rehan.

By an arrangement entered into with Mr. J. H. McVicker, of McVicker's theater, and Mr. Clarke, the young tragedian will make his first bow before a Chicago audience from the stage his illustrious uncle, Edwin Booth, first welcomed their applause.

Cable Code Curiosities.

The announcement of the recent loss of a steamer at sea shows one of the curiosities of the cable code. The whole message was contained in three words: "Smoldered, hurrah, hallelujah." "Smoldered" meant that the ship had been destroyed by fire; "hurrah" for "all hands saved," "hallelujah" for "well friends and relatives."