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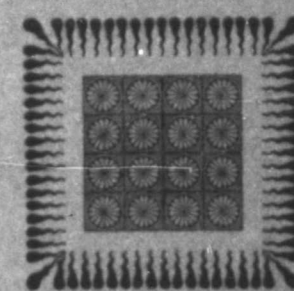
NO. 2.

Perfectly Satisfied.

Indeed we are satisfied with our business during January. By

SELLING AT COST

for one month we have unloaded a great lot of goods that otherwise we would had to carry over until next fall, and we did this with only one-third of the winter gone, just in time to benefit the people not only in price but in the use of the goods. We have now left only a very few articles to close at COST and a very limited quantity of each kind. The winter is not yet gone and these prices may yet be a benefit to some.



Heavy red twill and the blue mixed Irish Freize flannel, usual price 15c, our closing out price, per yd 10c.

Have an all wool red flannel at 7c.

Mens' heavy boots, per pair \$1.

Boys brogan shoes sizes 3 to 5, 75c.

Mens all wool mittens per pair, 15c.

Mens heavy skin gloves per pair 20c.

Mens all wool fine guage undersuits worth \$3.50, for \$2.

Ladies all wool shawls, worth \$1 and \$1.25, for 65c and \$1.

A few colors left in all wool dress goods, call and hear prices. What we have left over in winter

CLOTHING, CAPS,
JACKETS
AND OVERCOATS

Will still go at cost.

We will open up next week some few pieces of

Prints & Early Spring Goods.

See our line of school shoes, heavy bottoms, spring heels and dongola uppers, sizes as high as 3. We have ladies spring heel shoes, sizes 3 to 7.

In due time we will receive a line of spring and summer goods that will be second to none in the place.

Indiscriminately,

W. V. MCGONNELL.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

The period of incubation is still on with the legislature and no bill of general interest has thus far become a law. The great leading measures, such as the fee and assignment bills have not yet reached the stage of general debate and the future of the fee bill seems particularly unpromising. A measure recently introduced which is attracting wide attention, is the bill to reduce railroad fares in this state to two cents per mile. A railroad lobby is fighting it vigorously and it is not believed that the measure will pass. It is thought that the state railway commission is opposed to such a reduction as being unjust to the roads and there seems to be no organized or aggressive public opinion to sustain the legislature in making such a sweeping reduction.

Senator Colquit, author of the present law governing the collection of taxes, has introduced an amendment designed to cure the chronic evil of delinquent taxes. The main feature of the amendment is: "If any person shall fail or refuse to pay the taxes imposed upon him or his property by law until the 31st of January next succeeding the return of the assessment rolls of the county to the comptroller, a penalty of ten per cent shall accrue." It is not improbable that this amendment may become a law.

Perhaps no measure of more general interest is now pending in the legislature than that relating to assignments for the benefit of creditors. What is known as the Eyans bill on this subject, introduced in the house, is regarded with much favor and has been reported favorably by the judiciary committee to which it was referred. This bill prohibits preferences of all kinds in assignments. Another feature is that if a debtor shall be able to pay 33 1/3 per cent of the claims of those creditors accepting the assignment he shall be discharged from all further liability. Those creditors accepting the assignment are to be paid pro rata with the amounts of their claims. Those refusing to accept the assignment are estopped from any claims, until all of the other claims shall have been paid in full. A number of provisions are inserted designed to prevent the making of fraudulent claims, and it is also provided that any sale of property immediately preceding an assignment for the purpose of preferring one creditor or of defrauding others shall be null and the property so conveyed shall pass into the keeping of the assignee. But if it shall appear that the purchaser of such property bought it in good faith and with no intention of conspiring in fraud, he shall retain the property. An inventory of the assets and liabilities is required to

accompany every assignment, but its absence shall be deemed only prima facie evidence that the debtor has concealed some of his property, and not as conclusive evidence. Creditors may demand, or the district judge of his own volition may require, an assignor to submit to a sworn examination relating to the status of the estate. Any attempt at fraud is made a felony punishable by not less than two nor more than five years in the penitentiary at hard labor. The verified statement of a creditor shall be prima facie evidence of the honesty of his claim, though it will be susceptible of contest at any time within sixty days. Claims not due shall, if they bear no interest, suffer discount for the unexpired term at the legal rate. If they bear interest they are to be treated as if immediately due. The value of collateral held for debts shall be deducted from the amount of the claim. County and district judges are empowered to remove assignees for cause. Assignees are required to pay a pro rata installment on the claims when they shall have acquired sufficient funds to pay 10 per cent of all the claims. In cases of attachment or kindred processes a debtor may within five days make an assignment, which assignment shall dissolve such prior process. If in such cases the debtor refuses or fails to make an assignment, it shall be the duty of the

court to appoint a receiver. Conveyances made or securities given within four months preceding an assignment or the appointment of a receiver, for the purpose of preferring one creditor, shall be null and void. Any confession of judgment for the purpose of preference is made a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than \$1000 and imprisonment in jail for not more than a year. Creditors attempting collusion forfeit all claim.

The Money Turned Over.

Wednesday last, J. E. Sheridan, treasurer of the local association of Sons and Daughters of the Confederacy, turned over to Dr. Smith Wootters the sum of \$72.60, the amount collected at the celebration in this city last year for the benefit of the Rouse memorial fund to establish a Confederate battle abbey in some southern city. This money will be sent by Dr. Wootters to the New Orleans agent of the fund. It was collected, not as some supposed, for the Jefferson Davis monument fund, but for the object above stated. This item will fully answer an inquiry recently addressed to the COURIER by W. D. Pritchard on behalf of the Confederate veteran camp, who supposed that the money was for the Davis monument fund. S. C. Arledge, J. F. Downes, A. D. Lipscomb and Dr. Smith Wootters are the gentlemen who collected the money and turned it over to Mr. Sheridan who put it in bank to the credit of the Association of which he was treasurer.

At the Wednesday night services at the Baptist church, Brother Williams "got next to" the cigarette smokers in lively fashion, and several promised then and there to quit and handed the preacher their tobacco which he promptly threw in the stove.

Joe Ansley, a negro boy about seventeen years old, was examined before Justice Pritchard last Monday on a charge of burglary, and held to bail to await the action of the grand jury. Last Sunday evening at the residence of Kay Jones, a few miles north of town, while Mr. Jones and family were absent, a neighbor discovered Ansley in the house, but failed to catch him after a hot chase. He was subsequently arrested by C. C. Mortimer and brought to town.

Last Monday a colored individual walked into the county clerk's office and, poking at that gentleman a marriage license issued to him some days before, desired him to take it back and return the money paid for it. The marriage had been called off and the disappointed suitor having lost his anticipated bride, wanted to come out financially even on the transaction by getting the license fee refunded. Mr. Albright couldn't see it that way, and the stricken swain left in great dejection, feeling that it was indeed hard to be hit twice in close succession in his tenderest susceptibilities.

Houston County

ITS ADVANTAGES

And Attractions for the man of Capital AND THE HOME SEEKER.

A Statement of Facts.

HOUSTON COUNTY is situated in Eastern Texas, in latitude 31 1/2 degrees north; longitude 95 1/2 degrees west; 100 miles north of Houston and 140 north of Galveston. The county is bounded on the east by the Neches and on the west by the Trinity river. The county is one of the oldest and largest in the state, embracing an area of 680,000 acres of land.

The population is 25,000. Of this number 17,000 are white and 8,000 colored; foreign born less than 1000.

RAILROADS.

The Great Northern branch of the International & Great Northern runs north and south through the center of the county; the Trinity & Sabine east and west near the south boundary line; the Tyler Southwestern (Cotton Belt) near the eastern boundary and the Trinity, Cameron & Western in the north, building through the southwestern part. Two other roads are chartered through the county, and are being partly constructed. The county is well supplied with transportation facilities and will be unsurpassed by any in the state when the new roads are built, as they will be before a great while.

SCHOOLS.

Houston County has the best system of public free schools in the state of Texas. The city free schools of Crockett run nine months and the county free school 5 1/2 months a year. The county has a school fund of \$70,000 in her own right, which draws an annual income of \$5,000. This, together with \$25,000 furnished by the state makes an available school fund for the county of \$30,000 a year. School houses are commodious and fitted with patent, first-class school furnishings.

CHURCHES.

All churches are represented and the different denominations have facilities equal, if not superior, to those enjoyed in the older states.

Debt and tax rates are very small. The bonded debt of the county is being rapidly liquidated and the total state and county tax is only 6 3/4 cents on the \$100 valuation.

CLIMATE AND WATER.

The climate of this section is very mild and healthful. The temperature rarely goes above 90 degrees or below 25 degrees ABOVE ZERO.

The county is plentifully supplied with water for all purposes. An abundance of good water can be secured in any part of the county. At short distances there are never-failing streams of pure water which furnish power sufficient for all manufacturing purposes. No county in the state can boast of as many such streams.

LAND IN CULTIVATION.

Of the land in the county, about 100,000 acres are in cultivation, and the balance, 580,000 acres is virgin prairie and forest.

SOILS.

We have the greatest variety of soils, adapted to the cultivation of all farm products grown in the temperate zones. There are the black waxy, the black loam, the stiff black sandy, the gray sandy, the red, chocolate, alluvial and scores of others kinds. Nine tenths of the area of the county was originally timbered. Nearly one-tenth of it is prairie land of the best quality, and is easily cultivated with all the improved implements.

TIMBER.

The timber in Houston County is of all kinds and in almost unlimited supplies. There are magnificent forests of long-leaf and short-leaf pine, red oak, white oak, post oak, hick, cypress, ash, walnut and gum. There are also in fine supply; holly, beech, maple, sassafras, cherry and magnolia. As an evidence of the fine timber, we cite the fact that at the "Spring Palace" in Ft. Worth, Houston County was awarded the first prize for the best timber in the state. A sawmill, or any

other using hard wood, would do well here. Pine lumber can be had at \$6 to \$8 per 1000 feet.

ORES AND CLAY.

We have in almost exhaustless supplies, rich iron ore of the brown hematite and laminated varieties, besides other kinds. There are undeveloped coal beds in different sections. Building stone in abundance. Clays for making brick, tiling, pottery, etc. Also there are beds of green marl, which have never been developed.

STOCK.

This county is especially adapted to the raising of fine stock. Jersey cattle, blooded horses and hogs are numerous and all do well.

FRUIT.

The soil of Houston County is unsurpassed in its adaptability to fruit culture. Apples, peaches, pears, figs, plums, apricots and grapes yield enormous crops. In this business there is a chance for fortunes to be made, as early fruit and berries can be matured and shipped to the northern markets before competition from other sections affects the market price. Strawberries, blackberries, dewberries and others are grown without trouble.

STAPLE PRODUCTS.

The yield of cotton in this county averages one-half a bale per acre; corn 20 to 30 bushels; sweet potatoes and Irish potatoes 200 to 400 bushels and ribbon cane produces from 250 to 400 gallons of the very best syrup. Melons of all kinds, peas, beans, pumpkins, tomatoes, squashes, onions, beets, radishes, cabbage and all other garden vegetables grow in the greatest abundance.

A CHANCE.

One branch of industry has been nearly overlooked here. We refer to the production of tobacco. The soil in portions of the county is particularly adapted to tobacco culture and there are thousands of acres that will produce the very best quality of tobacco grown. The people are not familiar with the business; but there are fortunes here awaiting the men who bring knowledge of tobacco raising and curing to Houston County. Thirty years ago tobacco was one of the money crops of this section.

The people have lost sight of it for the cotton crop. This year many farmers are ordering the different varieties of tobacco seed, including the "Connecticut Leaf," "White Burley" and other kinds of plug leaf. We have recently tried the Genuine Havana tobacco and find that, where the farmer has the proper knowledge of curing same, the yield is from \$200 to \$400 per acre, our Havana tobacco bringing 40 to 50 cents per pound in the New York market. New York buyers all agree that it is impossible to grow such tobacco in Texas, and will only believe that we grow it upon affidavits of the best men in the state. Money, land and assistance will be furnished EXPERT tobacco growers and warehousemen. We only need a good class of men, who understand this industry, to quadruple the value of all tobacco lands in the county. These are all facts, can be proven and are deserving of attention.

In 1894 Houston County produced 30,000 bales of cotton; 900,000 bushels of corn, more first-class ribbon-cane syrup than could be used at home, and enough meat for home use. Besides these crops oats, sorghum, peas, hay and peanuts enough to fatten all stock on hand through the winter.

The oak forests produce mast in abundance to keep hogs in good condition the year round.

WORTH THINKING ABOUT.

It is the fact that the crops raised here are absolutely without fertilizers, the soil simply being broken and seed planted. There is not a country in the world that can make a better showing than this.

The county is in better condition than ever before, notwithstanding the hard times, and the merchants are more prosperous, while the farmers are better off, financially, than for years past, despite the low prices of staple products.

There are thriving hamlets all through the county, located in pleasant neighborhoods and possessing stores, schools and churches. Among these are Augusta, Weches, Tadmor, Rateliff, Coltharp, Daly, Porter Springs, Creek, Weldon, Holly, Pennington, Be-lott and Daniel. Besides these there are over thirty cotton gins and lumber mills in the county, and at each of these are pleasant neighborhoods, usually having schools and churches.

Houston County has never suffered the evils of a boom and only desires a steady advance in population and prosperity. To those seeking pleasant homes and safe investments in a fine climate and country, we extend a hearty invitation to examine the resources and advantages of HOUSTON COUNTY, Texas.

The above is a careful and conservative statement of facts in regard to a fine country that has been too long overlooked. We need progressive farmers, a canning and fruit-preserving factory, a furniture factory, and many other enterprises that can secure raw material without the expense of a long haul. All letters of inquiry will be promptly answered and information will be given.

CROCKETT.

Crockett, the county seat, is located near the center of the county on the I. & G. N. R. R., the great artery of commerce between Galveston and St. Louis. It has a population of 3500 to 4000. Society is excellent. A splendid system of graded public schools is maintained by tax for nine months in the year. Nearly all christian denominations have church organizations and churches. There are fifty or more business houses of different kinds. The town is lighted by a system of electric lights. There is a cotton seed oil-mill with a capacity for crushing six to eight thousand tons of seed. An ice factory, laundry and other accessories of a live town have recently been put in. The town with a fair season will ship twenty thousand bales of cotton the season of 1897. The fruit industry is being developed on a large and lucrative scale and no town in Texas is supplied with greater and better adapted resources for raising and handling fruit and berries of all kinds. There is not a town in East Texas with as bright a future as Crockett, nor one that offers greater inducements to the man seeking a home for his family, in the way of superior educational advantages, refined society, excellent church privileges and all other influences that contribute to the full development of genuine manhood and womanhood.

The town has two weekly papers, the COURIER and ENTERPRISE. Facilities for traveling are unsurpassed. The I. & G. N. railroad passes through the corporate limits of the city and furnishes a double daily passenger service both ways. South of the town a comparatively short distance, the T. & S. R. R. runs east and west, while on the northern and eastern borders the Gulf Short Line R. R. and the Houston East & West Texas R. R. run. A movement is on foot with every indication of being put through at once, to establish a large saw mill and planing plant with a tram road extending twenty to thirty miles to the eastern border of the county.

LOVELADY.

The town of Lovelady is about 12 miles to the south of Crockett and is situated immediately on the I. & G. N. R. R. The town has recently incorporated for school purposes and levied a tax which with the funds from the state and county, enables it to maintain a most excellent High School, free for about 9 months in the year. The society is excellent and church

J. C. WOOTTERS A. H. WOOTTERS

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General Merchandise, Dry Goods, Notions, Boots, Shoes, READY-MADE CLOTHING, HATS, CAPS, SADDLERY, HARNESS, STOVES, CROCKERY, All Kinds of Agricultural Implements and Hardware. Also constantly on hand a large ASSORTMENT OF GROCERIES. CALL AND SEE US.



RESTORED MANHOOD DR. MOTT'S PILLS

The great remedy for nervous prostration and all nervous diseases of the generative organs of either sex, such as Nervous Prostration, Falling of Testes, Impotency, Nightly Emissions, Youthful Errors, Mental Worry, excessive use of Tobacco or Opium, which lead to Consumption and Insanity. With every \$5 order we give a written guarantee to cure or refund the money. Sold at \$1.00 per box, 6 boxes for \$5.00. DR. MOTT'S CHEMICAL CO., Cleveland, Ohio.



DR. MOTT'S PENNYROYAL PILLS.

The only safe, sure and reliable Female PILL ever offered to Ladies, especially recommended to married Ladies. Ask for DR. MOTT'S PENNYROYAL PILLS and take no other. Send for circular. Price \$1.00 per box, 6 boxes for \$5.00. DR. MOTT'S CHEMICAL CO., Cleveland, Ohio.

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- A Policy absolutely without restrictions.
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- A Policy with a Month's Grace in premiums, and paid in full in case of death during the month of grace, less only the overdue premium with interest.
- A Policy providing for Re-instatement within six months after lapse, if the insured is good health.
- A Policy automatically non-forfeiting after three annual premiums have been paid.
- A Policy with privilege of Cash Loans at 5 per cent interest five years after issue.
- A Policy with Six Options in settlement at the end of 10, 15, or 20 years.
- A Policy incontestable from any cause one year after issue.

THAT'S THE ACCUMULATION POLICY OF THE

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Fire, Life and Accident Insurance.

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The wet season is over and we are sure to have our share of fires.

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Office in Chamberlain Building opposite First National Bank.

privileges unsurpassed. It has a score or more of business houses and a population distinguished for its enterprising spirit and refined social advantages.

GRAPELAND.

Grapeland is another town about 12 miles to the north on the I. & G. N. R. R. It, too, has recently incorporated for school purposes and by a local tax and such other help as it receives from the state and county funds, supports a splendid High School free for about 9 months in the year. The town is noted for its business enterprise and public spirit and no better society can be found anywhere. The people are wide-awake and extend the home-seeker a hospitable welcome.

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Gold and Silver Spectacles. Gold and Silver Watches. Plain Gold and Fancy Set Rings. Silverware and Novelties. Fine Watch and Jewelry Repairing a Specialty. Castleburg Old Stand.

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CROCKETT, TEXAS.

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JEREMIAH CROOK. GEO. W. CROOK. CROOK & CROOK, Attorneys-at-Law. CROCKETT, TEXAS.

MAKING A CABINET.

Who are the men who are to help McKinley run his administration? A score of well-known politicians have been suggested, but not all are absolutely assured at this writing. The slates made up are likely to be broken. There is no more uncertain thing than a cabinet before the inauguration of a president. When Grant's first cabinet was announced, five of the appointments were surprises, and not a single secretary had been anticipated with certainty. As it was, the cabinet was changed rapidly after he was inaugurated. Alexander T. Stewart, who had been named for secretary of the treasury, could not serve according to the law, which prevents a merchant from holding that position, under a fine of \$3,000. Rawlins, his secretary of war, died in September following, and Borie, who was secretary of the navy, served three months, and then asked Grant to allow him to resign.

Lincoln's cabinet ministers were not surely known before he came in, and they were changed very rapidly thereafter. Some of the members of the cabinet were arranged for at the time of the convention by the promises of some of Lincoln's friends, and I have heard it said that Pennsylvania went for Lincoln at Chicago in 1860 on condition that Simon Cameron was to go into the cabinet. This deal was made without the knowledge of Lincoln by David Davis and Leonard Swett. Lincoln did not like it, and it was long before he would consent to let Cameron have the place. He finally gave him the war department. After the administration began he did not like him as secretary of war, and wanted

Cameron consented. Weed saw Seward and the president and the appointment was made.

Gen. Charley Grosvenor told me once a curious story as to how Garfield's cabinet was formed. He denies that Blaine forced himself upon Garfield. He says Garfield felt very friendly to Blaine, and that he had thought of him as secretary of state even before he had written his letter of acceptance, saying one day: "What a splendid chief of staff Jim Blaine would make."

"Garfield, in fact," said Gen. Grosvenor, "wrote out his first cabinet slate the night he was elected. It was at half-past 10 when he got a telegram from Chester A. Arthur assuring him that New York had given him 20,000 majority. Gen. Swalm, who was with Garfield at Mentor at the time, said, as they looked over the telegram, 'That settles it, general. You are elected; but before you go to bed sit down here and write out a cabinet.' Gen. Garfield laughed at this, but finally consented, saying, 'Well, Swalm, let us see how near we are together. You sit down at that table over there and write out a cabinet. When you have finished turn your paper face downward upon the table. I will do the same here and we will turn the papers over together and compare them.' Both then sat down and began to write. When they had finished on both slates was James G. Blaine, and Allison was upon both for secretaryship of the treasury. Of the others all but one were changed before the inauguration, and Allison, you know, would not accept."

stop and call upon the president-elect. When I got on the train I found Senator Allison there. He was also going west, and we rode together. During the journey he told me that President Harrison had asked him to come out to see him, and that he wanted him to be his secretary of the treasury. Senator Allison told me that he could not accept the position, and that he was going out to refuse it. As we drew near Indianapolis I noticed him becoming more and more restless. He evidently did not like the job of having to refuse Harrison. At last he said:

"Now, Cullom, I have been thinking how you can help me in this. We will call upon Harrison together and I will see that he talks to you first. You can thus prepare his mind for my refusal. You can tell him that I have come out for this purpose, and he will not be surprised when I speak."

"This I promised to do," continued Senator Cullom. "When we got to Indianapolis we went direct to President Harrison's house. It was about dinner time when we arrived and we at once sat down to the table. After dinner was over, when we were out in the smoking room and had about finished our cigars, Mr. Allison said: 'Now, Mr. President, Senator Cullom is anxious to get away this afternoon. He told me that he only wanted a few moments with you, and if you don't object I will go into the other room and finish my cigar, and you can have your conversation here.' This was assented to by President Harrison, and Allison went into another room.

"Well," continued Senator Cullom, "after we were alone and had gone over the general topic of the occasion, I directed the conversation to the cabinet and then said: 'Gen. Harrison, during our trip out here Senator Allison took me into his confidence. He told me you had offered him the secretaryship of the treasury, and he also told me that he had decided he could not accept it. He asked me to say this to you during our interview and to tell you that he thought he could serve you and your administration better in the senate than in the cabinet.' As I said this President Harrison pushed his head to the front and asked me if that was true. I could see that he was much disturbed. He said but little further, however. The conversation changed. He soon recovered himself and talked on as though nothing had happened. I know that Allison did refuse the place then, but I have not had a word with him nor Harrison about it from that day to this."

I visited, the other afternoon, the room in the White House in which are to be held the secret councils of Maj. McKinley's administration. The cabinet room is on the second floor of the White House, just at the head of the stairs between the library, which will probably form Mrs. McKinley's sitting room, and the large room over the east room and the green room, which will be the president's office, and in which President Cleveland is spending the last days of his administration. Further on is the private secretary's room, the whole suite on the east side of the second floor constituting the business portions of the executive mansion. The cabinet room is plainly furnished. There are eight straight-backed chairs with leather cushions for the cabinet ministers and a swinging chair of wicker and wood for the president. President McKinley will sit at the head of the table, with his different ministers at the right and left, according to their order of precedence. During the meetings of the cabinet no one is admitted to this room. Sergt. Loeffler, the president's private messenger, sits at the door and there is no chance for cabinet secrets to leak out except through the ministers themselves.—Frank G. Carpenter in Detroit Free Press.



THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.

to get rid of him. He succeeded in doing this through Leonard Swett and Thurlow Weed. Judge Grosscup, who was a partner of Swett, told me the story. He says that Weed made Cameron think that he was going to lose both his reputation and his health by continuing in the position. Weed came from New York to see Cameron. As he met him he started back and exclaimed: "My God, senator! Are you sick? You don't look at all well."

Old Senator Cameron, who had a constitution of iron, and who, you know, was over 80 when he died, replied that he was in his usual health, but Weed went on:

"Well, you don't look it. You have lost some weight since I saw you last, and your color is not good. I fear you are working too hard, Cameron."

Mrs. Cameron was present when this last remark was made, and she said she agreed with Mr. Weed that her husband was working too hard. After dinner that night Mr. Weed advised Cameron to get out of the department. He told him he thought the war was going to be a failure. He said it would end only in the loss of thousands of lives and millions of property, and that Cameron as secretary of war would be cursed from one end of the United States to the other.

After some time Cameron became alarmed and said: "But suppose I want to get out, Mr. Weed. How can I do it without seeming to be either a coward or a failure?"

To this Weed replied that he did not know, but that he would take a walk and think it over and see if some arrangement could not be made. As he went out he spoke to Mrs. Cameron again about her husband's health, and she told him that she wanted Mr. Cameron to leave the cabinet. In an hour or so Mr. Weed returned and told Simon Cameron that he had hit upon a good plan and that was for him to accept the mission to Russia. "But," replied Cameron, "it has not been offered to me." "As to that," said Weed, "I know that I can fix matters with Secretary Seward and you will get your appointment. This will give you a chance to resign." To this

Garfield was the first president under whom Senator Allison refused a cabinet place. I understand that he has been uppermost in President McKinley's mind as the head of the state department, but that the president-elect has wanted to know whether he would refuse or not before he offered the position. I got this from men very close to McKinley. Senator Allison told me once that he could not take the interior department under Garfield because he did not want to antagonize Gov. Kirkwood, of Iowa, who was then a leading candidate. It was on account of the ambition of Clarkson, another Iowa man, that he refused the secretaryship of the treasury under Harrison. The story of the manner of this refusal has never been told. Senator Cullom, who was one of the actors upon the occasion, is my authority. He said to me the other night:

"It was just after I had been elected to the senate and some weeks before President Harrison had come on from Indianapolis to Washington to be inaugurated. I had to go west to thank my legislative friends for their support, and on my way I intended to



THE CABINET ROOM IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

PLANETARY GOSSIP.

HOROSCOPIC READINGS OF PROBABLE EVENTS.

Instructions to Applicants for Free Readings in These Columns—Name, Address, Date and Hour of Birth Important Requisites.



HE free readings now being given in these columns are so popular that it will take some time before those on hand will be answered. Every letter sent in will be answered in its regular order.

Those who do not wish to wait their turn can get their readings by mail for twelve two-cent stamps. In all cases full name and address of applicants must accompany requests for free readings. Also place, date, hour and place of birth. If the hour is not known send two two-cent stamps for special instructions. Address all communications to Prof. G. W. Cunningham, Dept. 4, 194 South Clinton street, Chicago, Ill.

Following are the readings for this week:

Minnie W., Muskato, Kan.
According to the data you have the zodiacal sign Virgo which Mercury rules with a lingering indication of the sign Leo, which the Sun rules rising at your birth, therefore Mercury and the Sun are your ruling planets or signifiers.

You are medium height; medium dark complexion; hair and eyes.

You are rather of a studious nature and take delight in unraveling some mystery and are easily interested in chemistry and electricity. You are very intuitive at times, but your intuition works uneven or spasmodically. You will not generally be appreciated by people until they are well acquainted with you. Love affairs and marriage will not be more than average fortunate. You are liable to accidents and injuries to your feet. You will also be subject to some odd nervous ailment of the heart, this will not be organic or at all dangerous.

E. A. I. X., Owensville, Ind.
According to data furnished you have the zodiacal sign, Scorpio, which Mars rules, rising at birth, therefore Mars is your ruling planet or signifier. Saturn is on the ascendant, and is co-signifier. You are medium height, with a well-set, strong, plump figure; medium to dark complexion; dark eyes; a luxuriant growth of dark hair. The face is rather full and broad. You are one of the stirring, energetic kind of people, and have the desire and ability to push your business, yet you do this in such a quiet way that others will hardly know anything about it until it is all over. You are secretive and deliberate in your actions, and lay your plans first and work them out afterward. You are fond of chemistry, soldiers, firemen, and all kinds of military affairs. Love affairs never run smooth with you long at a time. The last half of your life has been the most fortunate. You are under evil transits now, especially for health, and should be careful.

Miss Marie H., Detroit.
According to data furnished the zodiacal sign Aquarius, which Uranus rules, was rising at your birth, therefore Uranus is your ruling planet or signifier. The sign Pisces, which Jupiter rules, was intercepted, and Mars was on the ascendant, therefore Jupiter and Mars are co-signifiers. You are of medium height, or slightly above; medium to light complexion, hair and eyes; when small your hair was flaxen. You are quite energetic and ambitious, and do not like to be opposed; anyone that undertakes to control your independent actions will be likely to get the benefit of your opinion of them. You are very independent in your ideas of dress, and will wear anything you think is right and proper, no matter if it suits the four hundred or not. You have a good intellect, and should make a great effort to overcome the obstacles that are hindering your education. Your husband will be one of those bright, refined, kind and obliging men, with dark eyes, that have a peculiar sparkle and sharp sight; marriage will be far more than average fortunate.

Note.—Those who have sent in their stamps (26 cents) for readings by mail, will usually be promptly answered. In cases where there is an apparent delay the astrologer should be notified at once and the mistake will be rectified.

The Number of Asteroids.
In October last a small planet, or asteroid, discovered by photography in Berlin, was set down in the list of these bodies as No. 424. Since the application of photography to the stars the discovery of asteroids has been very rapid, no less than one hundred having been found between February, 1892, and October, 1896. Up to 1845 only four asteroids were known. Since then not a year has passed without the discovery of one or more.

A Mean Husband.
Mrs. Wallace: "I do believe that a woman could wear her dresses almost to rags before her husband would notice it." Mrs. Ferry: "That is not the case with Mr. Ferry. He notices the dinginess of my clothes before I do. I can tell when I'm getting shabby by his beginning to talk about how scarce money is and how necessary it will be for us to economize."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

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