OF THE WAYS AND MEANS cigar in his mouth. Of course the air is

SAM'S MAIN COMMITTEES.

It Is a Court Which Sits in Judgment on Its Personnel.

[Special Correspondence.] WASHINGTON, April 10. - The ways and means committee of the house has just finished its task of preparing a new tariff What is this ways and means com-



WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE ROOMS. mittee, and how does it work? It is the most powerful committee of congress. It is a court which sits in judgment on the commerce, the manufactures, the labor of the people.

No other thirteen men in the land have so much responsibility, so much power, as have they. All the governors of states, all the cabinet ministers, all the justices of the supreme court, are as pigmies compared to them. As parties go and legislation is carried on, a ways and means committee of the house of representatives possesses authority that is almost monarchical, for it prepares the laws in which is exercised that greatest function of government, the taxing power, and the political party which has made the committee generally enacts the measures which it prepares and pro-

The ways and means committee is the federal taxing board. It not only determines how much money shall flow into the coffers of the government, but whence it shall come. The taxing board of a county or city as a rule has power only to fix the sum to be collected and to pro rate that among all property owners, so much tax to each hundred dollars of assessed value. No such restrictions bind the autocrats of the ways and means committee. It is within their province to let one man go scot free of taxes and to tax another to death; to say to one manufacturer, "You shall prosper and wax rich," and to his neighbor, "You shall be ruined;" to extinguish or kindle furnace fires; to open or close the doors of factories, and to stop or start the



THE INNER SANCTUM.

is a tyrant's power, but it is precisely the power wielded by the thirteen men

on whom we are to look. The ways and means committee, of course, represents in a majority of its members the party in power in the house of representatives. It is appointed by the speaker, and in this creation of committees lies that power of the speaker's office which makes it easily the second office of importance in the United States government. The chairman of the ways and means committee is by tradition and common consent the leader of the house. He is usually a man of long experience and great ability. Tradition says, also, that eight of the members shall be in accord with the majority of the house, while five shall be appointed to represent the minority.

The chief duty of the committee is preparation of a taxing or tariff bill. As a preliminary to this a programme of "hearings" is arranged. On appointed days the representatives of various manufacturing, commercial and agricultural interests are invited to be present and offer arguments concerning the changes in the law which they desire. These interests are never backward. They come to the front always in large numbers. They come from all parts of the country and from every walk of life. Here millionaire manufacturers like Carnegie and Spreckels meet plain, blunt farmers like Mr. Brown, of York county, Pa., and Mr. Piollet, of Bradford county. Sometimes great lawyers appear before the committee to make arguments for their clients, and members of the house, and

senators also, for their constituents. These tariff hearings are held before the full committee, Democrats as well as Republicans. The doors are open, too, and whosoever will may come. Often large crowds assemble, and help to make up a scene of rare interest. In the middle of a room about thirty-five feet square is a long, wide table. It is covered with books, papers and documents. Surrounding it are thirteen chairs, and the table just in fr at of each chair bears the name of one of the members. Here sits the commit e, and crowding about are hundreds of spectators, only a few of whom can fine seats.

obtain here, and every other man has a fortune from her invention.

very bad, and about once in ten minutes an old man who stands in the rear of the GOSSIP REGARDING ONE OF UNCLE room with a long pole in his hand reaches up and pulls down a window. Seven or eight minutes later, when the men with bald heads begin to complain, the old man pushes the window up again. Thus, the Commerce, the Manufactures and while we are learning something about the Labor of the People-Its Power and the taxing power of our government, we also gain an insight to the crude methods of ventilation practiced in the government's greatest building, into which a score of millions of the tax money have

been poured. The men who come to present arguments before the committee bring with them great numbers of samples. Soon the big table is covered with pieces of cloth, bunches of wool, fragments of metal, glass and earthenware, sugar and sirups in little bottles, and many scores of such things. Clerk Carson is rapidly building up a ways and means museum, composed entirely of these sample articles, and ranging in variety from a pin from Sheffield to the hide of a South American steer.

After the hearings are concluded the real work of making a tariff bill begins. This is done with closed doors, and only the majority of the committee participate. When the Republicans are in power the chairman and his party friends retire to some private room to do their work in secret. Meanwhile the Democrats stand by and complain of this "dark lantern" method. When the Democrats are in power they get off in some place by themselves, and then the Republicans raise the cry of dark lantern methods. Such, it will be observed, is politics in America.

It is a serious job which these men undertake when they sit down in private, A tariff bill is a formidable document. Tradition has it that the average tariff



M'KINLEY, BURROWS AND LAFOLLETTE. dent of the United States used that number in his message to congress to illustrate the importance of the measure. But the number gives no adequate idea of the scope of a tariff bill. It is a thing which cannot be expressed in numbers. Leaving out the few hundred items mentioned in the full list, everything else known to the people, everything which they wear, drink, smoke or use in their homes, on their persons, in their stores, offices, factories and fields, bears a rate

And here sit the eight potentates of mmerce, of trade, of manufactures. twisting the industries of the country about their fingers by the simple putting on of fractions and per cents, or by the taking away of the same. Prosperity or adversity to hundreds of important industries follows each letter which the clerk puts down on paper at the direction of these eight men. Is it any wonder the ways and means is considered the greatest of committees? Is it any wonder that it usually absorbs the best brain and largest experience of congress?

When the majority have finished their bill they report it to the full committee. The minority then for the first time may see it. No matter whether they like it or not-it is the bill, and thus goes to the house, and, accidents barred, to the statute books.

Now the minority begins to frame a bill of its own. It, too, needs a committee room. For half a century the ways and means has had but one apartment. Now it has two. A few days ago Speak er Reed took possession of the ladies' reception room, closed up an entrance to the Capitol and made of it a ways and means meeting place. It is a picturesque apartment, all marble in walls and ceiling, a huge portiere at one end and



CARLISLE, MILLS AND BRECKINRIDGE. with two rows of columns, each bearing the Thomas Jefferson American capital of maize and tobacco.

Here meet these representatives of Democracy -- men whose names are known from one end of the country to digit through the button hole of your the other-Mills, Carlisle, Breckinridge, McMillin, Flower.

In the outer room Chairman McKinley, the Little Napoleon of Protection, is surrounded by Dingley, Gear, Lafoliette, Bayne, Payne, McKenna and Burrowsan array of brain and loyalty of which the Republican party is proud.

WALTER WELLMAN.

An important invention by a woman is the dishwashing machine, patented by Mrs. W. A. Cockran, of Indiana. It will thoroughly wash and dry twenty dozen dishes in two minutes, and is in great demand for hotels and boarding houses. The house rules at ast smoking do not Mrs. Cockran is realizing a handsome

HOWARD'S FIRST NEWSPAPER WORK. The Genial Joseph Did a Checkier Thing Than Dilworth Choate of New York.

[Special Correspondence.] NEW YORK, April 10.-The case of Choate, the reporter who hid in the jury room at the Flack trial, has given rise to all sorts of reminiscences and yarns concerning instances of newspaper enterprise, or reportorial cheek. The story of Joe Howard's first piece of newspaper work is perhaps one of the most interesting, and is certainly characteristic of the

Joe had just returned from an unsuc cessful business venture in California and was visiting friends in Lynn, Mass. The great strike of the Lynn shoemakers was in progress, and when Joe reached the hotel he found the names of half a dozen well known newspaper reporters on the register. It was the fashion in those days for the correspondent to register the name of the paper he represented, and after Howard had read, "So-and-so, The New York Herald;" "Blank Blank, The New York Tribune," and so on, he became afflicted with a spirit of emulation and wrote in a large, flowing hand, "Joseph Howard, Jr., The New York for hire by a mechanic. Times." He had, at that time, never written a line for a newspaper in his life, and his only connection with The Times was as an occasional purchaser. In the course of the afternoon he met several of the newspaper men and found that they were in the dumps. The strikers were holding meetings with closed doors, and it was impossible to learn anything of their doings.

"I'll fix that," said Joseph, after listening to the tale of woe.

That evening he marched down to the hall where the meetings were held. knocked on the door, and when it was opened boldly pushed his way in. He strode up the middle aisle to the platform, stepped to the front, beside the chairman's table, interrupted the speaker with a courteous yet commanding "Excuse me for one moment, please," and then, before the astonished strikers could regain their scattered senses, he launched into a characteristically Howardian speech

He told them that he had been sent on by The New York Times to represent their case fairly to a waiting world; that he wished to counsel with them, to advocate their cause and assist them in gaining their point. He spoke enthusiastically of the rights of labor, of the power of the press and the duty of American citizens. He told them stories, got them into thoroughly good humor and practically took charge of the meeting. After the meeting was adjourned he sat down to write his first newspaper article. He sent it to The Times without a word of explanation, signed it "Howard" and awaited developments. The letter reached The Times office late at night, and the editor, supposing "Howard" to be working under instructions from Mr. Raymond, printed it.

The next morning when Mr. Raymond came to the office his first question was: 'Who is Howard?' Nobody knew. His matter was bright, readable, and a decided "scoop." Mr. Raymond communicated with him and arranged to have him follow the strike to the end. On his return to New York he became regularly connected with The Times, and has stuck to newspaper work ever since. If it had not been for his spirit of "bluff" he would have probably been a merchant, and journalism would have been without one of its most entertaining figures. ALLAN FORMAN.

THE TAN YARD MURDER.

How Lafcadio Hearn Made His First Strike.

NEW YORK, April 10 .- I believe "The l'an Yard Murder" was Lafcadio Hearn's first assignment as a reporter on The Cincinnati Enquirer. The crime was committed one Saturday night in the latter part of October, 1874, but was not discovered until the next day. Andrew Egner. his son and an accomplice, all employes of a tan yard, killed a fellow workman most brutally, using a pitchfork as the weapon of partial slaughter. They then carried the body, with the breath of life not yet extinct, and threw it into one of the furnaces. There it was discovered next morning half consumed by the heat.

The Enquirer's force of reporters at that time was small, and Mr. Hearn, who happened to call, was asked by Mr. Cockerell to do the descriptive part. Mr. J. B. McCormick, now the business agent of W. H. Crane, the actor, was Mr. Hearn's co-worker in that reportorial sensation. for it made a sensation peculiarly above and beyond what the usual newspaper accounts of murders create. Mr. Hearn's powers of picturing the horrible had a fertile field in that murder. He went to the scene of the tragedy, and not only used his sense of sight, feeble as it was to an advantage which other reporters of perfect vision did not accept, but he brought to bear upon the case in hand his sense of smell and touch.

To see the horrors of the case he was compelled to stoop close over the charred remains, and, as a consequence, he could not help using his olfactories. And yet he went further. I do not believe Mr. Hearn ever approached an object close enough to see it that he did not favor it with his caressing touch. The tan yard victim was no exception. Mr. Hearn saw it, smelled it, touched it. Yea, he put a finger into the eyeless socket of the half consumed head, pretty much as he had a habit of thrusting his index

Then he went back to the office, sat lown to a desk, or rather lay down on one-for he never sat upright while preparing a manuscript-and when his task was done he had accomplished a literary horror. No man of this generation except Lafcadio Hearn could have drawn such a shuddering word painting of what he saw, had smelled and handled

in the victim of "The Tan Yard Murder." Therefrom dated his engagement as a reporter for The Enquirer. I began work in the same department the day following the murder, the day upon which Mr. Hearn's master stroke of descriptive writing appeared in print.

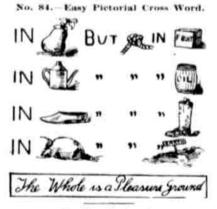
O. P. CAYLOR.



No. 83.—A Cross Puzzle 1 0 3 0 0 0

002040000 Across.-1, A sheltered place. 2. A period of time, 3. Embellished, 4. Violent emo tion. 5. A Scriptural name which occurs in the Book of Genesis, 6. A disjanctive con junction. 7. A nickname sometimes given to a small girl. 8. The French word for "water," 9, Arista, 10, Melancholy, 11, Relating to the proof of wills. 12. Work done

From 1 to 2, a time of sorrow and fasting; from 3 to 4, a time of gladness.



No. 85. - A Tangle. Hte tasitye mels gnasati eth pahipers mode, Ethir rgcaelfu crhase stea, Nda lfcosk fo lftee-iwengd wsalolws lfyngi mheo, Klie lisetn hsdawos apsdes.

No. 86.—A Peculiar Quadruped. My pretty 3, 1, 6 and 5,

Hast ever seen a WHOLE alive? This quite peculiar quadruped

Roams about nights when you're in bed. Tis classed among the edentates,

And is incased in bony plates. And when attacked it does not wait, But quickly does 2, 9, 7, 8.

Into 4 ball, an armor cased; And to this can its name be traced.

No. 87.—Half Square. 0000000000 00000000 0000000 000000 00000 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

1. The largest island in the world. 2. "Un twists," "separates," 3. "Possessing variegated lines." 4. "One who twines." 5. "To mature," "to mellow." 6. One of the three Amorite chiefs who aided Abraham in the pursuit of the four kings. 7. "Conducted." 8. A variation of the verb "to be," 9. A A variation of the verb "to be." 9. A

No. 88.—Curious Quizzes. 1. By what process can you take one thousand from eighteen hundred and eighty-eight

and leave a thousand? 2. At what age should not a man be invited to dine! 3. How many guests may be expected to

tea when you only are invited? 4. What may be called the lucky numbers

No. 89.—Conundrums. What part of a shop is exactly like every other part? Why should potatoes grow better than any

other vegetable! Why is a man who has fallen off a tree and is determined to go up again like a man emigratingi What is the difference between one wh

walks and one who looks up stairs? Why is a fishmonger never generous: An Aristocratic Tiger.

Mrs. Softop-Softy, dear, do you know that some of the animals in the park wear Mr. Softop-Humbug!

Mrs. Softop-Yes, they do, Softy. The pa per states that the new tiger has seventeen bright golden rings on his tail.

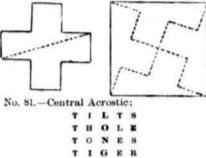
Key to the Puzzler. No. 74.-Enigma: The ticking of a watch. No. 75.-Pi. The wild and windy March once more

Has shut his gates of sleet, And given us back the April time. So fickle and so sweet; Now blighting with our fears our hopes. Now kindling hopes with fears; Now softly weeping through her smiles, Now smiling through her tears

No. 76.—A farm problem: The original farm was in the shape of egular hexagon or six sided figure, and the farmer divided it into six equilateral triangles

No. 77.-Easy word squares: STEM BEAR ELLA TALE ALPS ELLA RASH MEAT No. 78.—Charade: Marigold.

No. 79. - Queer Subtraction: At-one H-one-y, T-one-s and other words. No. 80,-Two Maitese Crosses Squared: Cut each cross from corner to corner, as shown by the dotted line in the first figure, and join the pieces as in the second;



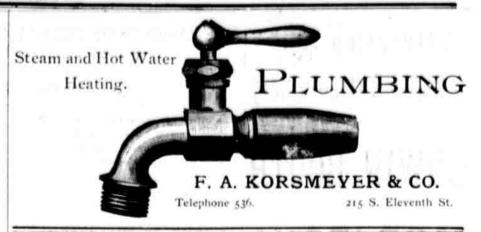
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apartments connected by ingeniously arranged

vestibules insuring safety against telescoping, im-

"There the huge sirioin recked, hard by Plum pudding stood, and Christmas pie Nor failed old Scotland to produce At such high tide, her savory goose."

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Come, friends, Let's have a social smoke."

Great easy chairs, rattan sofas and large plate windows, render our smoking cars a prime favorite with first class passengers, for whom they are exclusively reserved.

"Come, sleep,
And with thy sweet deceiving, lock Pullman sleepers, whose seats of seal brown silk me in delight awhile plush, oriental draperies in exquisite shades rare woods, and carpets of Royal Wilton, combine in

care away.'

the highest degree, the artistic with the beautiful "We sigh to think our wondrous journey done."

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