

Crawford 2397(2)

SOUVENIR NUMBER

THE POSTAL RECORD.

Vol. 4.

A JOURNAL FOR POSTAL EMPLOYEES

No. 12.

ONE DOLLAR PER ANNUM
IN ADVANCE.

NEW YORK, DECEMBER, 1891.

{ SINGLE COPIES,
TEN CENTS

FIFTH ANNUAL BALL

OF THE

New York Letter Carriers' Association

FOR THE SICK AND DEATH BENEFIT FUND.



METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE,

BROADWAY, 39th and 40th STS.

TUESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 5th, 1892.

TICKETS, Admitting Gentleman and Ladies, \$1.00

PROMENADE MUSIC

GAPPA'S SEVENTH REGIMENT BAND.

THE ORCHESTRA UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

A. BERNSTEIN.



SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE FOR 1892.

It is not possible to give, in a brief space, an account of all the features in preparation, but the following announcements will indicate that the material is deficient neither in importance nor range of subject:

THE POOR IN THE WORLD'S GREAT CITIES.

A series of articles, upon a scale not before attempted, giving the results of special experience and work among the poor of the great cities.



UNEMPLOYED ON LONDON BRIDGE.

by W. T. ELSING. The Children of the Poor (New York), by JACOB A. RIIS. The "Andover" Plan of Work in Boston and the Manufacturing Towns of Eastern Massachusetts, by Professor W. J. TUCKER, of Andover. What has been done in London, by ROBERT A. WOODS, for some time a resident of Toynbee Hall, the centre of philanthropic work there. The Poor in Chicago; the peculiar features of the problem presented there, by JOSEPH KIRKLAND, author of "Zury." Schools for Abandoned Children in Paris, by EDMUND R. SPEARMAN. Others in the series will be announced from time to time.

IMPORTANT MOMENTS.

The aim of this series of very short articles is to describe the signal occasions when some decisive scene took place, or some great experiment was first shown to be successful. Such moments as that of the first use of the Atlantic Cable, the first use of the telegraph and telephone, the night

\$3.00 A YEAR.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS, 743-745 Broadway, - - NEW YORK.

PERNIN SHORTHAND

The only non-position, non-shading, connective vowel system in use.

Can be acquired at odd hours in *one-fourth* the time of any other system.

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Write for circulars and free trial lessons.

PERNIN SHORTHAND INSTITUTE,
DETROIT, MICH.

Orphea Musical Box

Is the Latest Invention in Swiss Musical Boxes.

They are the sweetest, most complete, durable, and perfect Musical Boxes made, and any number of tunes can be obtained for them. Also a complete line of all other styles and sizes from 30 cts. to \$1800. **The Largest Stock in America.** The most appropriate wedding, anniversary, and holiday present. **No Musical Box can be Guaranteed** to wear well without Gautschi's Safety Tune Change and Check. *Pat. in Switzerland* and in the U. S. Send stamp for prices.

Old Musical Boxes carefully Repaired and Improved.

GAUTSCHI & SONS
1030 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.

BUY THE BEST—Direct from the manufacturers and at first cost.

of the Chicago fire, the scene at the moment of the vote on the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, the moment of the formation of the Republican party as a national political organization. Each of these topics, it is expected, will be described by an eyewitness.



WASHINGTON ALLSTON.

Unpublished Reminiscences and Letters of this foremost among early American painters. Two articles, which will appear early in the year, give most entertaining glimpses of the original personality of this famous artist. A number of illustrations will lend additional interest to the articles.

OUT OF DOOR PAPERS.

Small Country Places, how to lay out and beautify them, by SAMUEL PARSONS, JR. Fishing Lore from an Angler's Note Book, by Dr. LEROY M. YALE. Mountain Station Life in New Zealand, by SIDNEY DICKINSON. Racing in Australia, by SIDNEY DICKINSON, with illustrations by BIRGE HARRISON.

The illustrations which will accompany this series are made from the original material, either photographs or sketches, secured for this purpose.

A Full Prospectus appears in the Christmas Number.



—TRY THE—

Crawford Letter Carrier's Shoe

\$3.50

TAP SOLE.

SMITH, GRAY & CO.

Manufacturers, Wholesalers and Retailers.

Clothing for all Ages,

AND

A Full Line of Hats and Caps in the Latest Shapes and Styles.

WE MAKE

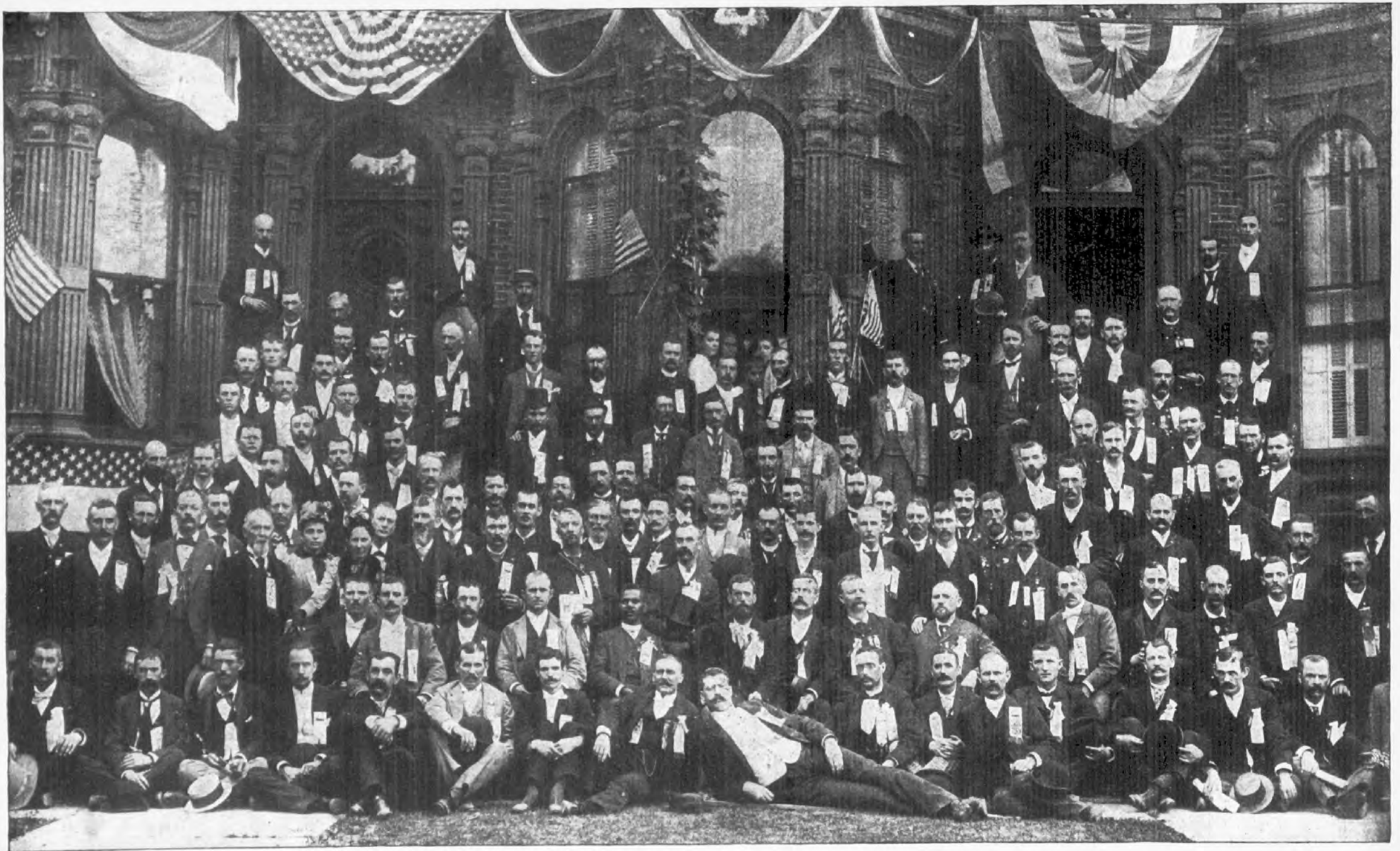
Letter Carriers' Uniforms

A SPECIALTY.

3d Avenue and 123d Street.

RANDOLPH & SILVA, MANAGERS.

"Three Brooklyn Stores."



SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS, U. S. A.

DETROIT, MICH., AUGUST 5, 6, 7, 1891.



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UNEMPLOYED ON LONDON BRIDGE.

The articles will be written by authorities. The treatment will be thoroughly popular, and the elaborate illustrations will serve to make the presentation of the subject vivid as well as picturesque. Among the articles already arranged for are: The East-side Tenement District (New York), as seen by a city missionary, by W. T. ELSING. The Children of the Poor (New York), by JACOB A. RIIS. The "Andover" Plan of Work in Boston and the Manufacturing Towns of Eastern Massachusetts, by Professor W. J. TUCKER, of Andover. What has been done in London, by ROBERT A. WOODS, for some time a resident of Toynbee Hall, the centre of philanthropic work there. The Poor in Chicago; the peculiar features of the problem presented there, by JOSEPH KIRKLAND, author of "Zury." Schools for Abandoned Children in Paris, by EDMUND R. SPEARMAN. Others in the series will be announced from time to time.

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WE MAKE

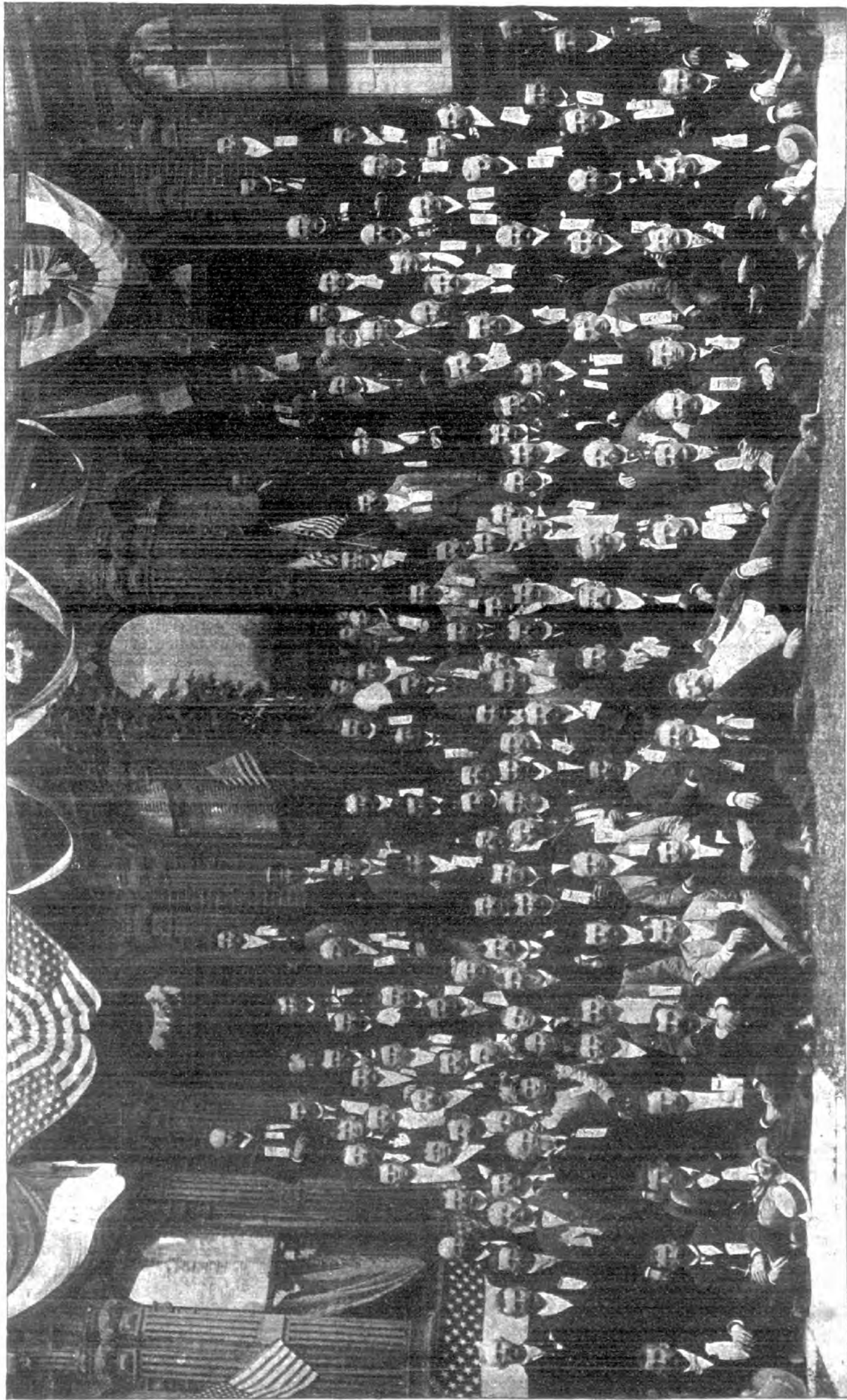
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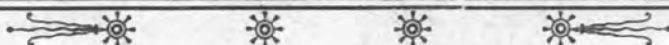
SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS, U. S. A.

By Apollon, Mich. A. C. S. C. 1911

PLEASE CUT THIS OUT AND TRY IT.



— THE —
“ F E R R I S ”
F A M O U S : : H A M S .



When the winter season has progressed thus far, Poultry and Fresh Meats lose a little of their special attraction, and the enterprising housekeeper is looking out for some pleasing variety.

For a winter dinner, say once a week, a delicious “FERRIS” Ham roasted will provide a most tempting “Piece de Resistance,”

Insist that your grocer shall furnish you a plump, round joint, fresh from our capacious smokehouses, weighing 13 pounds or more. Have it a little fat also, if you would find it tender and juicy. With our compliments

TO THE COOK

let us suggest how it should be handled.

With a very sharp knife shave off cleanly the hardened surface from the face and butt of the Ham. Put it over the fire in cold water and let it come to a moderate boil and keep it steadily at this point. A Ham weighing 13 pounds will need to boil five hours. Many cooks serve ham underdone.

Remove the skin, which will readily peel off when boiled as directed. Have ready some dried bread or crackers of which roll fine and sift a teacup full. Break in two eggs and stir well with one teaspoonful of sugar. Use a little water if the eggs do not sufficiently moisten it. Spread this evenly over the fat and dress with pepper and spices. Put the ham in a pan with a wire bottom, or, if that be not at hand, block up the ham so that the flesh shall not rest on the pan. Have the oven hot and send the ham to the table as soon as it is browned. In carving, cut in very thin slices.

— PARK & TILFORD —

AND ALL LEADING GROCERS HAVE OUR BRAND.

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POSTMASTER AT NEW YORK CITY.

The Honorable Cornelius Van Cott, Postmaster at New York City, was born in this city in 1838, and received his early education in the public schools. He comes from old revolutionary stock.

While a young man he obtained a position in the insurance business, and at an early age was elected Vice-President of the Aetna Insurance Co. His first political position was in the Custom House under Samuel Draper. Here he remained until 1869, when President Grant made him a Collector of Internal Revenue. He was a member of the old Volunteer Fire Department. After the overthrow of the Tweed ring in New York he became prominent in politics, and was appointed a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners, serving from 1873 to 1875, and again from 1879 to 1885, a greater part of the time as President of the Board. During his administration the Fire Department improved wonderfully.

Mr. Van Cott has always been an earnest, consistent Republican in politics, serving for several years on the State Committee. As a delegate he has attended

many State Conventions. In 1887 he was elected State Senator in the Eighth Senatorial District of New York. In 1886 the Democratic plurality in this district was 1,500, but Mr. Van Cott's popularity caused him to be elected by a plurality of over 4,800.

As a member of the State Senate he made an enviable record.

He resigned the Senatorship to accept the position of Postmaster, May 1, 1889.

On entering upon his duties he at once perceived that the clerical force was totally inadequate to the needs of the office, and almost his first official act was an effort to obtain an increase in the allowance for clerk hire. In this he was partially successful, obtaining on August 1, 1889, an increase of \$78,000, and authority to employ 102 additional clerks.

Under his administration the service has undergone a steady improvement.

Mr. Van Cott is President of the Lincoln Club, and of the West Side Savings Bank.

He is under bonds in the sum of \$1,000,000. This is twice the sum for which his bondsmen are liable. One-half of this is for money order business; the other half for the general business of the office.

Prior to the last State campaign he was prominently mentioned as a candidate for Governor.



HON. CORNELIUS VAN COTT, POSTMASTER.

A Building Contract

Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda will take the contract to build you up to good health if you have a chronic cough, if you are losing flesh or if you have simply lost your appetite.



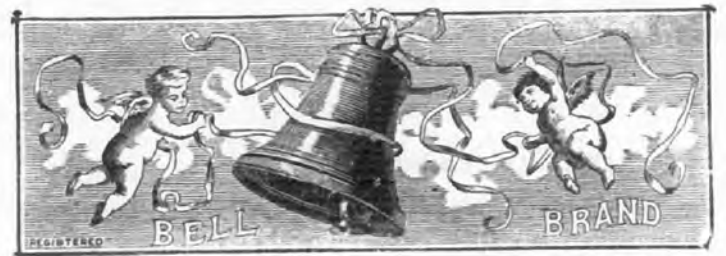
Scott's Emulsion cures Coughs, Colds, Consumption, Scrofula, General Debility, and all Anaemic and Wasting Diseases. It prevents wasting in children. *It is palatable as milk.* Scott's Emulsion is put up in salmon-colored wrappers. *Be sure you get the genuine.* It is prepared only by Scott & Bowne, New York, and sold by all Druggists.

Scott's Emulsion

Ode & Gerbereux,

MANUFACTURERS OF THE

CELEBRATED BELL BRAND



Chocolates

Bon-Bons,

131 South Fifth Ave.,

NEW YORK.

METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE,

BROADWAY AND SEVENTH AVENUE,

THIRTY-NINTH AND FORTIETH STS.

TO LET FOR BALLS, RECEPTIONS, ETC.

ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GAYLER, AT NEW YORK CITY.

Mr. James Gayler, Assistant Postmaster at New York, was born in that city. In 1855 he entered the Postal Service as a clerk in the New York Postoffice, and served in that capacity until 1861, when he resigned to accept an appointment as assistant to Mr. James Holbrook, then the special agent at New York of the Post-office Department, to the position of which Mr. Gayler succeeded on the former's death in 1864.

In 1865 Mr. Gayler, on the request of Postmaster-General Denison, suggested a substitute for the system of registration then in use. He accordingly devised the "Registered Package Envelope" still in use.

His suggestions were submitted to and approved by the Department, but the report was "pigeon-holed" and lost, and it was not until 1867 that, having duplicated his previous labors, the desired change was made.

The system, as described by Mr. Gayler at the time, was not a useless effort to render it impossible to tamper with registered matter, but was intended to render it exceedingly dangerous to do so; and that purpose it has so well filled that the registry system of the United States Postoffice is believed to be superior to any other in the world.

In 1873 Mr. Gayler resigned his post as special agent to accept that of General Superintendent of City Delivery at the New York office, in which place he served efficiently until 1880, when he was appointed to the place he now holds.

He is well known to all citizens of New York who have business with the Postoffice there, and is generally considered one of the very best informed men on postal affairs in the United States.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

ITS EXTENSION IN THE FREE DELIVERY SERVICE AND TO FOURTH-CLASS OFFICES RECOMMENDED.

The annual report of the Civil Service Commission states that the classified civil service now contains 34,000 Government employees. During the year from July 1, 1890, to July 30, 1891, 19,029 persons were examined for the four branches of the service, 12,757 of whom passed. Compared

patronage theory within the classified service proper." And it is believed that it will not only have this effect, but also promote the efficiency of the service.

Another very important alteration of the rules was the abolition of the provision allowing the promotion of persons in the non-classified service to positions in the classified service after non-competitive examination.

The Commission recommends that as

rapidly as it can properly be done the classified service be extended to all the customs and internal revenue districts in which there are twenty-five employees; to the clerks and writers in the navy yards; to the employees of the District of Columbia; to the mints and sub-treasuries, and to all free delivery postoffices, and that Congress be asked to grant a sufficient increase of appropriation to meet the increased expense that would result from such extension. In this connection the report says:

"Additional legislation should be had to take all the laborers out of politics. There is also urgent need for legislation that will place the fourth-class postmasters and the remaining offices of the Government out of partisan politics."

Replying to charges of dishonesty in the administration of the Civil Service law, the Commission says its records and books and those of local boards are open to inspection by all responsible persons, and the fullest inspection by Congressmen is desired.

The Commission opposes interference in elections by Government officers, and says the law in relation to political assessments should be amended so as to prohibit any individual, whether in the Government service or not, from soliciting any Government employee for contributions for political purposes.

with the previous year, this is a decrease of 3,965 in the number examined and 1,190 in the number passed.

Among the important changes of rules during the year is that allowing the establishment of competitive examinations for promotion within the classified service. This change, says the report, "aims to eradicate the lingering remnants of the



MR. JAMES GAYLER, ASSISTANT POSTMASTER.

RICHARD E. THIBAUT,
WALL PAPERS,

✻OF✻ALL✻KINDS,✻

23 Great Jones Street,

Near Broadway,

New York

||| SAMPLES FURNISHED. |||

UNIFORM AND CONTRACTING DEPARTMENT.
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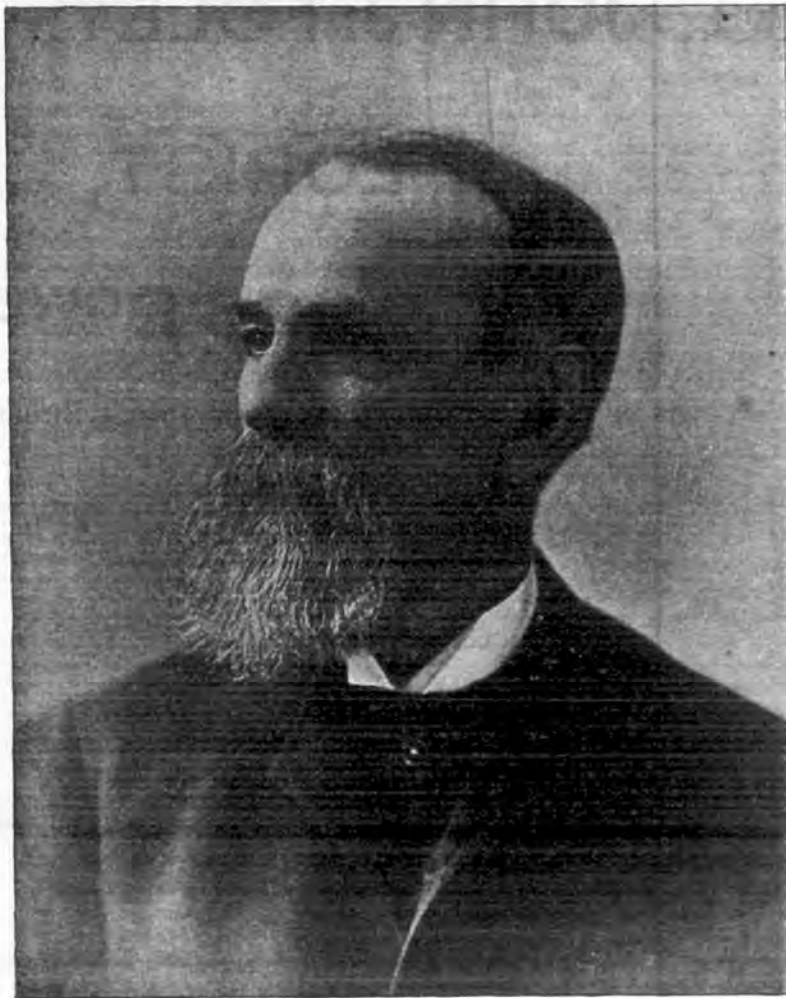
BROWNING, KING & CO.,

UNIFORMS,

406 TO 412 BROOME STREET,

JAMES W. LINGARD, Manager.

NEW YORK.



The Late Hon. S. S. COX.

THE COMING MAN.

Oh, not for the great departed,
 Who formed our country's laws,
 And not for the bravest-hearted
 Who died in freedom's cause,
 And not for some living hero
 To whom all bend the knee,
 My muse would raise her song of praise —
 But for the man *to be*.

For out of the strife which woman
 Is passing through to-day,
 A man that is more than human
 Shall yet be born, I say.
 A man in whose pure spirit
 No dross of self will lurk;
 A man who is strong to cope with wrong,
 A man who is proud to work.

A man with hope undaunted,
 A man with god-like power
 Shall come when the most is wanted,
 Shall come at the needed hour.
 He shall silence the din and clamor
 Of clan disputing with clan,
 And toil's long fight with purse-proud might
 Shall triumph through this man.

I know he is coming, coming,
 To help, to guide, to save.
 Though I hear no martial drumming,
 And see no flags that wave.
 But the great soul travail of woman,
 And the bold, free thought unfurled,
 And heralds that say he is on the way —
 The coming man of the world.

Mourn not for vanished ages
 With their great heroic men,
 Who dwell in history's pages
 And live in the poet's pen.
 For the grandest times are before us,
 And the world is yet to see
 The noblest worth of this old Earth
 In the men that are to be.

—ELLA WHEELER WILCOX in *Truth*.

ANOTHER MONUMENT TO S. S. COX.

THE LIFE-SAVING SERVICE—HOW IT HAS GROWN.

The ocean and lake coasts of the United States are picketed with the stations of the Life-Saving Service attached to the United States Treasury Department. Sumner I. Kimball is general superintendent, with headquarters at Washington, and there is a corps of inspectors, superintendents, station-keepers and crews, extending over the entire coast-line, together with a Board on Life-Saving Appliances, composed of experts selected from the revenue marine service, the army, the life-saving service, and civilians.

At the close of the last fiscal year the life-saving establishment embraced 233 stations, 176 being on the Atlantic coast, 46 on the lakes, 10 on the Pacific coast and 1 at the falls of the Ohio, Louisville, Ky.

The statistics of the service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1890, were as follows:

	Year Ending June 30, 1890.	Since Introduction of Life-Saving System in 1871 to June 30, 1890.
Number of Disasters.....	384	5,308
Value of Property Involved.....	\$7,555,908	\$89,275,682
Value of Property Saved.....	\$5,451,843	\$65,803,935
Value of Property Lost.....	\$2,104,065	\$23,471,747
Number of Persons Involved.....	3,197	46,061
Number of Persons Lost.....	38	543
Number of Shipwrecked Persons Succored at Stations.....	788	8,691
Number of Days' Succor Afforded.....	1,876	22,707
Number of Vessels Totally Lost on the United States Coasts.....	76	-----

*This does not include 98 lost at the wreck of the *Huron*, not properly chargeable to the service for the reason that the disaster occurred before December 1, the date then fixed by law for opening and manning the stations.

In addition to the foregoing there were during the year 145 casualties to smaller craft, such as sailboats, rowboats, etc., on which there were 299 persons, of whom 289 were saved and 10 lost. In addition to persons saved from vessels there were 27 others rescued who had fallen from wharves, piers, etc., and who would have perished without the aid of the life-saving crews. The cost of the maintenance of the service during the year was \$913,786.

VETERAN LIST.

The article in the October number of *THE RECORD*, headed "Veterans of the Boston Office," suggests the idea that a veteran list of the whole United States would be of general interest to all employees of the postoffice, and with that end in view we start with the Boston office and publish only the names of men having served Uncle Sam thirty years or more and are still in the service. This list will be printed from month to month until it is complete, and any correspondent or reader of *THE RECORD* knowing of a veteran will confer a favor by sending his name, year of appointment and name of office he is connected with. A complete list will show what city has the most veterans, and will be generally interesting.

BOSTON, MASS.

Chas. Brigham (oldest clerk in the United States).....	1837
John Lewis.....	1845
Benj. H. Hersey.....	1848
A. A. Alden.....	1850
Henry Locke.....	1850
Henry S. Adams.....	1853
A. F. Johnson.....	1856
Philip Marchington (oldest carrier in the United States).....	1856
J. W. Crowell.....	1856
Chas. West (carrier).....	1858
Frank Underwood.....	1858
A. Sanborn.....	1860
J. L. Harmon.....	1861
E. A. Reed.....	1861

PORTLAND, ME.

James Harris.....	1846
-------------------	------

M. J. PAILLARD CO.,
No. 680 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK.



HEADQUARTERS FOR
MUSIC BOXES
AND
MUSICAL NOVELTIES.

JULIUS KERN,
Cabinet Maker,

Plain and Artistic Cabinet Work.

✦ Store and Office Fixtures. ✦

Hardwood Trimmings, Doors, Etc.,

BAR FIXTURES.

424 & 426 East 92d St.,

NEW YORK.

DESIGNS & ESTIMATES FURNISHED.

JOHN J. FOLEY,
FLORIST,

226 BOWERY.

Near Prince Street.

NEW YORK.

Cheapest in the City.

First Prizes awarded for New and Original Designs at

Lenox Lyceum.

McCANN'S

Celebrated Hats,

No. 210 BOWERY.

Absolutely Correct Styles.

Money Saved.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

The New York and New Jersey Bridge Co., have asked the Government to secure space for postal business in their proposed Grand Union Depot at Broadway, Thirty-seventh and Thirty-ninth sts.

The newspapers are opposed to the proposition of making the General office a Branch station with a new General office uptown. The proposed change would not enhance the value of the newspaper properties—see!

Col. Henry L. Potter, a Customs Inspector, has been arrested for using washed stamps.

The Association of Superintendents and Clerks, will hold their annual ball at the Lenox Lyceum, on the evening of January 15.

That the affair will be pleasant and profitable seems beyond doubt.

Louis Kempner, for many years a faithful clerk in the Registry Division has been promoted to the chief clerkship of Station H, where he will have a larger field for the display of those talents that have earned for him this merited recognition.

The New York Letter Carriers' Association will have their fifth annual ball in the Metropolitan Opera House January 5th. It will surpass any previous effort they have ever made.

The January number of THE RECORD will contain a good report of the event, together with a fine group picture of the committee of arrangements.

The Carriers' Association have endorsed THE RECORD and in a resolution call upon all the carriers to give it their practical support.

Station "D" employees had their first monthly stag on the 12th inst. It was a most enjoyable affair. Considerable unsuspected talent was thereby discovered among the clerks and carriers of "D."

* Here is where the Editor's blue pencil made a final period.

EIGHT-HOUR LAW.

In view of the fact that the Court of Claims have yet to construe the law, and taking into consideration the recommendation of Maj. Pollock, General Superintendent of the Free Delivery, printed in another column, and also to economize space, THE RECORD refrains for the present in dilating either upon the present operation, or what, from our standpoint, we view as the proper interpretation of the law.

The court do move slowly.

POSTAL ITEMS.

Phonographs are used in the Mexican post-office.

Aurora, Ill., is at last to have a new postoffice building. For two years Uncle Sam has declined to be buncoed on the value of the site.

There is a lively three cornered rivalry for the postmastership of St. Johnsbury, Vt.

The Postoffice Department may not be ready for one-cent postage, but the country is undoubtedly ready for it. The question is settled by the fact that the present letter postage produces a surplus.—N. Y. World.

The postage stamp will be 52 years old in May of next year. Its inventor was a printer, James Chalmers of Dundee, Scotland, who died in 1853.

Rock Island, Ill., and vicinity has a street railway service.

Washington, Mass., wants free delivery.

N. A. L. C. U. S. A.

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S NOTES.

It should be borne in mind by all that the assessment levied for legislation is just as obligatory upon each member as the annual dues or per capita tax. The two should not be confounded.

On January 1st, dues for the six months preceding are payable, and secretaries of branches are requested to strive and see that same is paid as early thereafter as possible.

In the last thirty days seventeen new Branches have been formed, making the total 281. On December 20, 1890, there were eighty-four Branches.

In remittances for different purposes in the same letter, secretaries are requested to separate each—to write legibly and in every instance give number of Branch and membership. Foreign money and mutilated coins will be returned to the sender.

THE LETTER CARRIERS' INCREASE OF SALARY BILL.—SOME PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

CHICAGO, Dec 9, 1891.

To the Editor of THE POSTAL RECORD:

During the present session of Congress it is contemplated to introduce some measures aiming at the improvement of the condition of the nation's letter carriers, and a discussion of these measures is now I think opportune, so that when the time arrives for their consideration, we, who are interested, may be in a position to present them intelligently and consistently. It is absolutely necessary for the success of any movement we may be engaged in, that it bear the impress of unanimity, and thus backed its triumph is almost certain.

Former measures were defeated simply because lacking this quality, for while all were agreed on the justice of the increase of salary, dissension and disagreement as to the how and where it should be increased, were so rife that its promoters were unable to advance it as the united claim of the letter carriers, and it therefore necessarily fell through. Looking back at this defeat calmly and dispassionately, it can be truthfully said that it was mainly due to the want of unity of thought and action on the part of the letter carriers themselves. The blame may be ascribed to this committee or that, to this official or that, but the fact stands out clearly that it is mostly due to want of unity, to the inability to reconcile conflicting elements and sections, to quell dissensions and restore harmony. Guided by this experience our duty in these impending legislative measures is apparent. It is first, last and every time "union," without which you might as well try and stop the downpour of Niagara with a silk pocket handkerchief as expect immediate and adequate relief from Congress.

A united plan of action is all we need, based on justice and sustained by an expression of public sentiment, and though the warm heart of our illustrious champion, S. S. Cox, is now cold in death, and his eloquent voice stilled forever, we will find not a few of our statesmen willing to espouse our cause and lend to it their best endeavors. First let us give to these matters careful and mature consideration; seek counsel and suggestion from one another; agree in its entirety on a plan of action; select the most trusted and tried of our force as our representatives on the scene of operations; give as long as they are carrying out our well defined plans, hearty and unflagging support, and, like the old commander at Vicksburg "fight it out on this line if it takes the whole summer." That, Mr. Editor, would be my plan, and which if executed would, I am satisfied, bring about the realization of our long delayed hopes. It is imperative that we acquiesce in and strictly adhere to the plan of action outlined, before inviting the co-operation of our supporting agencies. It is for this very purpose the N. A. L. C. exists; that was the idea that inspired its

conception and birth, and that is its strongest and fullest claim to existence.

Its social and benevolent features are certainly helpful and praiseworthy; its life insurance appendage is very commendable, and *en passant* I would recommend every member to take advantage of it, but it was not for these purposes, admirable though they are, it was created. We could find these benefits outside of our union. Its fundamental, underlying motive is to protect and elevate the letter carrier in everything relating to his official character and voice his desires and sentiments on all matters pertaining to his official interests. Are the objects of the Association being carried out? Are its principles vitalized in its actions? Is it receiving the loyal, unswerving support of those who are in duty bound to sustain it? What percentage of the letter carriers of the country are affiliated and in active sympathy with it? Judging by this city alone the number is anything but commensurate with the merits and possibilities of the institution. What the cause for this apathy is I cannot account, but I know until it is removed and replaced by an active interest our chances for success will be precarious.

Union and action must be our watchwords if we would achieve success.

The matter which most strongly demands our attention is the all-important one of increase of salary. The justice of this demand is everywhere conceded. There cannot be a tenable, logical argument advanced in opposition to it. Its passage will be simply an act of justice and a declaration by Congress that it is in harmony with the progressive spirit of the age, which insists that the laborer shall be amply rewarded for his toil and that it is impolitic as well as unjust to muzzle the ox who treadeth out the corn. The fact alone that all kinds of labor are steadily increasing in value, and that the last decade has witnessed in an especial degree its marvelous growth, while ours, though immeasurably more onerous and exacting than it was ten years ago, when our salaries were fixed, is at a standstill, is sufficiently convincing to satisfy the most scrupulously economical patriot who ever guarded the people's interests and sentenced the public treasury. Notwithstanding, however, the justice of our appeal for an increase of salary, it is possible that it may meet with some opposition from influential and unexpected quarters, there was never yet an act of public justice accomplished without a struggle, sometimes long and desperate. To be prepared for such a contingency is plainly our duty, and to meet it squarely I would offer a suggestion, which, in my judgment, would prove, if adopted, of incalculable advantage. I would have the committee elected by the National Association to attend to these legislative matters frame a resolution embodying our position on the salary question and stating therein the many reasons why we are entitled to its satisfactory adjustment. Submit this resolution to every branch of the National Association, and when adopted each branch to furnish a printed copy accompanied by an explanatory circular to every labor organization in its locality requesting that such organization endorse it if found worthy of approval, and forward it to the chairman of the Committee on Postoffice and Post Roads and also to their district congressman.

Such a widespread expression of representative public sentiment would surely have a weighty influence on Congress, and preclude the further postponement of this desirable end. It is to be hoped that our Legislative Committee will take hold of all the forces within its reach, and to all well-grounded suggestions give careful consideration. It is very desirable that the existing committee keep the body continually and fully posted by reports from time to time, so that the lively interest now awakened may not be permitted to grow cold

and apathetic. Our official organ, THE POSTAL RECORD, is the best medium through which we might hold communication, and as its columns are ever open, it would be a good thing to avail of it. There is always something to be gained by an interchange of views and an expression of opinions, and in this way we can immensely help our cause. Whatever is visionary and impracticable in the shape of advice can be relegated to its native obscurity, and whatever appears intelligent and politic can be taken cognizance of and tested. Whoever has a word of counsel to offer, let us hear it through THE RECORD, for it is always true, as the Good Book hath it, "in the multiplicity of counsellors there is wisdom."

Fully conscious of the power of the press and its effectiveness in furthering any cause which it advocates, I would earnestly recommend to the letter carriers of the country to seek its support and create through it a favorable sentiment in their various localities. I would like very much to see THE POSTAL RECORD in the hands of every letter carrier, so that by closely following it, investigating the methods it recommends and practically applying its instructions he may be in a position to establish a good cause, and should he meet with adversaries logically and irrefragably overthrow them. Our representative organ to be effective must be well supported, and it would be to our lasting disgrace, as a body, to allow it to lapse for want of patronage, now that it has survived all the trials of infancy and given such bright promise of a glorious future. Respectfully yours,

T. W. WITTLER.

FOURTH CLASS POSTMASTERS.

AN INCREASE IN COMPENSATION TO BE SOUGHT FOR.

The fourth-class postmasters in the State of Ohio are seeking by a united effort to induce Congress to pass a bill increasing their compensation. They are an underpaid set of officials when the amount of their income is compared with the expenses. The postmaster in this class is not only expected to pay the rent out of his income, but must provide fuel and light beside, and when this is done the margin left him for a livelihood is indeed small. For this purpose a convention of that class of postmasters was recently held at Columbus, O.

Those present were an intelligent and fine looking body of men, and represented 33 out of the 88 offices in the State. Mr. Sol. Tarbaugh of Henry County, acting as temporary chairman, called the Convention to order. This gentleman was elected permanent president. The balance of the organization was effected by the selection of Mr. P. G. Garver of Tuscarawas County, Secretary; and D. F. Beitler of Seneca County as Assistant Secretary.

The Chair appointed the following Committee on Resolutions: S. P. Bennett, of Hocking County; G. A. Shaw, of Summit; M. L. Brown, of Miami; R. W. McCamcy, of Hancock and W. H. Seward, of Fulton. It was ordered that all resolutions be handed to the Committee and by that Committee reported to the Convention. The question as to the number of delegates to be appointed to the National Convention was brought up, discussed and laid over for future action.

It was also agreed that all postmasters present, whether delegates or not, should be permitted to vote on all questions before the meeting.

The Committee on Resolutions were instructed to embody in their report, as near as possible and consistent, the views of the

different members of the Convention as expressed. This Committee reported a set of resolutions in which the administration of Postmaster-General Wanamaker was indorsed, and President Harrison congratulated on having so able a man in his cabinet.

The bill to be introduced in Congress aims to regulate the compensation of fourth-class postmasters by the amount of business done.

An assessment of fifty cents was ordered levied on all fourth-class postmasters in the State to defray the expenses of the delegates to the National Convention and the expenses of holding the Convention. These assessments are to be forwarded to the treasurer upon call from that official. Mr. D. F. Beitler, of Seneca, was placed in nomination for Treasurer. There being no other name presented the rules were suspended and that gentleman elected by acclamation.

The following were elected as delegates to the National Convention: W. E. Moore, Mercer; John O. Davis, Crawford; S. P. Bennett, Hocking; R. W. McCamcy, Hancock; G. R. Garner, Tuscarawas. Alternates: W. H. Seward, Fulton; B. F. Smith, Wyandotte; J. W. Robinson, Lawrence; G. A. Shaw, Summit; W. A. Jones, Miami. The delegates were allowed actual railroad fare and \$2.50 per day for incidental expenses.

Some of the delegates were apprehensive that Congressmen might not desire to champion the cause of the postmasters unless they had some expression from their constituents on the subject. To avoid any objection upon that score each postmaster was requested to circulate a paper for signatures in his neighborhood, asking the member of Congress from that district to use his influence to secure the passage of a bill for the benefit of postmasters of this grade. This was considered the best plan and the paper will be circulated.

Messrs. Shaw, Bennett and Derry were appointed a committee to call on the editors of the local papers and solicit their aid in the movement.

The Treasurer was allowed a commission of 2 per cent. on all funds handled by him. The Secretary's compensation is to be a return of all money paid out by him for stationery, stamps and expenses incurred while in discharge of the duties of the office.

An invitation was received from Postmaster Gardner to visit and inspect the Columbus postoffice. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

The members of the Convention were escorted through the office by Assistant-Postmaster Lanning. Mr. Lanning conducted them through all the departments, explaining the workings of each and showing how a letter was handled from the time it came into the office until loaded into one of Uncle Sam's mail wagons to be taken to the depot or sent out in the city by the carriers. The delegates seemed to take great interest in how the affairs of the office were conducted and expressed themselves as delighted with its workings. A vote of thanks was extended Postmaster Gardner and his assistant, Captain Lanning, for favors extended.

The Convention adjourned to meet at the call of the President.

HAWAIIAN POSTAL SYSTEM.

This Kingdom possess an excellent domestic and foreign postal system, by which correspondence is regularly received by subsidized foreign mail steamships, and transmitted by the inter-island steamers to every part of the group. Post-riders also make the circuit of each island once a week, thus distributing the mails in every town and plantation. Replies to letters sent to any part of the group can generally be had within three or six days from the date of their leaving any given point.

The General Postoffice is located on Merchant street, Honolulu, nearly opposite Bishop & Co.'s bank. It is open every day from 8 a. m. till 4 p. m., except on Sundays, when it is open an hour in the morning, also on the arrival or departure of a steamer in the afternoon of that day.

On Saturday the office closes at 2 p. m. except on the arrival or departure of a steamer in the afternoon of that day.

Postage stamps of the following denominations can be purchased: 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 12, 15, 18, 25, 50, and 100 cents. Also postal cards of 1, 2, and 3 cents, and reply postal of 2 and 4 cents each. Also, stamped envelopes of 1, 2, 4, 5, and 10 cents each.

All letters and newspapers sent abroad must be prepaid by Hawaiian stamps only.

Letters or packages may be registered to any part of this Kingdom on payment of a fee of *ten cents* in addition to the regular postage, and to any country in the Postal Union on payment of *fifteen cents* in addition to the ordinary postage.

Hawaii is one of the few nations which possesses a self-supporting Postoffice department. Besides the business of forwarding letters and papers, it has a domestic and foreign parcel post system, through which parcels of moderate size can be forwarded to any part of the Kingdom or the United States, for a moderate charge.

It also has a domestic and foreign money-order system, with the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Portugal, Germany, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, the Netherlands, and the Colony of Victoria, Australia.

The rate of postage on domestic letters is two cents for each half ounce, and one cent on papers. Foreign letters to the United States or Canada, five cents, and to all other countries of the postal union, ten cents for each half ounce. All Hawaiian publications addressed to subscribers residing anywhere in the Kingdom, pass through the mails free, when sent from the office of publication.

BERNHARDT'S TOILET SECRET.

Madame Bernhardt, the ever youthful, says the secret of it all is an "eau sedative" with which she is bathed when very tired. After being sponged with the liquid she is dried with a fine soft towel, and so much refreshed does she feel that she can fall asleep at once, even after the most exacting of performances. Here is the wonderful "eau sedative": Two ounces of spirits of ammonia, two ounces of spirits of camphor, one and a half cups of sea salt, two cups of alcohol. Put all into a quart bottle and fill with boiling water. It must be shaken when used. It leaves the skin smooth and soft, and renders the flesh firm. It is also a defense against wrinkles.

EDWARD M. MORGAN,

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT OF CITY DELIVERY AT THE NEW YORK POSTOFFICE.

Edward M. Morgan, of whom is here-with presented an excellent portrait, is the General Superintendent of City Delivery at the New York Postoffice. The division of which he is chief is known as the Third, and within it are embraced nineteen branch stations and twenty sub-stations, employing 1,136 regular carriers, 150 substitute carriers and 603 clerks.

The Superintendent of the Third Division is, perhaps, because of the nature of the duties and the responsibilities of the position, the most important officer on the executive staff of the postmaster.

Mr. Morgan came of Revolutionary stock, his great-great-grandfather on the paternal side having actively participated in the struggle for Independence.

Young Morgan obtained a public school education in the metropolis. He began to earn his own living at an early age. In July, 1873, he secured an appointment as letter carrier, and was employed at Station "C." Ill health compelled him to resign his position in September, 1877. Hon. Thomas L. James, then postmaster, quick to discern his value, accepted his resignation, but immediately appointed him temporary assistant watchman, where his duties, though tedious, were not arduous, and in a short time his health was regained. In January, 1878, he received an appointment as stamp clerk and again did duty at Station "C." After remaining in this position a year, he passed a civil service examination for chief clerkship, and early in January, 1879, was promoted to the position of chief clerk in Station "B."

Postmaster Pearson, in January 1883, promoted him to the Superintendency of Station "L." It will be observed that "January" favored Mr. Morgan's fortunes several times.

He had been four years in Branch "B" and had acquired a perfect knowledge of all the little intricacies, incident to the service, and his position in it; besides familiarizing himself to a considerable extent, with the manners and customs of the residents of the most cosmopolitan district in the city.

Mr. Morgan remained but three months in the Harlem Station, when he received further evidence of the esteem his energy and ability had earned for him from Postmaster Pearson, who in April 1883, ap-

pointed him superintendent of Station "E." This was another promotion. The salaries of superintendents of stations rest on a basis similar to that governing the salaries of postmasters, and are determined and fixed by the volume of business done. "E" is, and has been for years, one of the largest Branch offices in the city.

December 1, 1888, Mr. Morgan was made superintendent of Station "D." He was now in charge of the most important station in the city, where he displayed executive ability of a high order. He was equal to every emergency and had filled every position he held, from the lowest to the highest, with the same satisfaction to his superiors and credit to himself. He remained in "D" until July 1st, 1889, when



EDWARD M. MORGAN.

Hon. C. Van Cott, shortly after assuming his duties as postmaster, recognizing the experience and the record of Mr. Morgan and in strict conformity with true Civil Service principles, appointed him to the position he now holds.

Mr. Morgan is a young man, full of push and vigor and determined, so far as it is within his province and power, to make the postal service in this city as nearly perfect as any human institution can be. It is safe to say there is not a man in the Department, more conversant with the workings of the system, nor more alive to its needs. He is progressive and fully believes in anticipating the wants of the public in the way of increased postal facilities. Postmaster Van Cott is to be con-

gratulated on having so efficient an aid to his administration.

Under the present postmaster the service in New York city has been extended and improved, by the addition of two new stations "W" situated on the west side, between "G" and "J," in a rapidly growing section of the city; and "O," located in a business center—Thirteenth street between Fifth and Sixth avenues—and which was described in a recent issue of THE POSTAL RECORD. Both are of great service and were much needed.

At the same time Station "P" in the Produce Exchange building was made a full station as was also Station "M" above the Harlem River. From both, delivery by carriers is now made.

Twenty sub-stations have been established; these are scattered throughout the city and are appreciated by the public, who now find it more convenient to purchase stamps, secure money orders and register letters than ever before.

In all the reforms inaugurated by Postmaster Van Cott relating to the Third Division, he has received material assistance from Mr. Morgan, whose long and varied experience makes him peculiarly well equipped for the position he holds.

The success of the present administration of New York's big post-office is largely due to the fact that the postmaster has been exceedingly wise and happy in the selection of his staff of chiefs of divisions.

Never were the postal affairs of this city in better hands, never was so good a service provided for the first city in the country.

Postmaster Van Cott is adding to his fame and is the peer of any postmaster New York city ever had.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 8, 1891.

Mr. John F. Victory, Proprietor of THE POSTAL RECORD:

DEAR SIR: I take pleasure in informing you that at a meeting of the New York Letter Carriers' Association, held on the 6th inst., the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this Association hereby endorses THE POSTAL RECORD, published in this city, and recommends it to every carrier throughout the service.

Yours truly,

[I.S.] HENRY C. POWER, Secy.

SECOND ANNUAL REUNION OF RHODE ISLAND LETTER CARRIERS AT PAWTUCKET.

The second annual reunion and banquet of the Rhode Island Letter Carriers' was held in Music Hall, Pawtucket. There were 100 of the wearers of the Wanamaker gray present, with a large number of guests, including ex-Gov. Davis, Lieut. Gov. Stearns, Mayor Pond of Woonsocket, Postmasters Wilkinson, Campbell and Bowen of Pawtucket, Woonsocket and Central Falls, ex-President John Goodwin of the National Association, G. W. Chaplin, C. O. Swan and J. Oldham, delegates from Rhode Island to the National Convention, and Moses Church of Worcester, the oldest carrier in the service. Matters were badly delayed owing to the non-arrival of the Woonsocket delegation. They started under the ancient mail service by stage, and as they did not have a special delivery stamp they miscarried after arriving in the city. All other mails arrived promptly, were cancelled with the stamp of hospitality by the reception committee, and their empty pouches were soon well filled by Caterer Havens. As soon as this task had been performed the cigars were lighted and the air assumed the regulation gray. Chairman Chaplin called to order and introduced J. P. Mulcahey of Woonsocket as toastmaster. Letters of regret for their inability to attend were read from Gov. Ladd, and Congressmen Dixon and Page, Postmaster, George, Mayor Smith, President Dennis and Secretary Victory of the National Association.

The following toasts were responded to: "The United States of America," ex-Gov. Davis; "Rhode Island," Lieut.-Gov. Stearns; "The National Association," ex-President Goodwin; "City of Providence," James E. Doty; "City of Pawtucket," Postmaster Wilkinson; "City of Woonsocket," Mayor Pond; "City of Newport," Carrier Everett Gorton; "Westerly," Carrier Develin. Remarks were made by Moses Church, and the post prandial exercises were brought to a close by the reading of a "dead" letter by "Senator" Hale.

The speechmaking was interspersed with selections by the Mandolin Club, composed of carriers from Newport; duets by Messrs. Grandy and Rhodes, of Providence; vocal solo, G. A. Abbott, of Providence.

The general committee for the occasion was: George W. Chaplin, Pawtucket, chairman; Michael J. Kelley, Pawtucket, secretary; John F. Oldham, Pawtucket, treasurer; John McKitchen, Pawtucket; Charles A. Wakefield, Pawtucket; C. Os-good Swan, Providence; C. O. Rhodes and James E. Doty, Providence; Everett I. Gorton, Newport; James F. McGrath, Woonsocket; E. F. Hilliard, Central Falls; A. A. Law, Westerly. The reception committee was: Thomas F. Duffy, Pawtucket; Willis Beattie, Pawtucket; George Mason, Pawtucket; E. F. Hilliard, Central Falls; John T. Oldham, Central Falls.

The menu cards were very cute. The front page was an imitation of an envelope, the ends broken open, showing a portion of a portrait of a young maiden, and giving just a glance at the letter, sufficient, however, to confirm the belief that it was an epistle of love. The next annual banquet will be held in Woonsocket. A vote of thanks was extended to the carriers of Pawtucket.

UNITED STATES LETTER CARRIERS' MUTUAL BENEFIT ASSOCIATION.

The affairs of the United States Letter Carriers' Mutual Benefit Association have now assumed such shape that a brief review of them may prove of interest to the members of the National Association.

The Board of Trustees have met with a great

many obstacles in their endeavors to get this branch of the National Association started, chief among them was the lack of funds as the board has not had the assistance from the National Association which it expected and which it should have had. The members of the Board being widely scattered and all its business having to be done by correspondence, it has necessarily been slow and has entailed a large amount of work upon the members.

I am in receipt of letters daily from secretaries of branches asking for information on various subjects in relation to the progress of the work. One of the questions asked the oftenest is, does a member lose his membership if he leaves the service. By referring to Article 9, Section 5, of the constitution, and Article 5, Section 1, of the General Laws, they will get the desired information.

Collectors should see that application blanks are filled out in every particular before mailing. I have had to send a good many back for correction, and it is very annoying to have to do so. Collectors should bear in mind also, the fact that all monies due this association should be sent to the Chief Collector. Among the branch collectors who are deserving of praise for their ability as hustlers are brothers Watkins, of Louisville; Barker, of Auburn; Lemon, of Grand Rapids; Rickards, of Detroit and Rhodes of Providence, also Bro. Routon, of Owensborough, Ky.

The board is indebted to Bro. Kleffner, the Chairman of the Executive Committee for the disposition he has shown to help us in every way that he could.

It is to be hoped that secretaries of branches will endeavor to have their members join this association as it is to benefit them it was organized for, and if it is properly laid before them a great many will join who otherwise would not.

I came near forgetting Bro. Lilley, of St. Paul, and Bro. Armour, of Kansas City, who are deserving of praise for the manner in which they have pushed the interests of the association in their respective branches.

The following branches have applied for membership blanks, and they are still coming in daily:

Branch No.	City	Members
4	Nashville, Tenn	25
14	Louisville, Ky	50
12	Worcester, Mass	12
151	Auburn, N. Y.	15
40	Cleveland, O	40
30	Kansas City, Mo	50
65	Passaic, N. J.	5
8	Lincoln, Neb.	20
3	Buffalo, N. Y.	60
1	Detroit, Mich	75
93	Hastings, Neb.	3
127	Jefferson City, Mo	2
91	Little Falls, N. Y.	6
100	Toledo, O	2
46	Springfield, Mass	1
54	Woonsocket, R. I.	1
176	Baltimore, Md	25
28	St. Paul, Minn	50
161	Portsmouth, N. H.	6
15	Providence, R. I.	30
225	Wellington, Kan	4
155	Belleville, Ill	3
205	Fargo, N. Dak	3
128	Westfield, Mass	5
230	Nashua, N. H.	10
234	Owensboro, Ky	5
81	Glens Falls, N. Y.	5
217	Waltham, Mass	10
134	Syracuse, N. Y.	20
55	Pawtucket, R. I.	1
24	Los Angeles, Cal	10
32	Bridgeport, Conn	1
5	Omaha, Neb	30
11	Englewood, Ill	15
94	Vicksburg, Miss	7
18	New Bedford, Mass	12
56	Grand Rapids, Mich	15
214	San Francisco, Cal	25
119	Oberlin, O	5
78	Columbus, O	5
33	New Orleans, La	3
212	Lawrence, Mass	16
135	Huron, S. Dak	3

There was an error in Brother Dunn's article last month in regard to the price of collectors' books. It should have been seventy-five cents a set instead of thirty-five cents.

CHAS. M. O'BRIEN,
Pres. Board of Trustees.

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Bowling Alleys and Billiards.
JAC. GUTERDING, Prop.

BEADLESTON
AND
WOERZ.
ALES, PORTER
and
LAGER BEER.

EMORY L. FULLER.

"Superintendent of Mails" is the sign over one of the doors in the Detroit Post-office. The busy man who sits at a desk in the rear of the room and answers to the title is Emory L. Fuller, a man who gives daily to the public volumes of information upon postal matters. Mr. Fuller is well known to all persons who have any considerable business at the postoffice, and has come to be regarded as a sort of encyclopedia of postal knowledge. In addition to the manifold duties belonging to his title, he is a kind of inquiry department, where the hurried and practical business man applies to find the last minute he can have and yet get his letters in the New York mail; and where, also, the fidgety Mrs. Smith, with equal show of importance, applies to learn how long it will take her letter to reach Mr. Smith somewhere in Pennsylvania, and if Mr. Smith will be "sure" to get it.

Numerous and diversified are the questions that pour in upon him, but his prodigious store of postal knowledge never appears to be taxed, and his clear, concise, to the point manner of imparting information is always an agreeable operation to the listener. Mrs. Smith is answered as promptly and as off hand as though she had asked the time of day, and departs "much obliged" but never dreaming of the feat her informer has performed.

An almost unlimited knowledge of mail connections throughout the country has enabled him, while yet the questions were on her lips, mentally to go over the route and unerringly time and place her letter on its entire trip, and the answers given her were at once as prompt, accurate and satisfactory, as though a mighty business transaction hinged upon the result. Mr. Fuller is a very useful man in the service, and the Detroit public seems to be pretty generally aware of it. The employees of his department in the postoffice, greatly respect him as a man splendidly equipped for his office and never lacking in respect for them.

Mr. Fuller was born in Milford, Mich. His education was what is known as "thorough common school." His first work for a living was as a clerk in a general store in the little town of Fenton, Mich. Somehow the occupation did not fit him. He wanted to be where he could see more and do more of the world's business than such a field afforded. Uncle Sam gave him the opportunity, and to date has had no occasion to regret it, for a more efficient and conscientious servant never served him. December 28, 1870, he entered the railway mail service, and a marked adaptability to the business soon displayed itself. He rose steadily through the grades of clerkship to his present position, where he is probably without a superior in the service. The business is now a second nature to him; each hour adds something to his education; he goes on from day to day absorbing everything in the way of knowledge pertaining to his work. The thoroughness, promptness and dispatch that characterizes him, is imparted to his subordinates, and pervades his department, which is unchallenged for ex-

cellence. Mr. Fuller serves Uncle Sam precisely as he would expect Uncle Sam to serve him, were the positions reversed, and he contributes a splendid per cent. to the success of any institution fortunate enough to have his services.

In stature Mr. Fuller is slightly below the medium, of dark complexion, and features that indicate unmistakable decision and firmness—two characteristics that have marked him through life; has a trim well kept appearance and the bearing of a gentleman, with a conviction that the post-office is for the public convenience and is not a private concern of his own; a man of refined conscience with a deep sense of the infinite issues belonging to every day life; competent in office; and a certain hearty kindness that makes him like to see his friends looking well and enjoying prosperity—a man whom everybody knows and everybody respects, both for his excellence as a man and his invaluable services as a public officer. Human nature instinctively respects men who, confident of their



EMORY L. FULLER.

their ground, go straight on with what they regard as duty, not knowing, nor not caring to know, whether neighbors approve of their actions or not so long as they themselves believe in the justice of them. Twenty-one years in the service, and honored among his co-laborers is his record. If the writer of this sketch were asked why so much admiration and respect exists for this man the answer would be: "Because of an innate something, not exactly definable, that shows itself now and then in thoughtfulness for his fellow-man; consideration and toleration for another at that other's trying times; a word of encouragement to some disheartened struggler; a disposition that would a little rather look upon the brightness than upon the shades of man,—in short, a man with a soul and a heart, full of the milk of human kindness.

E. C. M.

REVISING THE CONSTITUTION.

Like all normally developed members of the human race I belong to an "association." For man is by nature a gregarious animal, and periodical intermingling is a salutary and necessary mental tonic. Our meetings are held on alternate Saturday evenings, and I am a pretty faithful attendant. The gentlemen who devised our code of rules wisely inserted a clause specifying the hour of closing. All honor to them for their good intentions, say I! None the less because we cheerfully and invariably nullify them by the simple parliamentary stratagem of a motion to extend time indefinitely,—"carried, *nem con.*" Then after we do formally adjourn there are generally one or two indispensable social obligations to be discharged, the precise nature of which it is not necessary to spread upon the minutes of this article, and are only delicately (I hope) hinted at in order to show the impossibility of returning home at the promised hour.

Consequently, when I cross the domestic threshold, and am confronted with that mute gaze which slowly surveys me from head to foot, followed by an oblique glance at the mantle-piece clock,—mute, but oh! how inexpressibly expressive—I am compelled, in absolute self-defence, to draw the long bow to a considerable extent. Understand, I am not naturally mendacious, nor is dissimulation a congenial practice. But there are crises in a man's life when even wholesale mendacity may be justifiable, and I boldly advance the claim that this is one of them. The doctrine that the end sanctifies the means may be uncanonical and morally untenable—I am not versed in the logic of ethics and I won't attempt to controvert it, but the man who is suddenly threatened with a prolonged Caudle lecture, and allows qualms of conscience to restrict his weapons of defence against that connubial cyclone, may be safely written down an ASS. (Capital A and large type. Mr. Compositor, if you please.) As for me, warned and fore-armed by ample experience, and lacking the gift of impromptu invention, I keep a choice assortment of carefully constructed "explanations" constantly on hand in case of emergencies. If used intelligently, they are warranted to act as oil on the troubled waters and quell the rising storm, and I

confess to a feeling of paternal pride in these airy figments of the brain. Innate depravity, you say? I demur to the indictment, and select as my jury twelve good men and true who—occasionally carry latch-keys.

I propose to tabulate, for the benefit of my fellow—(the task of filling up the blank I leave to individual preference), one or two of these explanations, with accompanying stage directions for their successful execution.

"The secretary didn't show up with the books and we had to send a messenger for them. He lives in Hoboken." Quite effective, if used at judicious intervals and prefaced by a vindictive scowl, suggestive of personal violence to the absentee.

"Exciting times to-night; election of a president, and we had to take eighty-nine

fruitless ballots before a choice was made, so close the rivalry etc." This is my old reliable semi-annual whopper, with number of ballots contracted or expanded to suit the hour. Slightly commonplace, but I generally assume the *role* of a defeated candidate, and that helps it along.

"Something novel to-night. A joint debate on 'Is a man justified in staying out after ten?' I took the negative and my opponent was nowhere." Rather neat, I flatter myself, but apt to call forth sarcastic allusion to the relative efficacy of example and precept. However, it can generally be relied upon to lay the ghost of Caudle for that evening (or morning, as the case may be).

"Revising the constitution to-night. Very important work, as the most trivial mistake might involve us in oceans of trouble."

This I regard as my masterpiece, and have yet to learn of its superior in similar realms of fiction. I took to it as naturally as a duck to water, and have rung the changes on that unfortunate instrument until not a shred of its original composition remains. By accepted parliamentary law, I believe, amendments to amendments may not be multiplied *ad libitum*, but I heaped them on in defiance of precedent, propriety and everything else. Spasmodic points of order would occasionally be raised against this seemingly interminable process of revision, but I sternly declared them not at all well taken, and I autocratically refused to entertain an appeal against myself. Cushing, I crave your pardon; I did it in a worthy cause, and I'm a parliamentary ignoramus who never *could* fathom the intricacies of your complicated manual.

Every successful repetition of this venerable anecdote inspired me with fresh confidence in its permanent efficacy, until eventually I came to grief over it. The old story of the pitcher and the well. I had been detained unusually late—the "indispensables" had been unusually indispensable—and I felt that the exigencies of the occasion demanded something original. I made a summary requisition on my inventive faculties. They failed to respond, and I was compelled to fall back, as gracefully as I could, on the old constitution. The following pithy dialogue explains itself. It is almost pathetic in its brevity:

"My dear, we've been re—"

"So I see."

I have endeavored, by the use of italics, to convey an idea of the suggestive emphasis on the verb. The experienced reader will intuitively grasp the details, and no word-painting is necessary to depict the horror of the scene. Nemesis, in the garb of Caudle, had at last overtaken me, and I hastily ran up a flag of truce under the alluring guise of an invitation to the theatre in the indefinite future, (afterward basely repudiated.)

And now, whenever I return after the stipulated hour, I am met with a frigid assurance that no explanations are necessary, as it's quite evident that I've taken a prominent part in *revising the constitution*.

H. C. POWER.

Order your new Regulation Uniforms from the Co-operative Tailoring Co., of Chicago. See "ad." on 4th page of cover.

SALARY BILL AND CIVIL SERVICE LAWS.

The editor of THE RECORD in the November number, says: "As between an increase of salary for letter carriers and the extension of the application of the Civil Service laws," he prefers the latter. As an \$850 carrier and an employee of a non-Civil Service office, I disagree with THE RECORD; because, first, the present laws as a protection to an employee's position are a humbug; second, an increase in salary will do as much toward making our positions permanent as the extension of the present Civil Service rules.

In a Civil Service office, while an applicant must pass an examination before becoming a "sub," then await his time for promotion, a trivial cause reported to the department, with the postmaster's recommendation, will cause his removal and cover up the real cause—which, if the truth were known, would prove to be a political one every time—thereby making the "protection" a farce.

It is a fact that the real spirit of Civil Service reform is more often carried out in non-Civil Service offices than in those under the rules. Political assessments are levied more in the larger cities, and I think you will find that removals for political reasons are made quite as often in Civil Service offices as in the smaller offices.

If our salaries are raised the standard of the employees will be raised accordingly. A new postmaster will hesitate to remove a \$1,200 man (if he is not worth \$1,200 he ought to be removed), where he would not one whose salary is only \$850. It would take him nearly his whole term to get his new man up to the \$1,200 grade, while only one year would make him equal to the present second-class carrier. The best carriers in second-class offices are only holding their positions in hope that they may get better pay, or something better on the outside. Every year the best ones drop out, finding someone who will pay them a larger salary, leaving those who are not capable of earning more. Now, Mr. Editor, would it not be better for the service, better for carriers in general, to raise the standard by paying better salaries than to extend the so-called protection to those who stay in the service because they are not capable of commanding better positions?

I believe in Civil Service reform. I believe in its extension to all postal employees. But I believe that the most important measure now before the carriers, the one from which the most benefit is to be derived, both to the individual carrier and to the N. A. L. C., is the proposed equalization salary bill.

I. A. B.

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF APPLICATION OF CIVIL SERVICE LAWS.

A petition to the President of the United States to extend the Civil Service so as to include letter carriers employed at all free delivery offices throughout the country:

We, the undersigned citizens of the United States, do ask you in the exercise of the power which Congress has conferred upon you to extend the protecting shield of Civil Service to every letter carrier in the United States, irrespective of size or

commercial importance of the office at which he may be employed.

No argument is necessary to establish the moderation and justice of this petition.

The liberal and sympathetic attitude of the present administration in giving practical effect to the spirit of Civil Service legislation inspires the hope and encourages the belief that this petition will not be made in vain. And your petitioners will ever pray.

[The above is the heading of a petition, copies of which are to be sent all over the country for signatures.]

A TEST OF EFFICIENCY.

The following records were recently made in the examinations on the New Jersey State Distribution case (letter) at the New York postoffice. Clerks are called from their regular duties and placed on examination without notice:

*Separations, 73.
Cards handled, 869.*

NAMES OF CLERKS.	Cards Correct	Cards Not Known	Cards Wrong	Per Cent Correct.	Time. H. M.	No. of Cards Correct per Minute.
Ireland, G. E.	868	1	99.98	33	26	
Meyer, O.	867	2	99.76	72	39	
Donnelly, F. J.	865	4	99.55	30	29	
Collins, M. J.	864	5	99.42	32	27	
Brader, H. C.	860	9	99.86	44	19	
Gilchrist, J.	858	11	98.73	30	29	
Scheible, E. H.	857	12	98.61	55	16	
*Hadlich, C. J.	820	3	94.36	45	18	

*Auxiliary Clerk

This shows a marked state of efficiency of the clerks as far as the examinations have progressed.

THE INCREASE OF SALARY BILL.

TO INCREASE AND EQUALIZE THE PAY OF LETTER CARRIERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

That the pay of letter carriers in cities where free delivery has been, or may be established, for the first year of service shall be six hundred dollars, for the second year of service shall be eight hundred dollars, for the third year of service shall be one thousand dollars, for the fourth year of service and thereafter the pay of letter carriers shall be twelve hundred dollars.

All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

UPHELD THE CIVIL SERVICE ACT.

The District Supreme Court has sustained the indictment found against Charles A. Newton, President of the Old Dominion Republican Club, who was indicted under the Civil Service act for soliciting contributions to political funds of Government employees.

The indictment was attacked on the allegations that the act of soliciting funds from Government employees is not unlawful; that the Civil Service prohibition is unconstitutional, and that the indictment is defective in not reciting that the persons from whom money was solicited were Government employees. The Court unanimously held the act constitutional and the other objections raised invalid.

DOES NOT WANT A PENSION.

To the Editor of THE POSTAL RECORD:

I see by the last issue of THE RECORD that an attempt is likely to be made to force the pension bill for superannuated carriers before this session of Congress. To do so, it seems to me, would be to defeat the salary bill and cripple any other legislation that might be brought forward in our behalf. One thing at a time and the best interest of all should be our watchword.

There is a possibility that we may be able to get the salary bill through by concentrating all our energies in that way. By dividing our interests and resources we will surely lose both. Give us a salary that is a just compensation for the work and responsibility of the position and we should not ask a pension. Besides, in my humble opinion, the people of this country have had quite enough of pension legislation without adding to the burden from the civil list at the present time.

It is well known that living in this section is much higher than in the East, yet if I can get a salary of \$1,200 per annum and twenty years' continuous service I will need no pension from our liberal pensioner, Uncle Sam. It seems to me that it would be more apt to encourage indifference to habits of frugality than anything else; for, feeling secure of a living after retirement from service leaves no incentive for a great many to practice those habits of economy that everyone must do who succeeds in life. I am of the opinion we are asking everything there is the least hope of getting, probably more, and to add to that the request to retire us on a pension would be the means of defeating what is justice. We should ask no more.

I would respectfully suggest that the matter be placed before all the branches and get an expression of opinions from them. It would certainly throw more light on the subject.

Yours for the good of the order,
JAMES W. SCOTT, Sec'y, Branch 79.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS,
DECEMBER, 1891.

To the Letter Carriers of the United States:

The National Association of Letter Carriers, in convention assembled in the City of Detroit, Mich., last August, believing the time to be opportune, decided to make an effort to obtain the extension of the Civil Service law so as to apply to all carriers in the country. The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That we, the letter carriers of the United States, in convention assembled, do respectfully petition the President of the United States to extend the Civil Service to all the free delivery offices of the country."

The Civil Service Committee having been empowered by the convention to carry out the work specified in the above resolution, have spent much time and labor in exchanging views as to the best method of procedure, and have concluded to enlist the sympathies of the public. We verily believe the people are with us in this movement, and will aid us in obtaining that which is right and just.

We have obtained the views of the Civil Service Commissioners on the subject, and they heartily sympathize with our efforts, and have assured us of their support. As a means to successfully attain the object in view we have prepared a petition (copies of which are herewith enclosed), to be circulated among your citizens for signatures, and we sincerely trust and expect that every carrier will endeavor to obtain as many names as possible.

An effort should be made to obtain the signatures of the Congressman, the State Senator, the Assemblyman, and, in fact, every official in your locality.

The favor of the press will be of great assistance

to us, and endeavors should be made to receive favorable notice from the newspapers of your neighborhood.

Time will demonstrate that the relief sought for, if brought to a successful result, will be of incalculable benefit, not only to those who are in the classified service, but also to those who are not.

We sincerely ask for the co-operation of every carrier in the country (whether he is a member of the Association or not), to aid in this laudable undertaking to improve our individual and collective interests.

You are requested to return these petitions when filled to Joseph Mulvey, secretary, 1108 Halsey street, Brooklyn, N. Y., on or before February 15th, 1892. JOSEPH MULVEY, Secretary.

JOHN H. PHILLIPS, Chairman.

P. S.—All newspapers containing favorable notices should be mailed to the secretary, at 1108 Halsey street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

A POSTAL CLUB.

THE EMPLOYEES OF THE SIOUX CITY POST OFFICE FORM AN ORGANIZATION.

The employees in the Sioux City postoffice department met last night and organized a mutual aid association which will hereafter be known as the Sioux City Postoffice Employees' Club. The room formerly occupied by the Sioux City Cycle Club in the Iowa Bank building has been secured and will be cosily furnished. A library will be established, the nucleus for which will come from a donation of one book each by the members. The object of the club is to give the members a chance to get together, become better acquainted with each other and make themselves familiar with all the provisions of the postal laws.

A systematic course of study will be taken up, beginning with a digest of the Postal Laws and Regulations. Each section will be taken up separately and thoroughly analyzed. In this way the employees will become better acquainted with their duties and by working together give the public a more efficient service. The club has thirty members which includes the postoffice force with the exception of the substitute carriers. These have access to the club's library, but are not required to pay any dues until they get on the regular force.

The officers chosen to serve temporarily were C. E. Goetz, president; C. E. Boss, secretary; executive committee, Messrs. Slosser, Aldridge and Shaver.

President Goetz in speaking of the organization said, "I have been thinking for some time of organizing a society of this kind. It will prove a great factor in adding to the efficiency of the work performed by the employees. Perplexing questions come up every day and such will be discussed at the club meetings. The employee will not take the time by themselves to become familiar with their duties as outlined in the Postal Laws and by this means it can be accomplished. The Sioux City force is getting better organized every day." — *Sioux City Tribune.*

SAN JOSE, CAL.

The annual ball of the Letter Carriers' Association on Thanksgiving night was the most successful ever attempted by that organization. Turn Verein Hall was fairly jammed with spectators and dancers, and convinced me that the letter carriers are the most popular set of men in the city. A delightful programme was rendered after which dancing was enjoyed until three o'clock in the morning. The dance programmes were original and unique being an imitation of a letter box.

LOVE IN A GRAY UNIFORM.

[Written for THE POSTAL RECORD.]

She stood upon the front steps as the mail man reached the place
And handed her a letter with a smile upon his face—
He ne'er could keep from smiling for the smiles were always there,
For rich and poor, for high and low, for commonplace and fair,
She did not seem to notice him, though as he walked away,
She slyly stole a look at him, dressed in his suit of gray.

Next day came another letter, the next and next came more,
And every day she met him as she did the day before,
He didn't need to ring the bell, or shout till he was hoarse—
She being anxious for her mail, was awaiting him of course.
But be it anxiousness or not, or be it what it may,
She was sure to meet the carrier dressed in his suit of gray.

And so the missives daily came and she got them without fail,
And if he hadn't one for her, she'd have one for him to mail.
Thus from acquaintance friendship grew, which into love soon sprung—
The wildest, most romantic of which poets ever sung,
They pledged their vows one morning and before the close of day
She was married to the carrier dressed in his suit of gray.

Her father was a millionaire, his name was Hiram Brown;
Who owned the finest mansion in the grandest part of town;
And when he learned his daughter's act, with grief he fairly bowed—
A scowl of anger crossed his face, he raved both long and loud—
He swore he'd disinherit her—from his house she'd stay—
That he didn't want to see her—or the mail man dressed in gray.

But after many harsh words from the headstrong millionaire
Forgiveness was in order and he summoned in the pair,
And when he saw our hero he felt glad and reconciled—
'Twas a noble type of manhood was married to his child—
And he gave to them his blessing and on a silver tray
A very handsome present—to the mail man dressed in gray.

And now they're living happily and when the old man dies,
They'll be heirs to all his money and his property likewise;
No more he'll work for Uncle Sam, he's thrown his pouch aside,
And gone upon a wedding tour along with his young bride—
Of whom he thinks the world in all, and will I hope for aye,
And she is proud to walk beside her carrier—not in gray
M. C. McMAHON.

CHICAGO, December, 1891.

THE POSTAL RECORD.

MONTHLY

JOHN F. VICTORY, EDITOR & PUBLISHER,
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332 EAST EIGHTH STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

Official Journal of the National Association of Post Office Clerks and the National Association of Letter Carriers U. S. A. Publishes the official news of the United States Letter Carriers' Mutual Benefit Association.

"COPY" for January number must be in hand not later than the 5th of the month.

A SUBSCRIPTION to *Scribner's Magazine* for 1892 would make a valuable holiday present.

BEGINNING with the February issue THE RECORD will be issued on the 28th of each month.

SUBSCRIBERS in arrears can now make payment at the new subscription rate of \$1 per year.

THE *Review of Reviews* for the busy man who desires to be well informed on current literature is an excellent magazine.

CONGRESS will not be organized for business until after the holidays. We shall fully report all Washington news of interest to postal employees during the session.

THE demand for the October issue so largely exceeded the supply that we feel warranted in re-printing therefrom the picture from the Detroit Convention of Letter Carriers.

THE Cox Monument Fund is yet within more than \$1,000 of completion. Now is the appointed time for those who have as yet not contributed to take a part in making up this balance.

CORRESPONDENTS writing purely local news are reminded that in the future only brevity and the fact that the same is of some general interest will keep their manuscript from our capacious W. B.

THE January RECORD will contain portraits and sketches of Brooklyn's postmaster, Col. Geo. J. Collins, Major A.W. Wills, P. M., T. M. Hurst, assistant postmaster, and Capt. G.W. Gifford, superintendent of city delivery of the Nashville, Tenn., office and other illustrations.

PRESIDENT HARRISON'S reiterated desire to see faithfulness and efficiency recognized throughout the classified service is encouraging to the letter carriers who are soon to petition him to extend the application of the civil service rules to the entire free delivery service.

THE beginning of the new year is a good time to clear all accounts—and open a new leaf with \$1 to your credit and THE RECORD for a year to your debit. We shall turn your money over as many times as possible during the year in an earnest effort to make THE RECORD the best postal journal published.

OUR last lines for this volume—for this year—are words of greeting and good cheer—to our readers—to the Postmasters, the Postoffice Clerks, the Letter Carriers and other postal employees—and to our correspondents and advertisers—A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the latter's acquaintance be profitably cultivated by all to the end that THE RECORD shall grow in favor as an advertising medium.

May our readers increase in number and every one become a subscriber—a stockholder in a paper that is of the service and for those in the service.

THE recommendations of Major Pollock, General Superintendent of the Free Delivery, are commanding considerable attention. He advises that fifty-one hours constitute a week's work where Sunday work is necessary, otherwise forty-eight hours a week. As a proposed amendment to the present law providing for eight hours per day the recommendation may have some weight, but we do not think it will be favorably acted upon. No eight-hour a day law, it is our belief, will be repealed by the present or any future Congress. Another recommendation favoring \$1,200 for letter carriers after four years' service and making provision for their reduction to a lesser salary for inefficiency on the recommendation of the postmaster will, we hope, never be seriously considered. The carrier who is not efficient should be removed. No such provision for reduction should ever obtain.

The public have the right to insist that the very best men that the Government can afford to pay for the service be secured and during good behavior retained—if inefficient removed not reduced.

THE RECORD opposes this proposition of Major Pollock on the same grounds that it advocates the passage of a classification bill for postoffice clerks. It favors fixed salaries for all postal employees—fixed beyond the power of petty officials whose favoritism would have full scope with Mr. Pollock's idea in law.

By the way of rejoinder to "I. A. B." who in another column takes us to task for a statement of ours in the last issue of THE RECORD we shall propound a few questions for him to answer.

Mr. B. when you say the Civil Service Laws are a humbug, you mean in their application in some instances—do you not?

Will not an increased salary make the position of letter carrier more desirable—more sought after—and necessarily more difficult to hold?

If removals are now made ostensibly for trivial causes though in reality for political reasons (as you state) with the position more coveted will there be a greater or lesser inducement and "pressure" for similar removals?

Will less or more removals result?

Did not THE RECORD in the editorial you quote from, advocate in addition to the extension of the present law its amendment if necessary and rigid enforcement?

Are not the highest paid officials the first to "go," as a rule, when a change of postmasters is had, and any changes are to be made?

Would not new carriers in second-class offices receive more their third and fourth year under the proposed law than under the present law?

Are not as good men as ever delivered a letter still in the service?

Is it not a fact that two-thirds of the carriers value security of position more than increase of salary—want some assurance that they will be allowed to remain during good behavior to enjoy the increase, or any other improvement in their condition? With the law in question applied to the entire service—"amended if necessary and rigidly enforced"—the National Association of Carriers to-day would be composed of probably 481 instead of 281 Branches, each working harder for what there was a moral certainty they would be permitted to enjoy. However, to extend the law requires no Congressional action, if the President sees fit to favor the petition soon to be presented to him.

Fellow Workers! Readers!

With this issue THE POSTAL RECORD closes its fourth volume. Its success in the short period under its present management makes us hopeful of our ability to add many new and interesting features during the coming year. It will be our constant aim to be more than a mere news gatherer. While giving our readers monthly a bright newsy journal, we shall strive to be of value to both the employees and the service. Being devoted to your interests it is to you we look for practical support. It is your forum, your advocate, your champion. Uphold our hands and we shall serve you faithfully and well—at all times be zealous of your interests and watchful for your good. We are your servant. THE RECORD is your paper. It will in a large sense be what you make it. Subscribe for it now and ask your fellow workers to do likewise. Let every reader become a subscriber, let every subscriber induce one of his comrades to subscribe.

LAWLOR & Co. whose advertisement appears on another page have produced a fine photo of the Cox monument.

Congress and the Postoffice Department.

The honorable Postmaster-General's report will soon be ready for distribution. From the extracts given to the press it is clearly seen that Mr. Wanamaker persists in vigorously pursuing what has been the well-known policy of the department under his administration, the features of which are chiefly the extension of the free delivery service, added facilities where it is already established, particularly in the larger offices, a postal telegraph and postal savings banks, pneumatic tubes for the transmission of mail in large cities, and a new postoffice building in New York; which city he recognizes as the heart of the service. Of these measures the postal telegraph is, perhaps the most important, and THE RECORD sincerely hopes the present Congress will distinguish itself by favorably acting upon the recommendations of the Postmaster-General in this respect.

Regardless of cost the service should be extended. Towns of three or four thousand population should enjoy the benefit of a free delivery. Those who argue that this department should be self-sustaining and at the same time advocate penny postage are not truly serving the people's interests. Why should a deficiency in the postoffice retard the growth and value of this most valuable feature of our government, in which all the people are personally, vitally, daily interested. Suppose it is not self-sustaining? What branch of the government is? Some wiseacres are continuously clamoring against increased appropriations for the service, because since the last reduction of letter postage it has not been self-sustaining, and at the same time pose for cheap notoriety as advocates of reduced postage on several classes of mail matter. According to their argument every office should be self-sustaining, and when such cannot be the case no free delivery should be established. To pursue such an argument to its logical end no office should earn a revenue for the Government. Each should in the cost of its service exhaust its receipts.

There are some forty or fifty out of the 519 free delivery offices wherein the service produces a surplus, notably New York city with over \$3,000,000, and yet from the niggardly appropriations in the past the Department has been unable to meet the demands of the people in these large centres of population, not to speak of anticipating the people's wants. The Department has been pushed by the people in almost every forward step that has been taken during its history. This ought not to have been the fact.

The present Congress should deal liberally with Mr. Wanamaker's estimates for the next fiscal year, and place it within his power to increase the efficiency of the service—to extend it—to pay a fair day's wages for a fair day's work to every man in the service. Congress should reward faithfulness among the Postoffice clerks and letter carriers with an increase of salary. The public have a right to expect the very best service that can be secured, speedy and trustworthy, and Congress should not hamper by insufficient appropriations the efforts of the Department at improvement in these two essentials. A vastly improved service on the lines mapped out by the honorable Postmaster-General should precede any reduction of postage. The former is a necessity—the latter a desire. The one is pressing, the other can wait.

CAPTAIN GEORGE P. WRIGHT.

SUPERINTENDENT OF CITY DELIVERY AT
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Among the men who have distinguished themselves in the postal service of the United States is the subject of this sketch, Capt. George P. Wright, the Superintendent of the City Delivery Division of the New Orleans Postoffice. Captain Wright is a native of the old Bay State, and was born at Lowell, May 13, 1840, and hence is now on the shady side of fifty, although in appearance he seems much younger. He has had an exceedingly varied and quite an eventful career, particularly while engaged in the service of his country during the civil war. He received his education in the public schools and colleges of Massachusetts, and is a gentleman of varied accomplishments, as the writer may personally attest. When suddenly called upon to deliver an address or to preside over a deliberative assembly he speaks with fluency and his method is soundly logical. It is impossible in a brief sketch to convey any adequate account of his services and exploits during the war, and only an incidental reference can be made to them here. He joined General Butler's expedition to the South with New Orleans as its objective point, and in 1862 landed with Butler's forces at Ship Island, Mississippi, a short distance from the Crescent City, and was placed in charge of the army mails on Ship Island. After a varied service on behalf of the Union cause at the latter place he accompanied General Butler to New Orleans, and was present at the surrender of that city to the Union forces. Subsequent to his arrival at New Orleans he was appointed chief mailing clerk of the New Orleans postoffice, still retaining charge of the army mails of the Department of the Gulf. At the close of hostilities he resigned his position and engaged in other pursuits. In 1873 he was appointed superintendent of carriers. This position he held until 1886, having served two years with credit and satisfaction under the Cleveland administration. In November, 1890, Major Eaton, the present able, genial, and popular postmaster at New Orleans tendered him the position of superintendent of the city delivery, which he accepted and still occupies, to the great satisfaction of the business community of the Crescent City. Officially Captain Wright is a strict disciplinarian, and in his official relations with his subordinates he exacts a strict compliance with duty. When off duty, however, he is a most genial companion, and is a firm friend and sympathizer of those in the employ of his department. Captain Wright's knowledge of postoffice business in all its multiform departments is said by those well versed in

this branch of our public service to be phenomenal, and the expression of public sentiment in New Orleans is well nigh unanimous in its endorsement of the present efficiency of the New Orleans postoffice, to which Captain Wright's experience and industry greatly contribute. In New Orleans, where he has passed so many years, Captain Wright is widely known and has an army of friends. His personal popularity is confined to no party, race or creed, but extends to all those who admire a genial gentleman, a warm-hearted man and a capable and faithful public officer. Captain Wright is unmarried, and it seems strange that he has not succumbed to the charms of one of the Crescent City belles; but, as he has never consulted the writer in this regard, it is possible that the improbable yet may happen. FLAHERTY.



CAPTAIN GEORGE P. WRIGHT.

MARSHALL CUSHING.

THE POPULAR PRIVATE SECRETARY OF
THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL TO WED.

The approaching marriage of Marshall Cushing, Postmaster-General Wanamaker's private secretary, will bring the model secretary before the world in a new part in which his friends predict he will appear to even greater advantage than in his role of confidential assistant to Mr. Wanamaker. Not only will he receive the best wishes of an immense circle of personal friends, but the postal employees who have so continually come in contact with his unflinching courtesy and interest in their behalf will unite in the most sincere desires for his happiness now. In the two years and a half since the Postmaster-General installed him in a position of such responsi-

bility, Mr. Cushing has put his stamp on the department in the closer relations that have been established between heads of departments and employees in every section of the country.

He is deeply interested in this feature of Wanamaker's reforms. Cushing's life is full of successes, because he gives his entire energy to whatever lies just before him. That is the first attribute that has made him so popular in the department, then he has the secret of handling yet no one ever called him double-faced. He is cordial, diplomatic, shrewd and sensible, and withal so jolly and good-natured, that he is always characterized a clean, whole souled man. His connection with the department is said to have been brought about on account of Mr. Wanamaker's admiration for his fearlessness and honesty as a newspaper man.

Since his installation the Postmaster-General has felt that he had secured a coadjutor who was honestly devoted to those he served. Cushing occupies the pleasant room which adjoins Mr. Wanamaker's and was occupied by former heads of the department.

Few people who have business with this end of the government but are familiar with the smooth faced young man who half buried in newspapers and correspondence rises from behind a big table to greet callers. The amount of work he accomplishes in one day is enormous. Three or four stenographers are always busy with the correspondence he dictates rapidly and accurately for hours of the day. The collation and condensation of material for the annual report is part of his work, and many nights find him still bending over his work.

For three weeks of the holidays Cushing will not be in his accustomed place. On December 15, he started for California, and on Christmas day a marriage ceremony will be performed in San Francisco, that will unite the Postmaster-General's private secretary and Mrs. Isabel McBride Palmer. The bride has spent several years in Washington, and her father Judge McBride is the Republican committee member from Utah.

It was intended that the wedding should be held at Salem, Ore., the home of the bride's uncle who is a prominent Oregonian, but the illness of the lady's father calling him to San Francisco for treatment changed the programme.

The wedding trip will take the form of the journey across the continent to the Capital, and soon after New Years, Mr. and Mrs. Cushing will be established in a pretty home in Washington.

Order your new Regulation Uniforms from the Co-operative Tailoring Co., of Chicago. See "ad." on 4th page of cover.

BOSTON CLERKS' SECOND ANNUAL BALL.

Postmasters, superintendents, inspectors, foremen, clerks, carriers, and thousands of friends, constituted the throng that visited Mechanics' Building on the evening of December 4, to assist in making the boys happy, and despite the stormy evening a large party was present.

Postmaster Hart and Assistant Postmaster Ernst were present, and added much to the pleasure of the occasion.

The storm kept many of the invited guests from being present, but the following were seen on the platform during the evening:

Mr. E. H. Thayer, private secretary; Horace F. Hill, chief clerk; E. T. Barker, superintendent free delivery; A. B. Weston, superintendent registry division; W. H. Jackson, assistant superintendent registry division; H. Thomas, superintendent mailing division; O. Loring, superintendent money order division; E. B. Stebbins, secretary civil service Board of Examiners; J. T. Ward, inspector of stations; F. M. Small, assistant superintendent mailing division; Messenger G. A. Sharkey, and many others whose names it was impossible to obtain.

The following station superintendents were present: Geo. E. Harrington, "E," Boston; W. H. Dupree, station "A;" — Whittaker, Somerville; — Treadwell, South Boston; E. Carroll, Roslindale; C. A. Page, Charlestown; I. M. Fogarty, Brookline.

Mr. Chas. Brigham, whose picture appeared in THE POSTAL RECORD in October, and is the oldest clerk in the United States, was present; also Mr. B. H. Hersey, also a veteran of forty-three years in the service. Mr. John J. Fitzgibbon, another veteran, was present, and all passed a pleasant half hour in the reception room before the opening of the ball.

Mr. S. P. Dillon, president of the Association, was chief marshal, Messrs. J. H. Lannigan and P. J. Madden being his assistants. Mr. T. H. Sennott made a most excellent floor director.

The grand march was a perfect success, and as the various colored lights were flashed on the many colored dresses of the ladies the effect was most brilliant, and received merited applause.

The clerks may well feel proud of their success, not only as regards this successful party, but for the increasing interest taken in their Association. THE POSTAL RECORD has long contended that nothing creates greater interest in any association than to have a benefit feature, and this Association has proven our theory, as it has increased more in one year since this was added than in its whole existence of seven years previously. In January, 1891, Mr. S. P. Dillon was elected president; J. R. Burns, vice-president; W. V. Clark, secretary; W. E. Spicer, financial secretary; J. T. A. Lewis, treasurer; and to this excellent staff of officers much credit is due, as in one year they have not only added the paying of \$5 per week to sick members, and \$250 death benefit to beneficiaries but have held two public balls, both being financially successful beyond expectations.

Postmaster Hart and his assistant, with the various superintendents made a very pleasant party in the reception room before the ball opened, and all voted the postmaster very genial, and their presence added very much to the pleasure of the committee.

The hall was elaborately decorated with all manner of flags, etc.

The souvenir was full of very useful information. Besides having pictures of the postmaster and the officers of the Association, it had a full sketch of

the veterans of the late war now in the postoffice, also the veterans of the office, and all should retain this valuable book.

The *Boston Globe* gave the best report of the ball, accompanied with a picture of Mr. Sennott, the floor director.

NEW HAVEN, CONN.

Carriers L. E. Peck, T. H. Gill, D. C. Saunders, J. A. Fuller, Thomas Stanford, Thomas Granfield and F. D. Ingham, of this office went to Meriden to attend the first annual ball of the Meriden Branch 227, which was held recently. Delegations were present from Hartford, Bridgeport, Middletown and Waterbury. The visitors were royally entertained.

On Nov. 21, Superintendent of Letter Carriers, G. A. Butler, was given a "birthday surprise" by the carriers. On their behalf Bro. Walter Benton in a neat speech presented Mr. Butler with a roll top desk, and Mrs. Butler an easy chair.

Carrier Frederick C. Puffer, of Detroit, Mich., and Miss Alice M. Hinman, were united in marriage by Rev. J. C. Meserve, on Dec. 2. The ceremony was performed in the English style, with the bride and groom standing under an elaborate arch of evergreens. The parlors in the home of the bride's parents where the wedding was held were tastefully ornamented with evergreens and potted potted plants. The bride was becomingly attired in a gown of cashmere and China silk and carried a beautiful bouquet of white chrysanthemums. Miss Cora Hinman, the bridesmaid, was very attractive in a dress of pearl gray Henrietta. Mr. Frank Charlton, of Yonkers, N. Y., was best man. The wedding presents made a handsome display. After a bridal tour Mr. and Mrs. Puffer will reside in Detroit, Mich.

A meeting of Branch 10, was held Saturday evening December 5. By invitation the following carriers from Meriden were present: Wm. H. Minchin, President; G. H. Rudolph, Secretary; W. H. Chalker, J. Lego, Wm. Seymour, P. F. Fitzpatrick, Hugh Malley, J. L. Jeffrey, and Brother Jones. E. Spencer, chief of the money order department, I. Clark, and G. Proudneau, clerks, were also in attendance. Samuel Pagtu was elected Vice-President, and Geo. H. Hoey, Sergeant-at-Arms. After other business of importance had been transacted, a collation was served under the direction of D. C. Saunders. Songs, speeches, and recitations filled in the time until one o'clock, when the Meriden boys returned home, evidently much pleased with the entertainment. Speeches were made by Wm. Seymour, Wm. H. Minchin, and Messrs. Malley and Jones, of Meriden, Messrs. Gill, Bretzfelder, Stein, Chandler, and others of this city. The singing was by P. F. Fitzpatrick and E. Spencer, of Meriden, J. H. Cain, Thomas Stanford, S. R. Hull, J. G. Anthony, and others of this city.

Carrier E. P. Farren is spending his vacation at Old Point Comfort, Va.

The vacations are most over, only two more men to go.

Samuel Pagtu, carrier 8, is very sick.

T. B. Cannon, our Assistant Superintendent is sick with la grippe.

Brother Benton, carrier 16, spoke at the Y. M. C. A. rooms, Sunday, December 6, on the subject, "Is the young man safe?"

Carriers S. R. Hull, Jr., and P. McCartin, have the grip.
What we would like to see.
More of the boys wearing the association badge.
More meetings like the last one.
More interest taken in the association.
A reunion of all the carriers of the State.
The Meriden boys here again.

EAST SAGINAW, MICH.

On the 8th of December the letter carriers of this city gave their fifth annual masquerade ball at Germania Hall. It was the finest affair of its kind the boys ever held, the attendance numbering more than two thousand, making it a success financially and otherwise. The costumes were numerous, diversified and handsome. All the civilized nations of the world were represented—remining one of the carnival of Venice or the famous Mardi Gras of the South. The costumes worn being so extraordinarily fine, it was with difficulty the awarding committee could award the prize for the finest costume worn by a lady. This was awarded to Miss Jennie Ardt, who represented a charming young gypsy girl. The prize for the most comic costume worn by a lady was awarded to Mrs. Jno. Rey, who represented the inimitable Biddy to perfection. Much credit is due to Art. Ingledem, Casper Schulte, Chas. Boertman, Wm. Gerhart and Austin Trumble, the floor committee for their indefatigable and untiring efforts to have every one amuse themselves during the entire evening. J. H. Gray, of lightning ticket seller fame, was as of yore in the box office plying his vocation, as the door tenders, Jno. Delbridge and Dan. Price, could vouch for. Bill Nye and Albert Rump were inspectors of costumes, and with the perfect manner in which they done their business would have made Inspector Byrnes envious.

Mr. Cosgrove, our genial superintendent, was here, there and everywhere, making himself generally useful, showing that without his generalship we would have been out of sea. Mr. Frank Jaines was an interested spectator from the auditorium. A. D. McMaster, our secretary, proved that he is quite a ladies' favorite, from the number of times he was seen on the floor. W. H. Clarke and P. J. Cary proved useful in their respective committees, although William looked lost, the reason why, he had not learned the terpsichorean art when young. Chris. Schultz was there in his glory. Who saw Billy Little? We must not forget our special delivery boy John, who with his aids had charge of the check room, and they were kept busy all evening. All the boys looked fine in their full dress suits with boutonieres, below which was a badge upon which was engraved East Saginaw Letter Carriers.

From the increased attendance year after year, it shows the public at large appreciates the untiring zeal of the letter carrier who in rain or shine is seen coming down the line, always in time. The boys will ever be grateful for the success of '91.

Branch 74 will hold its annual election of officers the third Monday in December. Caspar Schultz seems to have the lead for president, and Charley Boertman for secretary.

Wishing the management of THE POSTAL RECORD a merry Christmas and a happy new year. * * *

P. S.—W. H. Clark, carrier No. 1, was quietly married last month. Madam Rumor has it that there will be another marriage in our office soon. Guess who it is? C.

The Co-operative Tailors of Chicago take the lead of the Chicago firms for the amount of Cadet Gray used the past season for carriers' uniforms. Their success is attributed to three causes: first, of all the superior quality and workmanship; second, their extremely low price for first-class goods; third, by advertising in THE POSTAL RECORD they reach the people that need the goods. The firm is highly pleased with the success of their "ad" the past six months and say they have been well repaid. To illustrate how well the uniforms are made the managers are wearing suits cut from the material they use for coat lining and it makes a fine suit.

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\$1.00 A WEEK AND THE PRIZE IS YOURS.

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CASH CAPITAL, - - \$1,000,000

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+++ Statement June 30th, 1891. +++
 Resources (including Capital, \$1,000,000) \$1,539,777.83
 Liabilities (including Reserve, \$229,957.93) 330,058.21

BONDSMEN SUPERSEDED.

Acts as one of two sureties for Letter Carriers, and as sole
 surety for Clerks in Post Offices, and for other employees in
 positions of trust.

COLLEGE REVISITED.

He was a guileless college youth,
That mirrored modesty and truth;
And sometimes at his musty room
His sister called, to chase the gloom.
One afternoon when she was there,
Arranging things with kindly care,
As often she had done before,
There came a knock upon the door.
Our student, sensitive to fears
Of thoughtless comrades' laughing jeers,
Had only time to make deposit
Of his dear sister in a closet;
Then haste the door to open wide;
His guest unbidden step inside.

He was a cheery-faced old man,
And with apologies began
For calling, and then let him know
That more than fifty years ago,
When he was in his youthful bloom,
He'd occupied that very room.
So thought he'd take the chance, he said,
To see the changes time had made.

"The same old window, same old view—
Ha, ha! the same old pictures too;"
And then he tapped them with his cane,
And laughed his merry laugh again.
"The same old sofa, I declare!
Dear me! It must be worse for wear:
The same old shelves!" And then he came
And spied the closet door. "The same—
Oh my!" A woman's dress peeped through,
Quick as he could he closed it to.
He shook his head, "Ah! ah! the same
Old game, young man, the same old game!"

"Would you my reputation slur?"
The youth gasped; "that's my sister, sir!"
"Oh!" said the old man, with a sigh,
"The same old lie—the same old lie!"

MOUNT MORRIS RETREAT.

P. M. DORAN,

1714 PARK AVE., cor. 120th Street,

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Ales, Wines, Liquors and Cigars.



JACOB GOODMAN,
DEALER IN CHOICE
Beef, Veal, Mutton, Lamb,
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Imported Wines, Liquors and Cigars,
Old Pennsylvania & Kentucky Whiskies.
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Imported and Western Beers, Bass's Ale and
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CONTRACTOR for LETTER CARRIERS' UNIFORMS.

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PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
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The Letter below speaks for itself:

"The contract for the uniforms for the Letter Carriers of the City of Boston has been awarded to THE PLYMOUTH ROCK PANTS COMPANY, OF BOSTON, for being, in the judgment of the Uniform Committee, the best in WORKMANSHIP, QUALITY, and PRICE of the several sample uniforms examined and inspected by this committee.

THEODORE C. DENNIS,
Secretary of Uniform Committee."

Boston, Sept. 28, 1891.

Letter Carriers' Uniforms

NEW OFFICIAL REGULATION STYLE.

Letter Carriers' Official Regulation Uniforms, made according to specifications adopted by the Hon. Postmaster-General April 1, 1891.

PRICE LIST LETTER CARRIERS' UNIFORMS.

Summer Suits,	\$14.00
Coats,	8.50
Pants,	5.50
Vests,	1.50
Winter Suits,	16.00
Coats,	10.00
Pants,	6.00
Vests,	1.50
Overcoats,	20.00
Caps, wire frame, wreath, No. and cover,	1.75
Stiff " " " "	1.50

Winter Suits are double breasted, straight front Sack Coats, made from 24-ounce cloth, lined with 24-ounce all-wool lining.

Send for Self-Measuring Blanks.

SUMMER UNIFORM SUITS, \$14.00.

CITIZENS' SUITS!
in endless variety, at popular prices.
Samples sent on application.

REFERENCE: CHICAGO POST-OFFICE.
SEND FOR YOUR NEW UNIFORMS TO
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A Skin of Beauty is a Joy Forever.

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ORIENTAL CREAM, OR MAGICAL BEAUTIFIER,

PURIFIES
AS WELL AS
Beautifies the Skin
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Removes Tan, Pimples, Freckles, Moth-Patches, Rash and Skin diseases, and every blemish on beauty, and defies detection. On its virtues it has stood the test of 40 years; no other has, and is so harmless we taste it to be sure it is properly made. Accept no counterfeit of similar name. The distinguished Dr. L. A. Sayer,

said to a lady of the *haut-ton* (a patient): "As you ladies will use them, I recommend 'Gouraud's Cream' as the least harmful of all the Skin preparations." One bottle will last six months, using it every day. Also Poudre Subtile removes superfluous hair without injury to the skin.

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For sale by all Druggists and Fancy Goods Dealers throughout the U. S., Canadas and Europe.

Also found in N. Y City at R. H. Macy's Stern's, Ehrich's, Ridley's, and other Fancy Goods Dealers. Beware of Base imitations. \$1,000 Reward for arrest and proof of any one selling the same.

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BEERS ON DRAUGHT { WURZBURGER, KAISER, PILSNER,
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WINES, LIQUORS, SEGARS, &c.

WORCESTER, MASS.

The Carriers' of Rhode Island held their second annual banquet in Music Hall, Pawtucket, the evening of November 21. Having received an invitation to be present, I could not refuse the friendly invite. On arriving at Pawtucket, I went at once to the postoffice where the carriers gave me a very cordial welcome, and for the rest of the evening I had a fine opportunity to learn what a generous-hearted gentlemanly body of men the letter carriers of Rhode Island are. The banquet was first-class in every respect.

The speakers all said a good word for the efforts to get an increase of salary to twelve hundred dollars a year. Our friend ex-President Goodwin had something to say in his usual pleasant way.

Rhode Island may be a small State but the letter carriers don't get up banquets in a small way. Letters were read from several who could not attend, among them, T. C. Dennis, of Boston, President of the National Association Letter Carriers, also from John F. Victory, Secretary, but they don't know what they lost by not being there. It was a good thing to do, and it was well done. Geo. W. Chaplin was chairman, and T. J. Mulcahey of Woonsocket was toast master. I hope to be remembered when the next annual comes off.

A word about "home, sweet home." Worcester, Mass., is just one of the nicest places to live in you ever saw. Nature did a great deal for it—just hills enough to make it handsome, with lakes and ponds around the suburbs making it a very pleasant city for summer resort, then so much is done to make it a nice place for a family to live. The very best of schools, just now finishing, one of the handsomest buildings for an English High School that there is in New England; one of the largest and best free public libraries in the country, the building built fireproof that holds it; a large building for the Young Men's Christian Association, also one being built for the young women; Clark's University, a gift of one of our wealthy citizens; a large hospital, also a gift to the city; churches almost without number and we are, in all probability, soon to have a new postoffice (the plans now being prepared in Washington), and manufactories of almost everything.

Our postoffice is being enlarged as the business had outgrown the room we had. The Department seems to be hard to be made to believe that a city in New England can grow. Our postmaster, J. Everts Greene, is a very fine gentleman for his position, and all seem willing to help him carrying out his plans for doing the work. The clerks are a first class set of gentlemen and I wish they were paid as first-class clerks everyone of them.

We have thirty-six carriers and four substitutes and I don't believe you can find a better set of carriers outside of the State of Rhode Island. But I will stop now by just wishing success to the RECORD. M. C.

[A later issue of THE RECORD will contain a fine picture, with sketch, of Mr. Moses Church, a veteran, not a member of the Veterans' Association, of the Worcester office. ED.]

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

The monthly meeting of the N. A. L. C. of this office, took place on Nov. 28, in the United States Court room. President James E. Doty in the chair.

A report on the banquet held in Pawtucket, and communication from the National Secretary in regard to assessment was read, and discussion on good of the order were the main features of the

meeting, after which the Mutual Benefit Association was discussed.

Mr. C. O. Rhodes read an article from THE POSTAL RECORD in regard to the order, and applications were received from Messrs. J. A. Abbott, A. N. Townsend, C. O. Swain and C. O. Rhodes.

The following carriers have signified their intention of joining: S. T. Gardner, J. E. Doty, F. Macomber, W. Kelly, F. Walford, H. E. Skinner, S. Burroughs, H. P. Disley, G. H. Johnson, J. C. Kingsford, E. E. Hawkins, Geo. E. Beckett, J. P. Jones, A. M. Cole, J. C. Barnes, Jos. E. Brown and J. N. Lindsey.

The meeting adjourned to meet the last Saturday evening in December.

At the last meeting of the Postoffice Clerks' Association, the following members were accepted: John McKnight, Walter V. Kelly and R. C. Tarr.

Mr. Geo. E. Griffith, sorting clerk has been on a visit to relatives in the southern part of the State.

Mr. Weeden, of the registry department, Boston Postoffice, made a flying visit to this office on returning to his home in Westerly the past week.

Mr. John J. Devenish, stamp clerk at this office, is in Denver, Col., as Government witness in the Boonaby case.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

The carriers in our office make four trips daily two long and two short. Report at 7 a. m., end duty 7 p. m., cutting out enough to leave an eight hour day. It hardly seems reasonable that the makers and framers of that law intended we should occupy eleven hours (one for dinner) to work an eight hour day.

Our Branch N. A. L. C. No. 164, consists of five members out of six and one sub. They all take an active interest in the general welfare of the order, and sincerely hope it may soon have a branch in every free delivery office.

We are all putting in applications for membership in the United States Letter Carriers' Mutual Benefit Association, and we hope to see that branch of our organization patronized by all healthy carriers in the country.

We are satisfied that the National Convention at Detroit had the interest of letter carriers at heart, and that a step has been taken in the right direction, viz., to put all carriers on an equal footing. We hope that the desired object may be attained.

WESTFIELD, MASS.

THE RECORD is taking a great brace. Everybody is well pleased with it, and I will give you a goodly number of subscriptions for next year sure.

We have received new uniforms, and of all the ill-fitting things you ever saw these beat them. They are crooked. The stripes on either leg about at the knee commence to twist to the right, so that the left stripe is in the center of the shoe in front, and the right in the center of the shoe in the back.

One of our carriers was met on the street a few days since with the greeting, "Next." The carrier said: "What do you mean?" (Man looking at pants) "Oh, I beg your pardon, sir; I thought you were a barber's pole." This carrier is now known as Next, No. 1. * * *

WASHINGTON, D. C.

"News" is such a common article in Washington that it is hard to select, that which will be appreciated.

Congress, that august body comprising the Senators and Representatives from all over our vast country will have assembled ere this letter is printed.

To the letter carriers of this city the assembly of Congress means a great deal, there is more labor to be performed in the way of the collection and delivery of letters, more documents to handle, more of everything-that-goes-in-the-mail, to handle.

Not that we have to deliver the mail for the members of Congress, for we do not but with them comes a large crowd of people a sort of following—that causes the sack of many carriers to groan beneath the increased weight.

Each Senator's and Representative's mail is assorted to the "Congress case," and there it is routed by their particular carriers, and delivered by them with the aid of well kept horses and wagons. No lugging heavy sacks in theirs; oh no!

Sometimes the carrier on a route will fail to note that he is delivering a "Congressman's" mail, but when he does find it out "M. C." will be slapped on it quick, and then it will go by their own wagon.

Among the many old carriers we have here is one, a colored man, John W. Curry who has been in the service since "Andy Johnson's time" or about twenty-four years. He has one of the best routes in the office, up among the "ton," the army and navy people, the wealthy and solid men of the city.

Speaking of colored carriers we have nineteen now in the service, fifteen regular and four "subs." There are some "good ones" among them, too.

The Vice-President of N. A. L. C. for the District of Columbia, W. B. Brittain, is an "old one" too (having been in the service about twenty-eight years), but is young in heart, for he keeps pace with the "boys" by joining our Branch, and is always listened to with attention whenever he speaks on a subject and his advice generally "goes."

"Jimmy" Gordon is easily the "king guyer" of the office. He keeps 'em all "going" when he gets a chance, but if the boys get anything on him, he "jigs" very nicely to the tune of "How do you like it."

President Henry Grant Segeler, of the Letter Carriers' Relief Association, is another guyer and when he says "Rafferty! come here! I've two nice clean bags for you to lay on," look out.

John Thomas Sanderson says "he didn't get it." I wonder what has struck "Capt. Danny" lately. Who said so? Joe Blinner! that settles it, it goes.

If anyone can dance the "York" 'tis Charley Rose. Come! step out, Charley. Look out, Tommy! "Doc and Dug" are after you.

An attorney at Washington says that the Court of Claims has promised to bring up one of the cases next week sure. It is a claim of one of the carriers of New York city. B. LOSSOM.

AUBURN, N. Y.

At the regular meeting of Branch 151 the following officers were elected for 1902: President, John B. Kelland; vice-president, William H. Corcoran; secretary, W. Jason Kent; treasurer, Bradford C. Barker; collector for the Mutual Benefit Association, B. C. Barber. Of the sixteen carriers in this office, fifteen of them will become members of the Mutual Benefit Association. What branch can beat this?

Keep us posted through THE RECORD on what is being done towards settling the eight-hour law. It seems to me the legislative committee should look after this matter by the authority of the Executive Board. W. J. KENT.

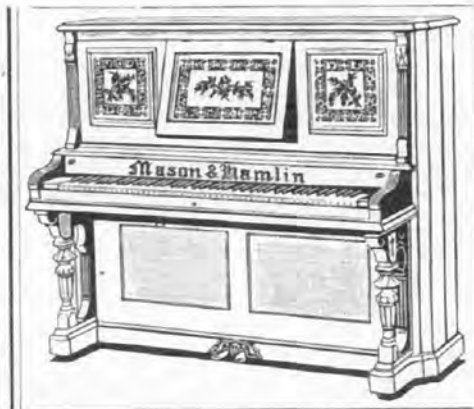
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GOSHEN, IND.

Postmaster Beyerle is a newspaper man. He loves his profession, but he is also a politician with a "pull," and hence is serving Uncle Sam and divides honors with Br ther Wanamaker, for consideration. Mr. Beyerle stated that his identity with the postal service had not been of long duration, but he had witnessed many improvements, and it was a pleasure to be postmaster of the first of the small towns in the United States to get the benefit of free delivery service. Mr. Beyerle did not say so, but it is a well known fact that he has done much toward extending the usefulness of the postal service, and has made many recommendations to the department at Washington which have been adopted to the advantage of the service and the behoof of the people. Mr. Beyerle is also president of the Ryerson Lumber Co., with mills at Pierceton, Ind., and he had an affinity with the company at the recent banquet that gave his remarks an enthusiastic reception.—*News.*

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Branch No. 39, N. A. of L. C., held a meeting November 29th, at which there was a large attendance and considerable enthusiasm manifested. A committee was appointed to look after the affairs connected with the National Convention of the N. A. of L. C., to be held in this city next August, and consists of R. H. McGinnis, chairman; Fred. A. Lorenz, secretary and treasurer; Frank Farris, S. S. Tobin, T. J. Carrol, E. W. Crane, Fred. Ward, C. W. Parish and Gus. Schmedel. They will at once proceed to make all necessary preparations to give the delegates a royal reception.

A legislative committee was appointed consisting of I. N. Smock, R. W. Thompson and Dick Eagle, who will at once interview our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Indianapolis Branch has contributed \$80.00 to the S. S. Cox monument fund.

Ft. Wayne Branch has voted \$25.00 to the same fund.

The letter carriers of this city mourn the loss of one of their number in the death of John D. Eagle, better known as "Dick." His death was of the most distressing character. Mr. Eagle had completed his day's work and was starting home. Encumbered with a bundle and an umbrella he attempted to board a trailer, attached to an electric motor car. The car was moving slowly and Mr. Eagle, seizing the dash bar with his right hand, fell short of grasping the car with his left and was swung under the trailer. The latter struck him on the head and passed over his body killing him almost instantly. No recent accidental death has excited such regret and comment. The deceased was an uncommonly popular man, had been brought up here and was of a genial disposition, and probably had not an enemy in the world. He leaves a wife and five children. He was about forty-five years of age and an old soldier. He was one of the first carriers appointed in this office in 1869; he afterward left the service and entered the retail grocery business. He was reappointed last January under the Civil Service law. The deceased was a member of the legislative committee, and would no doubt have been of great service in furthering our interests at the present session of Congress. He was buried December 2d, the carriers attending the funeral in a body, as did also George H. Thomas Post. G. A. R., of which he was senior vice commander. The letter carriers contributed a beautiful floral design, also a donation of \$60.00 to help pay the funeral expenses.

A vigorous attempt is being made to secure a

new federal building for Indianapolis. The Commercial Club has taken the matter in hand and Congressman Bynum will introduce a resolution before Congress asking an appropriation of \$1,500,000 for that purpose. There is no question but what more room is needed for the postoffice business, as it has long since outgrown its present quarters besides the pension office is obliged to rent rooms elsewhere, and the railway service is terribly cramped in its present location.

Order your new Regulation Uniforms from the Co-operative Tailoring Co., of Chicago. See "ad." on 4th page of cover.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

The overtime claims which, when first filed, stirred the postal officials to such extraordinary activity, have seemingly been lost sight of during the past few months, but they are now actually before the Court of Claims in Washington awaiting the action of that body. Although with commendable forbearance the Brooklyn carriers have not claimed extra compensation for a longer period than that which elapsed between the passage of the eight-hour law, May 24, 1888, and its enforcement, August 1, 1888, still the authorities have not shown that they appreciated such generosity, as they have not aided the carriers in effecting a settlement. The justice of these claims cannot be denied, as the law specially points out that if the exigencies of the service require it, the carriers may be obliged to work in excess of eight hours, but shall be properly remunerated therefor. The mere fact that it was impossible to put the eight-hour law into operation immediately after its passage does not invalidate the claims which accrued between May 24 and August 1, 1888. Otherwise the intention of Congress would be in part defeated.

Some three or four months since Postmaster Collins, realizing that his men were overworked, requested to be furnished with written statements from them setting forth the average time required to complete their work in excess of eight hours. This invitation was promptly responded to by several carriers, all of whom expressed their readiness to submit their statements to a practical test. By this means Mr. Collins satisfied himself that his men were not enjoying the benefit of the eight-hour law, and made such a representation of the situation that I understand the department promised him eleven more men. Of course such a small increase as this will be only a partial and temporary relief to the carriers of a constantly growing city like Brooklyn. Still it is a step in the right direction, indicating plainly the good intentions of the department to enable our postmaster to give us a *bona fide* eight-hour work day. L.

WOONSOCKET, R. I.

A few words in relation to Branch 54 would, I thought, be in order.

All of our boys attended the second annual banquet of the Rhode Island Letter Carriers, in the city of Pawtucket, November 21. After leaving the postoffice in a beautiful tally-ho coach and making a stop at the home of Comrade Decelles, where wet goods and cigars were passed by the host, when three cheers and a tiger were given for him, we proceeded on our way. Fish-horns were numerous, some of them being quite large, and were heard to a good advantage on account of some of our boys being members of our bands.

Our president, Comrade James P. Mulcahey, acted as toast-master, and did credit to the Branch and himself.

Our Mayor, D. B. Pond, kept the boys in good spirits during his witty speech, and also took a hand in the fun coming home.

Our Postmaster, F. A. Campbell, said he never ate so much at a supper in a good while.

All the boys are feeling well with the exception of the vice-president and treasurer. The former has a sore ankle and the latter a stiff neck.

The next banquet will be held in Woonsocket, and we are beginning to speak of it now. It will be a glorious time.

The cry the boys had on the tally-ho coach was thus:

Razzle-dazzle-gibble-gobble-zip-bum-baah!
Letter-carriers-letter-carriers-ra-raa-raah!

BOSTON NOTES.

Messrs. E. T. Barker, superintendent of free delivery, Henry Thomas, superintendent of mails, A. B. Weston, superintendent of registry division, and C. Loring, superintendent of money order division, the four superintendents of the Boston office, have had their pictures taken in a group.

Boston now can boast of having good accommodations for the railway mail clerks. Their dormitories were completed and occupied November 16 and will accommodate fifty at once, two sleeping rooms, a reading room and a toilet room. The boys may play checkers, cards or other games, if they wish. The expense of fitting up these rooms have cost the Treasury Department \$3,600, the Postoffice Department furnishing the bedding etc., while the men must bear the expense of caring for the rooms which necessitates an assessment of 75 cents each month per man. The No. 2 postoffice elevator is run all night for their accommodation, the elevator man being required to wake up the men in time to start on their trips.

Winthrop and Revere stations have long needed additional carriers, and at last the Department have allowed them, Substitutes J. F. Pierce and J. H. Merrigan receiving their appointments in November.

November was the poorest month for substitutes on record; there are 19 subs at the central office and several days during the month not more than two would be at work. The old system of all money earned being put in a pool and divided equally, has been done away with and now each sub receives simply what he earns, therefore some of the boys failed to meet expenses last month.

It requires from 18 to 25 months for a substitute to pass through the various stages of torture necessary to becoming a regular.

T. C. Dennis, T. C. Henderson, W. J. Hennessey (Dorchester station), D. Meehan (station A), S. H. Appleton (South Boston), C. H. Cutter (Cambridgeport), G. B. Murray, D. L. White and Walter Welch (central office), who attended the National Convention of letter carriers at Detroit, have had their pictures taken in a group and later on propose to have a reunion to discuss the work done and talk over the interest of the Association.

The attention of the carriers of the Boston office is called to the fact that no other city has been so slow in coming to the assistance of THE POSTAL RECORD as we have, and every subscriber should try to induce others to subscribe as the paper is owned and conducted by one of us and exclusively in the interest of the postal employees. Let us do our part in upholding the journal that advocates our interest.

The excitement caused by the removal of eight of the clerks November 23, has hardly subsided, and many an unanswered question has been asked. The unfortunates were: John Q. Adams, M. B.

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Coakley, D. C. Crowley, W. H. Mott, H. E. W. Hale, F. R. Sarvin, F. M. Walker, J. B. Smith. No charges so far as known have been preferred, but the mystery surrounding some of the cases has made it very embarrassing for the dismissed men.

The universal sentiment of disapproval on the part of the publishers of Boston at the dismissal of Mr. Adams, and their petition for his reinstatement is most significant, and is a great compliment to him, and is a just tribute to a man who for thirty-seven years has proved himself a most painstaking and competent clerk and superintendent. His illness caused by this trouble shows that he feels keenly the injustice done him far more than any pecuniary loss.

The ninth assessment in the Letter Carriers' Mutual Benefit Association was occasioned by the death of J. G. McCarthy, carrier at the Somerville station.

Quite a number of the clerks and carriers have subscribed to THE POSTAL RECORD and more interest has been shown in it than ever before, and as it is better than ever before this is accounted for, and as a good subscription list will make it possible to still further improve the paper, a grand paper may be expected, if the last two numbers can be judged from, if we support it with subscriptions.

In the veteran article published in October, three names were omitted, and three very important ones. Mr. John Lewis, formerly superintendent of mailing division, and now superintendent of Brookline Station, has been in the service since 1845 and is therefore the next to the oldest clerk in the Boston office.

Everybody knows Charles West is a red-hot veteran, and though he has been in the carriers' department since 1858, is "just as young as he used to be," if his appearance goes for anything we wouldn't leave Charles out for anything.

Mr. E. A. Reed, assistant superintendent mailing division, is a man who has worked faithfully and deserves his popularity, and his name being omitted was a clerical error as it was in the copy. He has served since 1861, and is now in charge of the packet room.

The Boston employees are more than pleased that their postmaster has refused to accept the nomination for Mayor, as he has made a most satisfactory postmaster and another change was not desired by any.

An article going the rounds of the press setting forth that the letter carriers were asking for a pension, was a sharp move on the part of the promoters of this scheme, and all members of the National Association should remember that our bill is for increase of salary, and that no other bill can be presented to Congress until that one is settled. As the National Association has 6,000 members this pension scheme must be run by a small minority, and all should be careful about aiding this movement, no matter how much we would like a pension. We must consider the expediency of the matter and only ask for what we most need, and not jeopardize everything by putting in two distinct bills, either one of which would be all that could be expected to pass Congress. To pension letter carriers means for every employee of the Government to ask for a pension, and means not only its own defeat but to defeat the more deserving salary bill.

Twenty-seven thousand six hundred and seventy-seven letters were mailed last year entirely blank. Just think of it. Probably every letter carrier or clerk was held accountable for the non-delivery of some of those letters, and many a "cuss word" was directed against the department for what now proves to be the carelessness of the senders of this large number of blank letters, besides over 100,000 mailed without any postage.

Since the death of the letter carriers' friend, S. S. Cox, no champion has taken up their cause, but Major W. J. Pollock, superintendent of the free delivery system, in his report to First Assistant Postmaster-General Whitfield, has shown himself a man whose fairness is decidedly in our favor. He not only recommends that forty-eight hours shall constitute six days' work, but says fifty-one hours should constitute a week's work for those who are compelled to do necessary Sunday work. His idea, that the carriers should receive \$1,200 a year was with the understanding that this increase should only be made when merited, and that any man who became inefficient for any cause should be reduced to a lower grade. The only objection to this would be the favoritism thus made possible, but any fair-minded man is willing to be judged and paid by the manner in which he performs his work. Let us hope Major Pollock will still continue in his present position to still look to the interest of the letter carriers.

The letter carriers very considerably refrained from placing their ball tickets on sale until after the clerks' ball was over, but no doubt will now push them.

Carriers' ball January 29th.

We recommend the clerks and carriers to separate the dates of these annual events. This year less than eight weeks intervene, whereas there should be at least three months, no matter which comes off first.

The superintendents who attended the clerks' ball were a fine body of men, and are a credit to the service. We hope to see nearly every superintendent at the carriers' ball January 29th.

Carrier Fred Marden met with a mishap Thanksgiving day that proved very painful. While playing football he injured his leg, and was laid up nearly three weeks with it.

The boys are at last subscribing for THE POSTAL RECORD. Well, the paper was never half as good as now, and never before printed once a month on time. Good for the letter carrier who had spunk enough to undertake the job of making a live post office paper of THE RECORD.

Order your new Regulation Uniforms from the Co-operative Tailoring Co., of Chicago. See "ad." on 4th page of cover.

NEW YORK.

The following has been issued by the committee having in charge the arrangements of the coming ball of the New York Letter Carriers' Association: "In our anticipated ball to be held at the Metropolitan Opera House, on January 5, 1892, we feel that we must urge upon you the great necessity of trying to increase the sale of tickets as far as possible. Our rent is enormous, exceeding that of any public hall in the United States, and we will have to accomplish a great deal in order to make an addition to our Sick and Death Benefit Fund. The expense of music, printing tickets, show cards and soliciting in general, all require immediate cash payment. The charity of the demand upon you is one in which, as co-workers, we all share and benefit, and as there is no appropriation made by the Postoffice Department for us, if we fail to appear on duty, for reason of *sickness, disability or death*, it devolves upon us to accumulate all we can for this fund. As an inducement a solid gold stem-winding watch, to cost not less than \$50, will be given to the carrier selling the largest number of tickets. We then urge upon you with a very strong appeal the necessity of all pulling hard together on this occasion in order to realize the

cash possible, and for which we are in great need."

The annual meeting of the Superintendents' and Clerks' Association was held at German Masonic Temple November 15, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Theodore Manning, president; A. P. Stewart, first vice-president; F. J. Cogau, second vice-president; Thomas J. Moran, treasurer; J. I. McCarton, secretary; H. Lippman, financial secretary; David Cloosy, sergeant-at-arms.

The finance committee reported the books in good shape and finances in splendid condition, over \$3,000 on hand. Ball committee reported January 15 as date, Lenox Lyceum as hall. Hat checks, \$1.

CHICAGO.

It is rumored that the Northwest Station will give an entertainment soon, and perhaps the Carriers' Band may help them out.

At a meeting of Branch 48 December 8th, Mr. W. H. Hogan was elected President to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of T. W. Wittler. Another meeting will be called soon and get the Branch into working order.

In the past three months two carriers from the central office have been arrested for stealing from the mail. In each case whiskey was the cause. To satisfy their appetite for the stuff they had to have money, and as a last resource forfeited their position and honor for the degrading pleasure to be derived from the bowl. It is to be hoped that the example set by these two men will be a warning. It is only a matter of time when the shrewdest get caught.

Inspector Stoddard has been in the city for some time examining into the wants of the Chicago post-office and its stations. It is rumored that Englewood Park Manor and a number of smaller offices south-east are to be added to Chicago, but the change probably will not take effect until after the first of the fiscal year.

The mailing division has received an additional force of clerks and a new supply of cases, and are quite well prepared for the heavy mails that have to be handled at this season of the year.

The Letter Carriers' Band had their picture taken in a group in uniform and with instruments, Sunday, December 13th, and a cut will appear in the January or February number of THE RECORD.

Saturday evening, December 5th, was the occasion of a very pleasant entertainment given by the Pastime Debating and Pleasure Club of the Stock Yards Station. The Letter Carriers' Band, which has been organized about three months, were invited to play one piece, but they are progressing so rapidly that they were put on the programme for two selections. There was a very nice audience present, and Mr. Kew made a neat little speech apologizing for the errors that the band might make on their first attempt before an audience. The entertainment was a decided success. The band played like old timers, and surprised everybody by the excellent manner in which they rendered the two numbers. It might be well to mention T. J. O'Brien's remarkable rendition of "At Night." After the entertainment those who desired to participate in the dance repaired to the larger hall, where they enjoyed a pleasant hop to the music of the Letter Carriers' Orchestra.

Order your new Regulation Uniforms from the Co-operative Tailoring Co., of Chicago. See "ad." on 4th page of cover.

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Special attention to claims of Letter Carriers under the Act of May 24, 1888, granting extra pay for all work in excess of eight hours a day. These claims are now being actively prosecuted before the Court of Claims.

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KANSAS CITY, MO.

Once more we are right in the swim, in the swim of the holiday rush, I mean, but the additional help recently allowed this office, enables us to keep up the work in a much more satisfactory manner than formerly, our greatest difficulty now being, our cramped quarters. The site for the new public building has at last been settled, and the grading is about completed. The location is central and slightly, and is very acceptable to all, except a few real estate men, who are interested in other locations. It is to be hoped that work will be pushed and the building completed as speedily as possible, as we have outgrown our present building. The amount appropriated is \$1,800,000, but it is expected enough additional will be secured to insure a two million dollar building. This together with the two million dollars voted by the city at its last election, for the purpose of building its own water works, should have a tendency to "boom" things, for the next two years. It was the original intention to bring the water into the city by way of a tunnel under the Missouri river, and engineers in prospecting to find the most practical place for building the same, discovered quite a quantity of gold under the bed of the river. It is supposed to have been washed down from the mountains in past ages.

The city has just recovered from a great sensation, that shook it from centre to circumference. On Thanksgiving evening, while the family of Mr. Beals, a wealthy banker, was at dinner, a servant girl who had been in the employ of the family but a short time, and of whom very little was known, slipped out of the house into the darkness with little David, a pretty, plump, two year old baby boy, and although her absence was noticed almost immediately and a search instituted, she and the baby were literally "out of sight." Upon investigating it was discovered that the girl had secretly removed her effects, showing at once that it was a case of premeditated abduction. The Chief of Police was at once notified and within an hour detectives and police were on the watch throughout the city and country.

That night and the day following were full of awful suspense, but an offer from Mr. Beals, of "\$5,000 and no questions asked for the return of the child," had the desired result, and in some mysterious manner the child was returned and the money paid over before midnight. The police have succeeded in capturing the girl, and a man who was in the plot with her, but the third party, the man who returned the boy and received the money is still at large. The police are working on the case and it is to be hoped will locate their game. Mr. Beals has received letters warning him if he did not use his influence to stop all search for the missing man, and quiet the affair, he and his household would be blown to atoms with dynamite. It is unnecessary to say it has had the desired effect on Mr. Beals, but the police are not so easily frightened.

The city is all worked up now, in its efforts to secure the National Democratic Convention.

The Postoffice Clerks' Association will give its annual reception and ball soon after the holidays.

Mr. Palmer, superintendent of the general delivery, has been laid up the past two months with his eyes.

The many friends of Miss Annie Gentry will regret to learn that she will be no longer with us after January 1. Report says she will change her name soon after leaving the office. Miss Gentry has been in the money order division the past five years, and by her modest, ladylike deportment has commanded the respect and admiration of all who have the pleasure of her acquaintance, and she has

the best wishes of our Association for her future happiness and prosperity.

Miss Lida Higdon, a former clerk in this office, but now of Washington, D. C., is spending her holidays at home. Her many friends in the post-office are glad to see her.

The society members of our force are considerably worked up over the rivalry that exists between the two leaders, Mr. Link Deerwester and the irrepressible Joe Gilday. Both are stars of the first magnitude and are exceedingly popular with the ladies, and it is understood that the weekly receptions of Elite Club, held at Armory Hall every Saturday night, are not considered complete without one or the other to lead the German.

At the present time considerable sickness is reported in the city. La grippe has made its appearance and has numerous victims. Our postmaster, Dr. F. B. Nofsinger, has been on the sick list, as has also Superintendent of Carriers, Mr. Boyce.

G. S. Craig, of the mailing department, has been spending his vacation at his old home in Jacksonville, Ill.

At the annual meeting of Branch 30, Kansas City L. C. A., held the first Tuesday in November, the following named persons were elected: A. L. Deerwester, President; G. S. Peppard, Vice-President; G. T. Stalmann, Secretary; John D. Fulton, Treasurer. Auditing Committee, Walter Graham, Frank Chalfaut, Thomas Briody, Frank Coan, Dell M. Rails. The meeting was entirely harmonious, and the organization is in splendid shape.

The Railway Mail Clerks of the seventh division met in this city on November 18, and organized a branch of the national organization. The meeting was quite successful.

Mr. Junius Blake, has returned from a trip to Lexington, Ky., and St. Louis, Mo.

Messrs. Hall and Graham, two of our most popular carriers, will spend Christmas at home in Pennsylvania.

D. C. Clawges, the handsome clerk who runs between here and St. Louis, has been indisposed the past few days. Mr. J. H. Fraser has also been quite ill, but we are happy to say both are improving.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Fulton entertained the Harwood Mandolin Club and their friends on Tuesday evening last. The evening was delightfully spent.

Mrs. Carrie C. Hanna has been added to our force of nixie clerks.

COLUMBUS, O.

We think a brief history of the carrier system in our office would not be inappropriate. The free delivery was established here July 1, 1873, with ten carriers, T. C. Platt, W. P. Stephens, J. H. H. Condit, T. C. Jones, J. F. Murguson, James K. Perin, Jos. Phillipson, Orlen Glover, J. F. Grimsley and R. N. Vance. In the spring of 1874 the force was increased to twelve; in 1878 it was increased by two auxiliary carriers at a salary of \$400 per year; in 1880 to eighteen; in 1884 to twenty, at which time only two of the original force remained as carriers; in 1885 the first collector was appointed; in 1886 it was increased to twenty-five; in 1887 to twenty-six, at which point it remained until the eight-hour law was put in operation which necessitated the adding of ten carriers; October 1, 1890, six more were added of whom two were made mounted collectors; August 1, 1891, three more carriers and a mounted collector were added, making with four substitutes fifty men, all members of Branch 78. The first distribution was made on a table, the superintendent dealing letters similar to card dealing. T. C. Platt was appointed superintendent of carriers May 1, 1880, because in seven years' service as a carrier he never had a complaint entered against him at the postoffice. T. C. Jones was appointed to the position of box clerk also on his good record as a carrier. These two gentlemen

hold those positions at this time although they were out of the service during part of the Cleveland administration. The only death that occurred on the force was that of W. O. Browning, August 7, 1882.

All of the original ten are living in Columbus except Joseph Phillipson. In 1885 we received quite a number of communications from carriers in other cities urging us to contribute towards the expense of getting the eight-hour law passed, to all of which we turned a deaf ear, for we expected to be bounced, which expectation was soon realized. But we hope and believe that Columbus will in the future do its share towards any movement for the good of the carriers or service.

Several beneficial changes have been spoken of in our letters, but none is more apparent than the holiday hours. Formerly we made a trip in the morning, a collection in the afternoon, and then had to stay at the office an hour late in the evening answering window calls. Now we only make one trip and then are done for the day. Several events that will long be remembered by those present have transpired.

E. A. Moriarty, president of our branch, was married October 29.

J. D. Cherry celebrated his thirty-eighth natal anniversary November 18. Arthur Leavitt was inflicted with a surprise party of carriers and others November 20, his thirty-third birthday. George Weaver quietly slipped down to Knoxville, Tenn., and was married. It was reported that Milton Allen was hunting a wife, but it turned out to be birds instead. A number of ladies, wives of carriers, have organized for the purpose of giving an entertainment for the benefit of the Protestant hospital this winter.

Postmaster Gardner kindly gave the use of his private office to the National Exchange Bank December 4, for the payment of pension checks; it was quite a convenience to the pensioners. The payment will be the largest in the history of the agency over three million dollars being paid.

The clerks of this office are on the anxious seat over an order issued by Postmaster-General Wanamaker received at the Columbus postoffice, instructing the postmaster of a new move in the direction of civil service. It fixes a system of practical examinations for the promotion of the meritorious men in the service. The examinations are divided into classes. Those examined on clerical work must be examined in letter writing, mathematics, accounts, questions on office work and practical questions regarding office work generally. For those engaged in the handling of the mails practical tests will be required, such as distributing, reading difficult addresses and other examinations as shall be determined by the local examining board. The examination for stampers shall be a trial of speed and legibility. The records will take into account regularity, promptness, ability, application, industry, habits, adaptability and health. The examination board shall consist of five employees of the postoffice, to be selected by the postmaster—one each from the mailing, city delivery, money-order, registry and executive divisions.

In pursuance of a resolution of our Branch a sub-committee visited Mt. Vernon and Newark on the evening of December 8th. We were met at each place at the depot by the carriers. At Mt. Vernon we met Wm. D. Bell, Robert Blythe, Ed. Mahoffy and J. R. Penrose, a very pleasant set of gentlemen. Without much argument we induced them to promise to join the National Association at once. At Newark the carriers were waiting for us although after nine o'clock. They, too, agreed to join. Before departing we were served with supper at the expense of the Newark boys, James James, G. H. Kuppenger, D. M. Guy, Daniel Murphy, Frank Cody and F. E. Fitzgibbon.

The clerks completed an organization December 7th by adopting a constitution and electing the following officers; Wheeler Wikoff, president, James Hartman, vice-president; Harry Wilson, secretary; Arthur L. Pace, treasurer; S. L. Leavitt, Wm. Laning, executive committee with one vacancy on the committee.

The carriers are to have a room in the basement for their wardrobes and smoking.

Your San Francisco correspondent inquired for Upt. He was here the very day THE RECORD arrived.

Our Branch elected a collector for U. S. L. C. Mutual Benefit Association, and appointed a committee to select a medical examiner.

SAN FRANCISCO.

The letter boxes of this city have been painted a bright red. One of the daily papers has gone so far as to suggest that the red color is to be used as danger signals for the new Postoffice. While another thinks that the boxes are only blushing out of shame for the selection of the location of the new Postoffice. We are under the impression that the papers are in error as the color is used to give the boxes a little more prominence.

Steve Sullivan, whose district lies where the gum trees are the thickest and the population most scattered, has purchased a bicycle with the sole purpose of using it for the delivery of mail in that locality. It is a great treat to watch Steve learning how to ride his machine. First he is up in the air then on the ground, having a catch as catch can wrestling match between the bicycle, street and himself. At the last accounts the bicycle had the best of it.

What some of the employees of the San Francisco Postoffice were thankful for, November 26th:

Frank E. Smith—For his safe arrival at home.

J. R. Rines—That his photograph is to be on the front page of the Carriers' Christmas book.

B. Frank Ames—His successful administration as President of the Letter Carriers' Mutual Aid Association.

T. C. Finnegan—That after four months' illness with pneumonia, he is able to resume his duties at the office.

Dan. Casey—That his dog "McGinty" has made such a fine impression on the public.

Why the following were *not* thankful: Ben Sa'omon—Because he has no more base-ball clubs to conquer.

Eugene Flanders—That he cannot stand in on a few more boat races.

Jim Smith—On account of the carriers of Station 'D' not taking any stock in his fish stories.

As no less than six of the carriers have become benedicts within the last month it is almost certain that marriage is not a failure with the postoffice employees.

The weather here has been quite a treat, but when rain comes down in the manner it did on December 3 it is not very pleasant. Yet our Eastern brethren have our sympathy during the days they have to brave snow, sleet, and tornadoes, which is something that is not felt in this part of the country.

The report of Superintendent Pollock of the free delivery system has been very heartily received by the carriers of this city, and has caused those who have seen fit to stand by the National Association to feel very much encouraged. We are also of the same opinion as Mr. Pollock in regard to the eight-hour law. Eight consecutive hours is a day's labor, forty-eight hours a week when a carrier is not on duty on Sunday, and not fifty-six hours a week, as the department is trying to interpret the law. The grading of salary, as suggested by the gentleman, does not meet with the approval of the carriers of this city, as it gives the postmaster too much of an opportunity to display favoritism, and would cause many good carriers to receive a smaller compensation than inferior ones.

The employees of Station "B" have had their photograph taken in a group, and it is the best they have ever had the fortune to have taken.

Order your new Regulation Uniforms from the Co-operative Tailoring Co., of Chicago. See "ad." on 4th page of cover.

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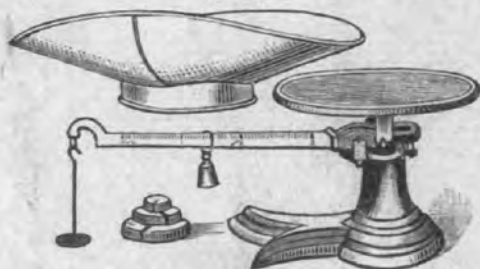
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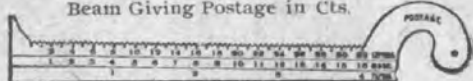
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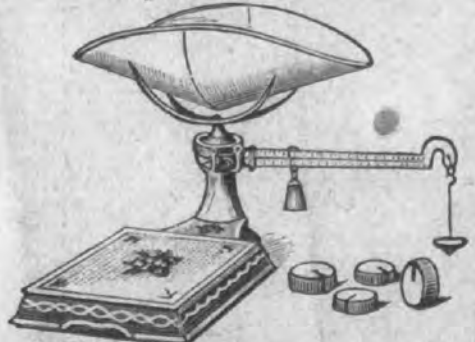


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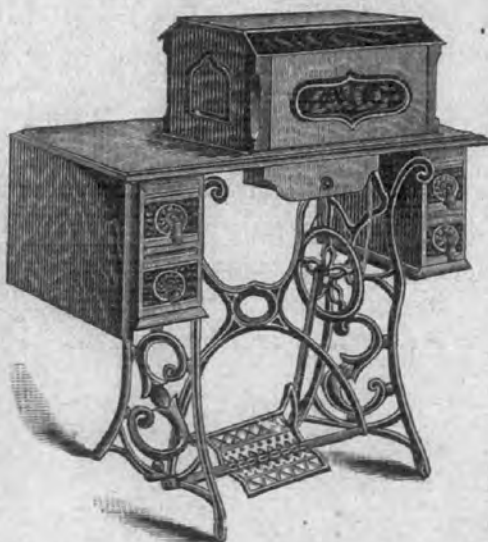
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