DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON.

AN IMPORTANT SERMON DEDUCED FROM VISIONS.

Dreams Recorded in the Bible—Why the Dreams of To-Day Are, as a Rule, of No Significance—But God Can and Occasionally Does Speak in Dreams.

What Is in a Dream?

A remarkable sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Talmage last Sunday, the subject being a psychological and religious study of the phenomena of the mind during sleep and the significance of dreams as evidence of immortality. The text chosen was Genesis xxviii, 11, "He took of the stones of that place and put them for his pillows and lay down in that place to sleep, and he dreamed."

Asleep on a pillowcase filled with hens' feathers it is not strange one should have pleasant dreams. But here is a pillow of rock and Jacob with his head on it, and, lo! a dream of angels, two processions, those coming down the stairs met by those going up the stairs. It is the first dream of Bible record. You may say of a dream that it is the absurd combination of waking thoughts, and with a slur of intonation you may say, "It is only a dream," but God has honored the dream by making it the avenue through which again and again he has marched upon the human soul, decided the fate of nations and changed the course of the world's history.

God appeared in a dream to Abimelech, warning him against an unlawful marriage; in a dream to Joseph, foretelling his coming power under the figure of all the sheaves of the harvest bowing down the sheaf; to the chief butler, foretelling his disenfranchisement, to the chief baker, announcing his decapitation; to Pharaoh, showing him first the seven plenty years and then the seven famine struck years, under the figure of the seven fat cows devouring the seven lean cows; to Solomon, giving him the choice between wisdom and riches and honor; to the warrior, under the figure of a barley cake coming down the tent, encouraging Gideon in his battle against the Amalekites; to Nebuchadnezzar, under the figure of a broken image and a hewn down tree, foretelling his overthrow of power; to Joseph of the New Testament, announcing the birth of Christ in his own household; to Mary, bidding her to fly from Herodic persecutions; to Pilate's wife, warning him not to become complicated with the judicial overthrow of Christ.

An Abundant Revelation.

We all admit that God in ancient times and under Bible dispensation addressed the people through dreams. The question now is, Does God appear in our day and reveal Himself through dreams? That is the question everybody asks, and that question this morning I shall try to answer. You ask me if I believe in dreams. My answer is, I do believe in dreams, but all I have to say will be under five heads.

Remark the First—The Scriptures are so full of revelation from God that if we get no communication from Him in dreams we ought nevertheless to be satisfied.

With twenty guidebooks to tell you how to get to Boston or Pittsburgh or London or Glasgow or Manchester, do you want a night vision to tell you how to make the journey? We have in this Scripture full direction in regard to the journey of this life and how to get to the celestial city, and with this grand guidebook, this magnificent directory, we ought to be satisfied. I have more faith in a decision to which I come when I am wide awake than when I am sound asleep. I have noticed that those who give a great deal of their time to studying dreams get their brains addled. They are very anxious to remember what they dreamed about the first night they slept in a new house.

If in their dream they take the hand of a corpse, they are going to die. If they dream of a garden, it means a sepulchre. If something turns up according to a night vision, they say: "Well, I am not surprised. I dreamed it." If it turns out different from the night vision, they say, "Well dreams go by contraries." In their efforts to put their dreams into rhythm they put their waking thoughts into discord. Now, the Bible is so full of revelation that we ought to be satisfied if we get no further revelation.

If there should come about a crisis in your life upon which the Bible does not seem to be sufficiently specific, go to God in prayer, and you will get especial direction. I have more faith 99 times out of 100 in directions given you with the Bible in your lap and your thoughts uplifted in prayer to God than in all the information you will get unconsciously on your pillow.

I can very easily understand why the Babylonians and the Egyptians, with no Bible, should put so much stress on dreams, and the Chinese, in their holy book, Chow King, should think their emperor gets his directions through dreams from God, and that Homer should think that all dreams came from Jove, and that in ancient times dreams were classified into a science. But why do you and I put so much stress upon dreams when we have a supernal book of infinite wisdom on all subjects? Why should we harry ourselves with dreams? Why should Eddystone and Barnegat light-houses question a summer firefly?

The Meaning of Dreams.

Remark the Second—All dreams have an important meaning.

They prove that the soul is comparatively independent of the body. The eyes are closed, the senses are dull, the entire body goes into a lethargy which in all languages is used as a type of death, and then the soul spreads its wings and never sleeps. It leaps the Atlantic ocean and mingles in scenes 3,000 miles away. It travels great reaches of time, flashes back 80 years, and the octogenarian is a boy again in his father's house. If the soul, before it has entirely broken its chain of flesh, can do all this, how far can it leap, and what circles can it cut, when it is fully liberated?

Every dream, whether agreeable or harassing, whether sunshiny or tempestuous, means so much that rising from your couch you ought to kneel down and say: "O God! am I immortal? Whence? Wither? Two natures. My soul caged now—what when the door of the cage is opened? If my soul can fly so far in the few hours in which my body is asleep in the night, how far can it fly when my body sleeps the long sleep of the grave? Oh, this power to dream, how startling, how overwhelming! If prepared for the after death flight, what an enchantment! If not prepared for the after death flight, what a crushing agony! Immortal! Immortal!

Remark the Third—The vast majority of dreams are merely the result of disturbed physical condition and are not a supernatural message.

Job had carbuncles, and he was scared in the night. He says, "Thou scarest me with dreams and terrifiest me with visions." Solomon had an overwrought brain, overwrought with public business, and he suffered from erratic slumber, and he writes of its disquietudes, "A dream cometh through the multitude of business." Dr. Gregory in experimenting with dreams found that a bottle of hot water put to his feet while in slumber made him think that he was going up the hot sides of Mount Etna.

Another morbid physician, experimenting with dreams, his feet uncovered through sleep, thought he was riding in an Alpine diligence. But a great many dreams are merely narcotic disturbance. Anything that you see while under the influence of chloral or brandy or "hasheesh" or laudanum is not a revelation from God. The learned De Quincey did not ascribe the divine communication what he saw in sleep, opium saturated; dreams which he afterward described in the following words: "I was worshiped; I was sacrificed; I fled from the wrath of Brahma through all the forests of Asia. Vishnu hated me. Siva laid in wait for me. I came suddenly upon Isis and Osiris. I had done a deed, they said, that made the crocodiles tremble. I was buried for a thousand years in stone coffins, with mummies and sphinxes in narrow chambers at the heart of eternal pyramids. I was kissed with a cancerous kiss of crocodiles and lay confounded with unutterable slimy things among wreathy and Nilotic mud." Do not mistake narcotic disturbance for divine revelation.

A Dream Often a Penalty.

But I have to tell you that the majority of the dreams are merely the penalty of outraged digestive organs, and you have no right to mistake the nightmare for heavenly revelation. Late suppers are warranty deed for bad dreams. Highly spiced salads at 11 o'clock at night instead of opening the door heavenward open the door infernal and diabolical. You outrage natural law, and you insult the God who made those organs. It takes from three to five hours to digest food, and you have no right to keep your digestive organs in struggle when the rest of your body is in somnolence. The general rule is, eat nothing after 6 o'clock at night, retire at 10, sleep on your right side, keep the window open five inches for ventilation, and other worlds will not disturb you much.

By physical maltreatment you take the ladder that Jacob saw in his dream, and you lower it to the nether world allowing the ascent of the demoniacal. Dreams are midnight dyspepsia. An unregulated desire for something to eat ruined the race in paradise, and an unregulated desire for something to eat keeps it ruined. The world during 6,000 years has tried in vain to forget that first apple. The world will not be evangelized until we get rid of a dyspeptic Christianity. Healthy perple do not want this cadaverous and sleepy thing that some people call religion. They want a religion that lives regularly by day and sleeps soundly by night.

If through trouble or coming on of old age or exhaustion of Christian service you cannot sleep, then you may expect from God "songs in the night," but there are no blessed communications to those who willingly surrender to indigestibles. Napoleon's army at Leipsic, Dresden, and Borodino came near being destroyed through the disturbed gastric juices of its commander. That is the way you have lost some of our battles.

Another remark I make is that our dreams are apt to be merely the echo of our day thoughts.

I will give you a recipe for pleasant dreams: Fill your days with elevated thought and unselfish action, and your dreams will be set to music. If all day you are gouging and grasping and avaricious, in your dreams you will see gold that you cannot clutch, and bargains in which you are hopelessly blocked. If during the day you are irascible and pugnacious and gunpowderly or disposition, you will at night have battles with enemies, in which they will get the best of you. If you are all day long in a hurry, at night you will dream of rail trains that you want to catch while you cannot move one inch toward the depot.

Recipe for Bad Dreams.

If you are always oversuspicious and expectant of assault, you will have at night the hallucinations of invasion with daggers drawn. No one wonders that Richard III, the iniquitous, the night before the battle of Bosworth Field, dreamed that all those whom he had murdered stared at him, and that he was torn to pieces by demons from the pit. The scholar's dream is a philosophic echo. The poet's dream is a rhythmic echo. Coleridge composed his "Kubla Khan" asleep in a narcotic dream, and waking up wrote down 300 lines of it. Tartini, the violin player, composed his most wonderful sonata while asleep in a dream so vivid that waking he easily transferred it to paper.

Waking thoughts have their echo in sleeping thoughts. If a man spends his life in trying to make others happy, and is heavenly minded, around his pillow he will see cripples who have got over their crutch, and processions of celestial imperials, and hear the grand march roll down from drums of Heaven over jasper parapets. You are very apt to hear in dreams what you hear when you are wide awake.

Now, having shown you that having a Bible we ought to be satisfied not getting any further communication from God, and having shown you that all dreams have an important mission, since they show the comparative independence of the soul from the body, and having shown you that the majority of dreams are a result of disturbed physical conditions, and having shown you that our sleeping thoughts are apt to be an echo of our waking thoughts, I come now to my fifth and most important remark, and that is to say that it is capable of proof that God does sometimes in our day and has often since the close of the Bible dispensation appeared to people in dreams.

Rescued by Means of Dreams.

In 1695 a vessel went out from Spithead for the West Indies and ran against the ledge of rocks called the Caskets. The vessel went down, but the crew clambered up on the Caskets to die of thirst or starvation, as they supposed. But there was a ship bound for Southampton that had the captain's son on board. This lad twice in one night dreamed that there was a crew of sailors dying on the Caskets. He told his father of his dream. The vessel came down by the Caskets in time to find and to rescue those poor dying men. Who conducted that dream? The God of the rocks, the God of the sea.

God has often appeared in dreams to rescue and comfort. You have known people—perhaps it is something I state in your own experience—you have seen people go to sleep with bereavements inconsolable, and they awakened in perfect resignation because of what they had seen in slumber. Dr. Crannage, one of the most remarkable men I ever met —remarkable for benevolence and great philanthropies—at Wellington, England, showed me a house where the Lord had appeared in a wonderful dream to a poor woman. The woman was rheumatic, sick, poor to the last point of destitution. She was waited on and cared for by another poor woman, her only attendant.

Word came to her one day that this poor woman had died, and the invalid of whom I am speaking lay helpless upon the couch wondering what would become of her. In that mood she fell asleep. In her dreams she said the angel of the Lord appeared and took her into the open air and pointed in one direction, and there were mountains of bread, and pointed in another direction, and there were mountains of butter, and in another direction, and there were mountains of all kinds of worldly supply. The angel of the Lord said to her, "Woman, all these mountains belong to your Father, and do you think that He will let you, his child, hunger and die?"

Dr. Crannage told me that by some divine impulse he went into that destitute home, saw the suffering there and administered unto it, caring for her all the way through. Do you tell me that that dream was woven out of earthly anodynes? Was that the phantasmagoria of a diseased brain? No, it was an all sympathetic God addressing a poor woman through a dream.

The Dream of John Newton.

Furthermore, I have to say that there are people in this house who were converted to God through a dream. The Rev. John Newton, the fame of whose piety fills all Christendon, while a profligate sailor on shipboard, in the Mediterranean, saw a ship approached him and gave him a very beautiful ring put it upon his finger and said to him, "As long as you wear that ring you will be prospered; if you lose that ring, you will be ruined."

In the same dream another personage appeared, and by a strange infatuation persuaded John Newton to throw that ring overboard, and in sash into the sea. The mountains in sight were full of fire, and the air was lurid with consuming wrath. While John Newton was repenting of his folly in having thrown overboard the treasure another personage came through the dream and told John Newton he would plunge into the sea and bring the ring up if he desired it.

He plunged into the sea and brought it up and said to John Newton, "Here is that gem, but I think I will keep it for you, lest you lose it again," and John Newton consented, and all the fire went out from the mountains, and all the signs of lurid wrath disappeared from the air, and John Newton said that he saw in his dream that the valuable gem was his soul, and that the being who persuaded him to throw overboard that gem, and that the one who plunged in and restored that gem, keeping it for him, was Christ, and that dream makes one of the most wonderful chapters in the life of that most wonderful man.

A German was crossing the Atlantic Ocean, and in his dream he saw a man with a handful of white flowers, and he was told to follow the man who had that handful of white flowers. The German, arriving in New York, wandered into the Fulton streeet prayer meeting, and Mr. Lampnier — whom many of you know—the great apostle of prayer meetings, that day had given to him a bunch of tuberoses. They stood on his desk, and at the close of the religious services he took the tuberoses and started homeward and the German followed him, and through an interpreter told Mr. Lamphier that on the sea he had dreamed of a man with a handful of white flowers and was told to follow him. Suffice it to say, through that interview and following interviews he became a Christian and is a city missionary preaching the gospel to his own countrymen. God in dream!

John Hardock while on shipboard dreamed one night that the day of judgment had come, and that the roll of the ship's crew was called except his own name, and that these people, this crew, were all banished, and in his dream he asked the reader why his own name was omitted, and he was told it was to give him more opportunity for repentance. He woke up a different man. He became illustrious Christian. Dreams! Dreams! If you do not believe these things, then you must discard all testimony and refuse to accept any kind of authorative witness. God in a dream!

Converted Through a Dream.

Rev. Herbert Mendes was converted to God through a dream of the last judgment, and I doubt if there is a man or woman in this house to-day that has not had some dream of that great day of judgment which shall be the winding up of the world's history. If you have not dreamed of it, perhaps to-night you may dream of that day.

If there are enough materials to make a dream, enough to-day, for there shall be the roaring of the elements and the great earthquake. Enough light for the dream, for the world shall blaze. Enough excitement, for the mountains shall fall. Enough water, for the ocean shall roar. Enough astronomical phenomena, for the stars shall go out. Enough populations, for all the races of all the ages will fall into line of one of two processions—the one ascending, the other descending; the one led by the rider on the white horse of eternal victory, the other led on by Apollyon on the black charger of eternal defeat.

The dream comes on me now, and I see the lightnings from above answering the lava and the fires from beneath, and I hear the long, reverberating thunders that shall wake up the dead, and on one side I see the opening of a gate into scenes golden and amethystine, and on the other side I hear the clanging back of a gate into bastiles of eternal bondage, and all the seas, lifting up their crystals, shout, "Come to judgment!" and all the voices of the Heaven cry, "Come to judgment!" and crumbling mausoleum and Westminster abbeys and pyramids of the dead with marble voices cry, "Come to judgment!"

And the archangel seizes an instrument of music which has never yet been sounded, an instrument of music that was made only for one sound, and thrusting that mighty trumpet through the clouds and turning it this way he shall put into his lip and blow the long, loud blast that shall make the solid earth quiver, crying, "Come to judgment!"

Then from this earthly grossness quit,
Attired in stars we shall forever sit.

It is fully as important to have the pigs thrifty during the fall and winter as in the spring and summer.

WASTE IN ITS WAKE.

FURTHER REPORTS OF THE CYCLONE'S WORK.

Great Damage Done Throughout Many States—Death and Devastation Dealt Out by the Wild Winds—Important Pension Ruling Was Not Promulgated.

Work of Wild Winds.

The damage done by the cyclone in the Mississippi Valley is enormous. While the loss of life is not as great as at first reported, the damage to property will reach $2,000,000. The telegraph wires are still demoralized, and reports are coming in slowly from the storm districts, and it will be several days before the full extent of the disaster will be known. The death list so far as known foots up ninety-three, while the list of injured will run up into the hundreds.

The first heard of the cyclone was in North Louisiana and Southern Arkansas. It crossed the Mississippi a few miles above Greenville, devastating plantations, wrecking farmhouses and uprooting giant forest trees. The path of the storm was about half a mile wide, and nothing was left standing in its track. The first fatality occurred near Shaw's Station, Miss., where the house of Drury Sumrall, a prosperous and industrious colored farmer, was leveled to the ground, killing the entire family of nine persons. The cyclone passed through the suburbs of Shaw's and demolished several residences and small stores, but no one was killed. The hurricane then changed its course slightly and traveled the right of way of the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Railroad until it entered Cleveland, Miss., where the public school building and several stores and residences were razed to the ground. Leaving Cleveland, the cyclone passed within a mile of Clarksdale, a town of 2,000 inhabitants, and next struck Tunica, the county seat of Tunica County. Nearly every building in the place was wrecked. The colored school building was wrecked, and over thirty children maimed and crippled, some of them fatally. Leaving Tunica, the cyclone left Tunica it divided, one portion traveling in a northeasterly direction, while the other took a northwesterly course and again crossed the Mississippi River through Arkansas, where it spread ruin through three counties. The towns of Crawfordsville and Vincent were nearly wiped off the face of the earth, and the storm then took a northeasterly course, reaching Kelly, Miss. Here the greatest damage was done. Six people were killed outright and scores injured. Not a building was left standing, the fragments being strewn over the country for miles. After leaving Kelly the cyclone passed into Tennessee, the next place to fall in its path being Lamar Creek, where several people were injured.

The storm did great damage at Bowling Green, Ky., and the surrounding country. The loss to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad on the building and locomotives is $75,000 to $100,000. The town of Rowlins was almost destroyed. The postoffice building, owned by Frank Cordice, was swept entirely away, together with all the mail, some of which was found two miles off. Mr. Cordice's loss is $41,000. The storehouse, occupied by Stephens & Knox, was demolished, and their stock, valued at $5,000, ruined by the rain which followed the storm. At Murray, Ky., twenty residences and fifty stables and barns were demolished. Only one person, Mrs. Aline Stubblefield, was seriously injured. A dozen were slightly hurt. The loss will reach $25,000. Much timber, fencing, etc., was also destroyed. Late information concerning the effects of the storm in Southern Indiana indicates that the damage will be very great. A number of persons are known to have been seriously injured, but as yet no fatalities have been reported. The country for miles around was devastated. Dwellings and barns were lifted from their foundations and many are wrecks. Trees, fences, and smaller building at various places were laid low. The Center Methodist Episcopal Church of Evansville was completely demolished, only its foundation remaining. At the Southern Hospital for the insane a frightful panic prevailed for nearly an hour. The end of the east wing of the institution was blown in, causing between $3,000 and $4,000 damages.

IMPORTANT PENSION RULING.

It Reverses a Decision Under Which $2,000,000 Has Been Paid to Claimants.

It has been discovered that one of the most important rulings ever made in the pension office has remained unpromulgated, so far as the public knows, for more than five months. It is learned that Sept. 28 last Assistant Secretary Bussey made a pension decision which radically changed the practice of the department as to the disposition of accrued pensions in certain cases and established a new and important rule as to reimbursement of "expenses, last sickness, and burial" under Sec. 4718, Revised Statutes. The Assistant Secretary holds that accrued pensions can be fully paid to grandchildren, but as to reimbursement for "last sickness and burial," the Assistant Secretary concludes that while only the widow or minor child of the deceased soldier can take the accrued pension, the only person for whom the expenses of the last sickness and burial can be allowed is the soldier himself. From the date and under the authority of an opinion by Solicitor General Phillips rendered Aug. 15, 1876, until now, last sickness and burial expenses have been allowed in all cases where the deceased was an impecunious pensioner or entitled to a pension, whether soldier, minor children, grandchildren, or dependent parents. It is stated that fully $2,000,000 has been wrongfully paid to claimants under the Phillips opinion as reimbursements for last sickness and burial expenses, for which Sec. 4718, Revised Statutes, did not provide.

Currencies Condensed.

ANOTHER bomb has been exploded in Rome. No one was injured.

W. C. RIPPEY, who shot John W. Mackay, will plead insanity.

C. H. & L. M. AKERLY, lumber dealers at Tonawanda, N. Y., have failed.

FATHER M. JOZEAU, a Catholic missionary, was maltreated by a mob in Corea.

THE O'Neill block at Binghampton, N. Y., burned. Etta Fancher was fatally burned. The property loss is $50,000.

LEGISLATIVE DOINGS.

WORK OF THE STATE SOLONS AT THE CAPITAL.

Record of One Week's Business—Measures Presented, Considered and Passed—What Our Public Servants Are Doing—In and Around Legislative Halls.

The Law-Makers.

In the Senate Wednesday morning the bill of the Committee on Municipalities to enable cities and villages to erect and maintain electric light plants and to furnish light and power to the inhabitants came up under the head of special order of business immediately after the reading of the journal. It was read a second time, ordered engrossed and advanced to its final reading. Several bills were passed, including Senator Caldwell's to compel highway commissioners to submit annual itemized accounts of receipts and expenses. Senator Crawford's appropriating $50 each to county farmers' institutes, and the committee bill making an appropriation for improving and maintaining the asylum for the criminal insane at Chester. The bill for the location of the State Fair at Bloomington introduced by Representative O'Connell was discussed in the House Committee on Agriculture. It was reported back with the recommendation that the word "Bloomington" be stricken out and location be fixed by the House. Mr. Herdman's bill appropriating $100,000 for establishing and maintaining a State reformatory for girls was considered by the House Committee on Penal and Reformatory Institutions and ordered to be reported with favorable recommendation.

The compulsory education question occupied most of the time of the House Thursday. Outside of this the only matter of importance considered was the resolution limiting the time for the introduction of bills. No bills can be introduced after April 14 except by committees or under suspension of the rules. The session of the Senate was of considerable importance. The resolution allowing Chicago people to establish a yachting institute and naval academy and to construct breakwaters and piers in Lake Michigan opposite Jackson Park was favorably considered and reported with favorable recommendation.

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Arthur W. Allyn, vice president of the Oakland National Bank, is made co-respondent. Mr. Dunham followed up the bill for divorce with a damage suit against Allyn for $50,000 for the alleged alienation of his wife's affections.

WHILE James Davidson and his wife, residing near Bingham, were out doing the evening work their house took fire. Mrs. Davidson had left her 3-months-old babe lying on the bed asleep. When the parents and neighbors reached the house the room in which the child lay was a seething mass of flame and smoke, and before the little one could be rescued it was burned to death.

QUITE a romantic marriage took place in the Christian Church at Salem. The contracting parties were William Torrence, of Austin, Texas, and Miss Nora McCarty, of Salem. They had never met until the day before they were married. They began a correspondence about two years ago. In the meantime they exchanged photographs, and when he alighted from the cars they recognized each other.

THE trial of the boys who raised the American flag over the Hoblit schoolhouse, was concluded at Lincoln after a two day's session. After four hours of deliberation the jury disagreed, nine being for acquittal and three being for conviction. This will doubtless end the prosecution, as the sentiment in the district is almost entirely with the boys. The flag still waves on the pole opposite Mr. Ellis' residence.

ESCAPING gas asphyxiated nine men and women in the kitchen of the Tacoma Building restaurant, Chicago. It is feared that Edward Miller, the head cook, and Frank Stoner, the vegetable cook, will die. The employes had just commenced work when on odor of gas was noticed. The pipes were examined, but were found to be all right. Before any one was overcome by alarmed Miller, the head cook, fell to the floor unconscious. Then Nellie Shea, who was scrubbing the kitchen, was found to have been overcome. Doctors were sent for and soon had their hands full. Seven others succumbed.

FOLLOWING the resignation of General Fitz-Simons, Brigadier General of the First Brigade, Illinois National Guard, came the resignations of his entire staff, eight in number, which were accepted by Adjutant General Orendorff. The resignations, it is understood, were merely formal, as the members of the staff would of necessity retire with the retiring Brigadier General.

A RESOLUTION giving Chicago people the right to establish a yachting institute and naval academy on Lake Michigan, opposite Jackson Park, providing that the rights of the fish were not involved, was offered in the Senate by Mr. Johnson. The resolution called on the Attorney General for his opinion in the matter. The Attorney General holds, it is said, that the rights of the State will in no way be jeopardized by the establishment of the proposed institute, and that breakwaters and piers may be built without involving the interests of the State.

AT Freeport, according to a correspondent, the coroner's jury investigating the cause of the death of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Boedeker is making slow progress. C. C. Wilson, an insurance agent who wrote out a life insurance policy for Mr. Boedeker the night before the fire, testified to the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Boedeker signed the policy made payable to his brother Frederick, but the agent advised him to have it made payable to himself, which he finally did. The coroner is working in the dark, and can find no evidence which has a tendency to solve the mystery. A lady of responsibility, who resides in the vicinity of the Boedeker home, stated that about the time the Boedeker residence was discovered on fire three men ran through her yard toward the city. She will be called upon to testify before the coroner's inquest. H. Leenhuis, the administrator of the Boedeker estate, made an examination of the dead man's safe and found life insurance policies amounting to $29,000, and of this amount $18,000 is accidental insurance. It is said that besides these several policies were burned up in the residence. Several of the insurance companies have given notice that they will fight the payment of the policies.

ANNA BELL, the daughter of S. H. Bell, a prominent farmer living near Fairland, while playing around an old well which was uncovered, fell in and was drowned. Only two weeks ago Bell lost three of his children from diphtheria, and the one drowned was the last child he had.

A SCHOOL district in Logan County is having a strife over the raising of a flag. The School Directors delayed the raising until they could get a suitable pole. John A. Hoblit and A. L. Larison took the matter into their own hands and announced that they would raise the flag. They were arrested.

AROUND A GREAT STATE.

BRIEF COMPILATION OF ILLINOIS NEWS.

Foolish Young Men of Sangamon—Panic in a Chicago Restaurant—Chose Mates by Mail—Baby Burned to Death—Congressman Dunham Wants a Divorce.

From Far and Near.

THE recent storms have caused the growing wheat to come out rapidly, and the prospects are favorable for a fair crop in the great wheat-growing section of Southern Illinois.

SEVERAL rural young men of Sangamon County attempted to cope with a Kentuckian at poker. In addition to losing all their money, they were indicted for gambling by the grand jury, and paid $10 each and costs.

GOV. ALTGELD has issued a proclamation reciting that "Our statutes having provided for one day in the year to be devoted to the planting of trees, shrubs and vines," therefore he provides as Arbor Day, Friday, April 14, 1893.

GOVERNOR AND MRS. ALTGELD gave their first reception at the mansion Thurs'ay night. Invitations were extended to members of the Legislature and the new State Boards and their wives. The weather was very disagreeable.

AT the corner of Desplaines and Madison streets, Chicago, Oscar Hanson was walking west on Madison street, when three men jostled against him. One of the men suddenly passed a hand by the throat, while the two others rifled his pockets of their contents. Officers Walsh and McComb heard Hanson's cries for help and arrived in time to arrest the trio.

EX-CONGRESSMAN RANSOM W. DUNHAM filed a bill in the Circuit Court at Chicago asking for a divorce from his wife, Elizabeth Wallace Dunham. Arthur W. Allyn, vice president of the Oakland National Bank, is made co-respondent. Mr. Dunham followed up the bill for divorce with a damage suit against Allyn for $50,000 for the alleged alienation of his wife's affections.

WHILE James Davidson and his wife, residing near Bingham, were out doing the evening work their house took fire. Mrs. Davidson had left her 3-months-old babe lying on the bed asleep. When the parents and neighbors reached the house the room in which the child lay was a seething mass of flame and smoke, and before the little one could be rescued it was burned to death.

QUITE a romantic marriage took place in the Christian Church at Salem. The contracting parties were William Torrence, of Austin, Texas, and Miss Nora McCarty, of Salem. They had never met until the day before they were married. They began a correspondence about two years ago. In the meantime they exchanged photographs, and when he alighted from the cars they recognized each other.

THE trial of the boys who raised the American flag over the Hoblit schoolhouse, was concluded at Lincoln after a two day's session. After four hours of deliberation the jury disagreed, nine being for acquittal and three being for conviction. This will doubtless end the prosecution, as the sentiment in the district is almost entirely with the boys. The flag still waves on the pole opposite Mr. Ellis' residence.

ESCAPING gas asphyxiated nine men and women in the kitchen of the Tacoma Building restaurant, Chicago. It is feared that Edward Miller, the head cook, and Frank Stoner, the vegetable cook, will die. The employes had just commenced work when on odor of gas was noticed. The pipes were examined, but were found to be all right. Before any one was overcome by alarmed Miller, the head cook, fell to the floor unconscious. Then Nellie Shea, who was scrubbing the kitchen, was found to have been overcome. Doctors were sent for and soon had their hands full. Seven others succumbed.

FOLLOWING the resignation of General Fitz-Simons, Brigadier General of the First Brigade, Illinois National Guard, came the resignations of his entire staff, eight in number, which were accepted by Adjutant General Orendorff. The resignations, it is understood, were merely formal, as the members of the staff would of necessity retire with the retiring Brigadier General.

A RESOLUTION giving Chicago people the right to establish a yachting institute and naval academy on Lake Michigan, opposite Jackson Park, providing that the rights of the fish were not involved, was offered in the Senate by Mr. Johnson. The resolution called on the Attorney General for his opinion in the matter. The Attorney General holds, it is said, that the rights of the State will in no way be jeopardized by the establishment of the proposed institute, and that breakwaters and piers may be built without involving the interests of the State.

AT Freeport, according to a correspondent, the coroner's jury investigating the cause of the death of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Boedeker is making slow progress. C. C. Wilson, an insurance agent who wrote out a life insurance policy for Mr. Boedeker the night before the fire, testified to the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Boedeker signed the policy made payable to his brother Frederick, but the agent advised him to have it made payable to himself, which he finally did. The coroner is working in the dark, and can find no evidence which has a tendency to solve the mystery. A lady of responsibility, who resides in the vicinity of the Boedeker home, stated that about the time the Boedeker residence was discovered on fire three men ran through her yard toward the city. She will be called upon to testify before the coroner's inquest. H. Leenhuis, the administrator of the Boedeker estate, made an examination of the dead man's safe and found life insurance policies amounting to $29,000, and of this amount $18,000 is accidental insurance. It is said that besides these several policies were burned up in the residence. Several of the insurance companies have given notice that they will fight the payment of the policies.

ANNA BELL, the daughter of S. H. Bell, a prominent farmer living near Fairland, while playing around an old well which was uncovered, fell in and was drowned. Only two weeks ago Bell lost three of his children from diphtheria, and the one drowned was the last child he had.

A SCHOOL district in Logan County is having a strife over the raising of a flag. The School Directors delayed the raising until they could get a suitable pole. John A. Hoblit and A. L. Larison took the matter into their own hands and announced that they would raise the flag. They were arrested.