

Haskell Free Press.

J. E. POOLE, Publisher.

HASKELL, TEXAS.

Money talks pretty conclusively at times, but occasionally its gets rattled.

Although women frequently handle each other without gloves there are no female pugilists.

It's a great pity men can't find an insurance company willing to take risks on their air castles.

It is said that contentment is better than riches—but most people are willing to take chances with the riches.

The Denver Times says: "An Indian chief will sell anything but his blanket." He is completely wrapped up in it.

It was the last regret of John Cochran that he couldn't hold over long enough to paint the sky with his own funeral oration.

It is urged that street car conductors should be provided with seats. It would be a good idea, too, to provide passengers with them.

J. Sterling Morton is to call his newspaper "The Dynamo." This has the advantage that any old issue can still be called "the current number."

Japan would like to know whether the death of the Japanese sailors on the Maine has any connection with her troubles with Spain in the Philippine islands.

Pathetically the Boston Globe exclaims: "And still another temperance lecture from the scaffold." The lecturer realized the embarrassment of taking a drop too much.

A Kokomo man has come into possession of an American silver dollar with two goddesses on it. Lucky man! Most of us are satisfied with dollars with one goddess on them. Kokomo agit the world.

The bandits who robbed the bank in broad daylight at Bayard, Neb., have got enough money to pay for the ammunition used in shooting at their pursuers. They probably didn't count on being chased.

Mr. Corbett says the punch over his solar plexus cured entirely a bad case of dyspepsia from which he had been suffering. It was pretty severe medicine, but no cure can be worse than that disease. There are thousands who would be glad to go into a prize-fight with such a cure in view, but such is the power of their misery, the professional puncher would be very likely to get knocked out in half the cases.

"Is it better," asks a St. Louis paper, "to use the woman for breach of promise or to shoot the man who marries her?" There is no "better" in either. The only sensible way is to grin and drop the subject. What man would accept damages of that kind? and would it do him any good to do murder and get hanged for it? There are some things in this world for which there is no remedy, and why seek for that which doesn't exist?

The war against gum-chewing begun by Bishop Vincent of the Methodist Episcopal church is the result of too much thought on a very cheap subject. The bishop thinks that to resist gum is to prepare the young for self-sacrifice of a more important kind. If they forgo gum they will omit liquor, and if they let that alone they will let alone other things equally as bad. It is logic, but it is foolishness. And, strange as it seems, the bishop is actually in earnest.

What is golf? A queen's counsel lately thus irreverently defined the game for the benefit of the English judge who was hearing a case involving the playing of golf: "I believe, my lord, that the game of golf is played in irregular fields or waste grounds with a small ball which the player tries to hit with a stick. If he succeeds in hitting the ball he spends the rest of the day in looking for it." To the solemn-faced golfer this description of the pastime must seem like trifling with a serious subject.

Mr. Choate reiterates the proposition that the law is the noblest profession, and remarks in defense of the fact that lawyers defend criminals whom they know to be guilty and have them acquitted, if possible, by breaking the law. "It is only out of the contest of facts and of brain that the right can ever be evolved—only on the anvil of discussion that the spark of truth can be struck out." But far more frequently it is the truth that is struck in, and again, would a lawyer defend a poverty-stricken criminal known to be guilty through respect for truth and the moralists? Then, too, the medical and some other professions have a few claims that ought to be recognized.

The trouble with most young men is that they do not understand the dignity of manual labor. They do not realize that honors and fortune may be more readily realized outside of the so-called learned professions than in them and that it is just as honorable to swing the hammer or to hold a plow as it is to make a speech in court or amputate a limb. The lesson young men should be taught as early as possible is that it is not so much what a man does for a living as it is how well he does it, and that manual labor is as honorable as any other.

A scientist says that in an Italian earthquake in 1795 two hogs were buried in the ruins and were taken out alive forty-two days later. Standing women have been several hogs buried in newspapers in street cars and come out alive at Thirty-ninth street.

A society club in Chicago, composed of leading ladies, will devote itself to the breeding of cats. We have long looked for such an organization. It will fill a long-felt want. The cats of this country have been unrepresented too long.

FIRST BLOW.

Secretary Harvey of the Railway Company Knocked Senseless.

Houston, Tex., March 21.—The first blow in the street car strike was struck Saturday. While assisting in getting a car out Secretary Harry Chase of the street car company was struck on the head with a stick and knocked senseless. A gash was cut in his scalp by the blow.

T. J. Black was arrested yesterday afternoon and brought before Justice Fitz on the charge of assault and battery. He was released on a bond of \$100 to answer. His arrest grew out of the blow received by Chase.

Mayor Rice talking of the matter yesterday afternoon said the law should be enforced and that there should not be any more trouble and the company would be protected in its rights. He has issued a proclamation to that effect.

Houston, Tex., March 21.—The status of the strike of the street car employees yesterday was pretty much as it was Saturday night, except that it appears to be quieter, or, rather, there are fewer people in crowds upon the streets. Secretary Harry Chase, who was assaulted Saturday at the power house, is suffering a good deal from pains in the back of his head and neck and in the forehead.

There were a number of friends called during the day, but they were not allowed to see him, as any excitement was considered injurious.

Yesterday afternoon there was a meeting of the street car employees in Labor hall and the situation was very thoroughly discussed. There was a large crowd present.

Mayor Rice stated that he will be on hand in time this morning to see that the cars run if the management desires it. Public sentiment appears much stronger against the course of the strikers than it was Saturday.

DEED OF TRUST.

Hempstead, Waller Co., Tex., March 21.—T. E. Shuttles filed a deed of trust with the county clerk late Saturday afternoon conveying to L. D. Thompson, trustee, his entire stock of goods, wares, merchandise, counters, fixtures, etc., to secure the following creditors in the order named:

Class A—H. A. Thompson \$1200, C. F. Thompson \$1000, H. F. Smith \$70, Emma Suttles \$1300, P. J. Willis & Bro. \$707.

Class B—Taylor Manufacturing company \$46, P. C. Thompson \$12, E. J. Bowen \$10, D. M. Perry & Co. \$15, Brown Tab works \$25, Planters' Corn company \$54, C. H. Cox & Co. \$19, L. Heidenheimer \$20, Galveston Crockery Store \$19, Galveston Coffee and Spice company \$42, Houston Crockery store \$15, Kelly-Goodfield Shoe company \$250, H. & A. Lesser \$158, L. L. May & Co. \$17, Moore, McKinney & Co. \$48, E. Matzmaur \$8, Preston & Stauffer \$8, Southern Soda works \$8, Standard Stamping company \$47, Southern Broom company \$11, T. H. Thompson & Co. \$34, Texas Paper Manufacturing company \$22, Waters-Pierce Oil company \$105, Borchard, Brashear & Co. \$88, Carson, Sewell & Co. \$231, Feist & Boehme \$24, Focke, Wilkins & Lang \$64, Enterprise Soap works \$8, Eddy & Eddy \$7, Gust Hoye & Co. \$208, Rankin Bros. \$132.

COMMITTED SUICIDE.

San Antonio, Tex., March 21.—William Snell, a private in the United States army, committed suicide here yesterday. He was found in an unconscious condition, but still alive, near the National cemetery yesterday and taken to the post hospital, where he died about 11 o'clock. The cause of his death was stated to be opium poisoning. Snell was formerly a member of the fifth cavalry band, and while with that organization at the Dallas fair he had some trouble with the principal musician, was court-martialed and reduced to ranks. This, together with the recent death of his wife, is given as the cause of suicide.

NEW COURTHOUSE.

Grimes, Tex., March 21.—Commissioner's court was in session all last week, considering plans and specifications for the new courthouse to be erected when a location for the county site is determined. A number of architects from different points have been in attendance. Plans and specifications presented by J. R. Gordon of San Antonio were adopted by the court. The new building will cost about \$23,000.

DISTRIBUTION OF RUSSIA'S MILLIONS.

The entire population of the Russian empire is 129,211,114 souls, of whom 94,188,750 inhabit European Russia; 9,442,590, Poland; 9,723,553, the Caucasus; 2,827,801, Finland; 5,731,732, Siberia; 3,415,174, the Steppes regions, and 4,175,101, the provinces of Transcaucasia and of Turkestan. There are, also, 6,413 subjects of the czar now residing in Khiva and Bokhara.

FARMERS AND RENTERS.

Marlin, Tex., March 21.—Pursuant to the call of Chairman S. O. Kelley, about 100 members, white and colored, of the Farmers' and Renters' union met at the courthouse here Saturday afternoon. A committee was appointed to draft by-laws and constitution. N. C. Moore, F. C. Haseman and V. B. Ritter were appointed to draft a circular letter stating the aim and object of the association, to be published in the state papers. The meeting then adjourned until June 18.

HAMILTON ZOUAVES.

Gatesville, Tex., March 21.—Lieut. Boynton of the Hamilton zouaves was down Saturday from Hamilton. He says the zouaves are the crack company in central Texas, and he told the boys here that felt like taking the field in case of war, they could do no better than attach themselves to the zouaves. He says his company is in fine shape, and ready for the call from the president, and are regular crackerjacks on the drill.

REFERRED TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Austin, Tex., March 19.—The contention by some lawyers that the blunder of the codifiers in omitting from the civil code the clause fixing the date of state elections repeats that clause, and that there is no legal election until the legislature fixes a day, has induced the governor to refer the matter to the attorney general, and it is believed as the day for the state election has been with brief exception on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November every two years since the days of the old republic, that the governor's action in ordering the last election on that date, though the codifiers repealed the old provision before the governor ordered the election, will not be invalidated, nor can his power to designate that day be questioned. This seems to be the opinion of those in official circles. One contention is that the ordinance of the constitution fixing the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November every two years for all elections until the legislature otherwise provides is revived by the codifying repeal. Another clause of the code requires the governor to order elections for state and district officers, presidential electors and other officers presumptively on the same date. Article 1811, civil code, fixes Tuesday next after the first Monday in November every four years as the day of election for presidential electors. It is inferred that this recognition of the date always in force is a statutory direction to the governor to continue the operation of the old laws and constitutional ordinances as to the date for the election of all other officers.

FOR DEFENSE.

Kroops Leave Fort Sam Houston for Galveston.

Galveston, Tex., March 19.—Late Thursday night Lieut. C. S. Riche, corps of engineers, received instructions to immediately begin work on emplacements for two ten-inch guns and mortars at Bolivar point, and one in the Denver reservoir. Bolivar point is across Galveston channel, and opposite the fortifications already constructed at Fort Point, on the east end of Galveston Island. Denver reservoir is on the gulf side of Galveston Island, and just west of the city. All the officers and attaches of the engineering department are working overtime, getting ready for the work of construction, as orders are to rush. The emplacements will be ready for actual use in thirty days, if necessary, although the completion of the work will require several months. Three carloads of torpedoes have arrived. They will be charged at once, and will be planted in these waters. Light battery K, first artillery, will leave Fort Sam Houston to-night, arriving here early Sunday morning. There are twenty-six men and sixty horses. As barracks have not been constructed, they will probably have to camp out.

Commander J. M. Hawley, United States navy, will arrive here to-day from New Orleans to open a recruiting station. Quite a number of men have announced their determination to enlist. The Missouri Pacific railroad system has made a contract with the government to transport a large quantity of coal from mines in Arkansas, Indian Territory and Colorado to Galveston, for the use of naval vessels. Details of the contract are not available.

SETTLED AT LAST.

Denison, Tex., March 19.—Last fall a man named John Butts, colored, was appointed postmaster at Cheryvale, I. T. The patrons of the office objected to a colored man acting as postmaster, and would not let him have any place to open an office. After a long game of hide and seek between the appointee and the patrons, the office was located about a mile from Cheryvale, and the name changed to "Ungles." The patrons of the office that had been refused to take any stock in the new office, and the result was that every name addressed to any one of them at Washington finally decided that a postoffice at Ungles was an unnecessary expense, and it was discontinued. Thus the matter is settled. At one time the matter attracted national attention, on account of the refusal of the people of Cheryvale to rent or lease the postmaster any building to place an office in, on account of his color.

READY.

"Your wife is a forehanded little creature," "Forehanded?" I should say so. The day I stayed at home on account of the big snowstorm she made me get out the lawn-mower and oil it."

Otto Eckert was murdered near Anadarko, Ok., recently, being found with his throat cut.

Mrs. Jane Parker, aged 53, died in the United States jail at South McAlester recently.

ASSISTING THE STRIKERS.

Waco, Tex., March 19.—The Waco division of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees held a meeting yesterday and subscribed \$25 to the fund being raised for the benefit of the members out of work at Houston. R. H. Hall, president of the Waco division, received a communication from W. D. Matton of Detroit, Mich., the national president, who is now at Houston, saying the men will be strike and urging all sympathizers to stand firm.

SHOE FACTORY.

Sherman, Tex., March 19.—J. N. Harrell of Bluffton, Ia., is in the city prospecting for a location for a shoe factory with a capacity of 500 pairs daily. He is very much impressed with the advantages offered by Sherman, and to the enterprising citizens who have been urging him to locate in Sherman he has submitted a proposition which, if accepted, will result in a material addition to the manufacturing interests of Sherman and furnish steady employment to quite a number of operatives.

TEXAS NEWS ITEMS.

P. Baldeschweiler, grocery merchant at Corpus Christi, filed a deed of trust several days since. Most of the creditors are local.

William Edward Moore died at McAllen several days since from a knife wound in the back. Jim Johnson, colored, is in jail charged with the crime.

A contract has been let for the erection of four new two-story brick buildings on the north side of the square at Hillsboro. Work will begin on them within five days.

August Weber, formerly superintendent of carriers in the Galveston postoffice, several days ago was found not guilty of the charge of tampering with the United States mails.

Motions for rehearing and to argue orally were made several days since in the supreme court at Austin for the Houston and Texas Central and Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio railroads in the school fund cases, involving over \$1,000,000.

The Breusted Hardware company of Waco, having a capital stock of \$100,000, filed an amendment to its charter at Austin recently, changing its name to Eikel-Breusted company, and providing that it shall have not less than three nor more than five directors, instead of five as originally provided for.

Engineer Boggs and assistants began laying of the ground several days since for the erection of the new brick Wells-Fargo express office at Corsicana, which is to be erected at the north end of the old building that has been used by the Central railroad for its passenger and baggage rooms. The new building will be mammoth in proportions, but will be modern in all its appointments and construction. The work of tearing away the old wooden shell will begin as soon as the new passenger depot is finished, which will be soon.

The following letter was addressed to the farmers and ginners of Texas: Two years ago I addressed you on the adoption of a standard bale of cotton, advising the sizes recommended by the Maritime association of New Orleans and Galveston and approved by the cotton exchange and various other bodies, namely: 26 inches wide and 58 inches long. Experiments have proven that the width is too great because of the expansion of the bale after it comes out of the box, notwithstanding which there has been a vast betterment in the Texas bales, all at once, forsook her, and, throwing herself upon the sofa, she burst into tears, much to Jenny's surprise and consternation.

"The sight of you reminds me so of the happy past!" sighed Fanny, as she wiped away her tears.

"And the present is no less happy, I hope," suggested Jenny, feeling for her cousin's husband, who looked foolishly conscious that he was, in some way, considered to be at fault.

Fanny's only reply was a mournful shake of the head, which, rightly interpreted, meant that she never expected to be so happy again so long as she lived.

Putting his hands in his pockets, Fred walked to the window, whistling softly to himself, with an ill-dissembled air of unconcern.

"If you knew how that noise goes through my head, Fred!" remonstrated Fanny, as she rang for Ann to take away her cousin's things.

Fred ceased whistling, taking himself out of the room at the same time.

Fanny gave her cousin a look, as much as to say, you see what I have to put up with.

As soon as the door closed after her husband, Fanny's countenance lost its disconsolate, abused expression, and she commenced talking with her visitor with considerable spirit and animation.

Jenny, now, had opportunity to observe her more particularly.

It was nearly dinner time, and still she had on the calico wrapper that she had worn at breakfast; not much soiled, but still faded and wrinkled.

She wore neither cuffs nor collar, while her pretty brown hair—pretty when properly cared for—was smoothed over the top, and tucked back of her ears in tangled bunches.

Her feet were thrust into a pair of old slippers, much too large for her, and down at the heels.

As Jenny looked at her she could hardly believe that it was her cousin, Fanny Burns, who always used to look fresh and neat, so smiling and happy.

From the habit of giving way to all her peevish and discontented feelings as they arose, it seemed impossible for her to look pleasant now, when she tried, while her very voice, which used to have such a clear and cheerful ring, had become infected by the tremor.

In answering and asking questions the time passed rapidly, until it was nearly time for dinner.

"I had no idea it was so near dinner-time," said Jenny, rising to her feet, as she glanced at her watch. "I shall hardly give you time to dress."

"Oh! I shan't make any change in my dress; there'll be nobody but husband at dinner, and you won't mind."

"No, certainly, I shan't mind."

"There was more than this on Jenny's lip, but she checked herself. This was not the right time to speak, even if she had any right to speak at all.

There could scarcely be a greater contrast than those two presented at the dinner-table, both of nearly the same age, and both endowed with more than usual personal attractions.

At the time of her marriage Fanny had been called the prettier, but it was quite the contrary now, and all the difference lay in the dress and expression.

WIVES.

By S. T. RED DAYTON assisted his wife's cousin, J. E. Searles, into the carriage that was waiting for her at the station.

She had been his wife's bridesmaid, and he sighed as he looked in her smiling face.

It was three years since that so-called happy event occurred, but though she was a trifle more staid and dignified, she had the same happy smile, and neat, trim appearance that he so well remembered.

"You will find Fanny a good deal altered," he said, as he took a seat by her side.

Jenny cast a somewhat surprised glance at the grave face of the speaker. "Why? How? Has she been ill?"

"Well, no; I can't say that she has been ill," was the hesitating reply; "but she—she's changed. Marriage don't seem to have agreed with her very well."

The laugh that ended these words sounded rather forced. Perhaps he felt the implication conveyed in them—or, rather, the fact itself.

Jenny looked earnestly into the frank, kindly face of the speaker. "Was it his fault? for there must be a fault somewhere."

"The house, as the carriage stopped in front, looked as if it was all shut up."

If Jenny had expected to see her cousin in the hall she was disappointed. Fred looked slightly disconcerted as he glanced around.

"Fanny's in her room, I suppose; I'll hunt her up."

"Ah! there you are, Fan."

Here a dowdy-dressed woman made her appearance at the other end of the hall, whom Jenny would have failed to recognize had it not been for the warm embrace and eager greeting.

After leading the way to the dark, and rather untidy, sitting-room, Fanny's animation, all at once, forsook her, and, throwing herself upon the sofa, she burst into tears, much to Jenny's surprise and consternation.

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"No, certainly, I shan't mind."

husband worth dressing for," retorted Fred.

"If she does I hope it will be for a husband who cares enough for her society to spend one evening at home out of six."

Fred turned red with anger and mortification.

It was evident to Jenny that this would not have been the last of it had she not been present.

She hastened to change the subject, being aided in the endeavor by the advent of a baby.

It was a lovely child, and one would suppose would be an additional tie to bind their hearts together, but instead of that it was a constant bone of contention.

This matters went on for some days. Jenny observed with pain that Fred was in the habit of spending most of his evenings out. For a while after she came he stayed in, but, mortified as well as irritated by his wife's slovenly appearance and fretful complainings, he gradually absented himself, until he rarely spent an evening at home.

"Is Mr. Dayton out this evening?" inquired Jenny, as, entering the sitting-room, she glanced around.

"You never need ask that question," returned Fanny; "he's always out."

Jenny had long wished for an opportunity to talk with her cousin. After a moment's grave silence, she said: "And do you know what the end of this will be, Fanny?"

"Ruin, I suppose," was the bitter response. "But there is no help for it, as I see. It is something for which I am not responsible."

"But I think you are, Fanny."

"If I think you are, Fanny?" inquired Jenny, as she opened her eyes widely. "What can you mean?"

"Just what I said to dear cousin. When you married Frederick Dayton, no man was more domestically inclined or fonder of his wife and home than he."

"He's got over it, bravely!" exclaimed Fanny, with a bitter laugh. "He don't act as if he had the slightest affection for me, and seems to prefer any place to his home."

"And is not this in a great measure your own fault, Fanny?"

"Nay, look not so angry, dear cousin; I love you too well to see you thus recklessly throwing away your happiness and his. Did not the alteration you speak of spring from the change in you? You cannot love what is unlovely. No man can love a wife who takes no pains to make her person neat and attractive, or a home that is full of bickerings and discomfort. Before your marriage, you would have been terrified at the idea of his catching a glimpse of you in the attire in which you allow him to see you all day. Why

should you seek to look less pleasing in his eyes now than then?"

Fanny glanced at the opposite mirror that revealed so unflattering a tale, coloring with anger and mortification.

"It is impossible for a married woman to dress as she did when a girl, and no man has a right to expect his wife to have sufficient respect for him to present a neat and tidy appearance."

You did not consider it too much trouble to dress when dearest Fred called on you. And last evening, at the party, when Mr. Howard picked up your handkerchief, you received it with a look and smile such as I have not seen you bestow upon your husband, even when he took twice the pains to please you!"

"You are very severe," said Fanny, her eyes filling with tears.

"Faithful are the wounds of a friend. My dear Fanny, two ways are open to you. You can either make home to your husband the dearest place in the world and yourself one of the most beloved and happy of wives, or you can alienate his affections, driving him to haunts and companionship that will wreck the peace and happiness of both."

Here they were interrupted by the advent of visitors.

Jenny returned home the next morning, so she had no opportunity of knowing what effect her earnest appeal had upon the better feelings of her cousin.

It was some months before Fanny and Jenny met again, and then it was at the marriage that transformed the latter into the loved and loving wife of the husband of her choice.

The happy smile on the face of Fred and which was reflected back from the smiling eyes of his wife, told of the happy change that had been wrought.

"Fred spends all his evenings at home, now," said Fanny, giving her cousin a significant look.

"Why shouldn't he?" cried the happy husband, "when I have the dearest wife and the pleasantest home in the world!"

Are there not many wives who would do well to make the same experiment, respicing the same happy results?

Polo in the British Army. Wherever Tommy Atkins is stationed, the officers who "drill 'im," and who "make 'im look so neat" are polo players. When the game was first played in India, about 1862, there was a disposition to check its progress by the army authorities on the ground that it was too expensive for the ground officers who had only their pay to depend upon. It was soon learned that the training acquired on the polo fields stood the officers, especially the cavalry, in good stead in the sterner strife of war, and now polo is considered an essential part of the British army education.—Exchange.

States of Glass.

Through persistent experimenting a process has been discovered by which glass can be hardened to the consistency of steel, and its first practical application is being given to the manufacture of skates. The product has so many advantages that it is certain of being a successful competitor of steel skates, it having already withstood satisfactorily all the tests to which it has been submitted. It is of lower cost, much more durable, lighter and faster.

Managing Her. Pretty Wife (poutingly)—That Mrs. De Platine has a dozen dresses handsomer than the only one I've got. Smart Husband—A homely woman like that needs rich attire to attract attention from her face. You don't. (Pretty wife subsides.)—New York Weekly.

A man is never as comfortable in bed as when called in the morning.

To Cure Headache in 15 Minutes. Take Dr. Davis' Anti-Headache. All Druggists.

FRIENDSHIP EXPRESSED.

Chile and Argentine Both Siding With the United States. Washington, March 21.—The presence of Mr. Charles R. Flint at the White House conference yesterday naturally gives inference that the president and his advisers were discussing the question of acquiring additional ships. Mr. Flint, whose commercial interests are largely with South American countries, is believed in a measure at least to represent Chile and the Argentine Republic in any negotiations which are under way for the disposition of their war vessels. A reporter asked Mr. Flint if he could say whether or not the United States had secured possession of the Chilean ship O'Higgins and the Argentine ship San Martin, but he declined to make any statement as to that particular feature of the subject. When pressed for some information in regard to the matter, he replied: "Both Chile and the Argentine Republic have the warmest friendship and admiration for the United States and her institutions. Neither country is anxious to sell their ships to this government, basing this disposition on the belief that we have an excellent navy of our own. They want these vessels themselves. If the time should come, however, when it was apparent that the United States needed these vessels, they would gladly part with them to us."

The attention of Mr. Flint was called to the published report that the United States would purchase the Brazilian torpedo boat Tuly, but this, he said, would not be done, so far as he was aware, as there were no negotiations under way to that effect. Aside from the meeting of several members of the cabinet at the White House, there were no incidents of importance during the day. At the war and navy departments a number of chiefs of bureaus were at their desks for several hours, mainly for the purpose of disposing of the business which recently has accumulated so rapidly. The most interesting topic of the day was based on the dispatches from Havana, indicating a prospective conference between Gen. Pando and Gen. Garcia, Gomez and others of the insurgent army, for the purpose of submitting to the latter a formal offer of autonomy. The basis of autonomy as outlined in the dispatches apparently found no credence with the officials of the Spanish legation. They stated their disbelief that a conference on the proposed lines was probable, and added that they had no information on the subject. Minister Polo y Bernabe expressed the opinion that the report from Havana was unfounded, as he said the basis upon which it was proposed to grant autonomy was absurd.

Court of Inquiry. Key West, Fla., March 21.—The court of inquiry, according to Rear Admiral Seward, will continue its work through the coming week, as it is not ready yet to make a report on the Maine disaster. The statement that Capt. Albert S. Barker carried the report to Washington is officially denied. The object of his flying visit to Key West was not ascertained outside of official circles until yesterday. It can be authoritatively stated that Capt. Barker had nothing to do with the court of inquiry. He came here on Friday from Tampa, on a special mission, to investigate the harbor defenses, following out some lines suggested by Gen. Wilson, chief of engineers, in his recent inspection of the fortifications. Capt. Barker's plans when he left here Saturday night were to confer with Commander McCall of the Marblehead, who is now at Tampa, and he will probably remain there a day or so. Capt. Barker formerly commanded the Oregon. It is impossible to say definitely whether any synopsis of the findings of the court up to date has been sent to Washington. The notion prevails here that this has been done, but no official confirmation is obtainable. That the final report has been sent to Washington can be definitely denied. Capt. Sampson and Lieut. Commander Marix remained on board the Iowa to-day. Capt. Chadwick and Lieut. Commander Porter did not leave the New York. The court is expected to reconvene to-day on the Iowa.

Have no Connection. Paris, March 21.—A semi-official statement has been issued saying that there is no connection between the demands of the French government in China and the Chinese loan. The French demands reached Peking at the beginning of the month, and the negotiations were immediately transferred to Paris, where they are proceeding. The French charge that there is no occasion to threaten or menace China with the forcible seizure of a coaling station.

In the District Court at Newkirk, Ok., recently, Harley Fair was given ninety-nine years in the penitentiary for murder.

Kansas and Southeastern. Guthrie, Ok., March 21.—One hundred teams and 200 men will be put to work this morning grading the roadbed of the Kansas and Southeastern railway from Hunnewell, Kan., to Kay Center, Ok. The work will be pushed forward to completion at once. The company has ample funds, and Saturday evening deposited with the territorial treasurer a draft to pay all damages awarded the territory for school lands appropriated for the right of way.

Mrs. Thurston's Funeral. Omaha, Neb., March 21.—The body of the late Mrs. John L. Thurston was followed to the grave by a tremendous concourse of people yesterday afternoon. All Omaha was out, and many from Nebraska and other states were in attendance. The body was brought from Washington in a special car yesterday morning. At the house private services were held, after which the casket was removed to All Saints' church.

Situation Unchanged.

New Bedford, Mass., March 22.—The ninth week of the struggle between capital and labor in this city finds the situation practically unchanged, except the operatives have conceded that they might be willing to go back to work under a reduction of 5 per cent instead of 10. A secret meeting of the officers of the labor unions was held Saturday night and yesterday it was agreed to meet the manufacturers on the question of the cut-down in wages, eliminating the fines question. The most important meeting was held yesterday afternoon, and at its conclusion the following statement was given out by the manufacturers: At the conference of the manufacturers and a committee of the employees this afternoon, the employees inquired if a compromise on 5 per cent reduction would be considered, to which the manufacturers replied as follows: "Now we submit to you, as intelligent men, how can we do this? For months before we posted notices of the reduction in the wage schedule we found it impossible to meet competition. This was under the old schedule. Now, when all New England is running on the new schedule, or less, we cannot go on at any cost more than the posted notices provided for, if the prices for goods were the same. But the fact is, these prices have gone off since the mills stopped and many styles are 1/4 to 3/4 of a cent lower than at that time. Some of us who were in New York this week found the market more depressed and on the down grade. "No, conditions to-day demand a larger reduction of the wage schedule than the posted notices called for, and it is out of the question for the manufacturers to modify these; they are faithful custodians of their respective properties simply cannot. "Our employees sadly miscomprehended the condition of the market and the supply and demand when they left their work several weeks ago, and the conditions have not changed for the better since, but on the contrary have gone from bad to worse."

After extended discussion of this and the subject generally, the manufacturers, in answer to the inquiry what they could suggest, replied, viz: "What we can say to you is that when the condition of the market warrants an increase of wages the New Bedford mills will give their employees the benefit of it with others."

DASTARDLY OUTRAGE.

A Mob Enter a Residence at Mukogee, T. T. and Kill Husband and Wife. Muskogee, T. T., March 21.—A dastardly outrage was committed Saturday night near the town of Wybarok, five miles north of here, resulting in the death of two men and a woman. The house of Ed Chalmers, a negro, who recently married a white woman, was attacked during the night by six white men who had evidently determined to murder both the negro and his wife, both of whom had been threatened by white men who disliked the union.

A door of their cabin was broken in and both the negro and his wife were shot down, but not before Chalmers had put up a good fight against his assailants. The woman was killed outright and though Chalmers succeeded in driving off the attacking party, they left him mortally wounded and he died before daylight. Yesterday morning the body of one Matthews, an aged white man who lived at Gibson Station, was found near the Chalmers cabin, pierced with a bullet. Matthews answered the description given by Chalmers before he died of one of his assailants. There were evidences that Matthews' body had been dragged from Chalmers' house to the place where it was found. A sun lay beside the body, evidently put there to give the impression that the man had murdered the negro and his wife. Deputy United States marshals are investigating the killing and it is believed that the murders will be brought to justice.

To Withdraw Demand. Constantinople, March 21.—In consequence of the sultan's direct appeal, the czar has consented to withdraw his demand for the 3,750,000 areas of the Russo-Turkish war indemnity which his majesty at first insisted should be paid from the Græco-Turkish war indemnity. This fact, it is alleged, forebodes Turkey's acceptance of Prince George of Greece, the candidate of the czar, as governor of the island of Crete.

Africa's Monkeys. Africa's monkeys are giving out. In the neighborhood of the Gold coast they have been exterminated, and last year the colony could collect only 67,660 monkey skins, whereas, in 1844, 165,405 skins, valued at \$205,000, were exported.

For Starving Cubans. Kansas City, Mo., March 21.—A relief fund of \$9033 and twenty-one carloads of provisions and clothing, collected in Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma, under the management of the Kansas City Star, for the starving Cubans of Matanzas, were forwarded south from Kansas City yesterday. The principal articles of food sent are wheat, flour, cornmeal, rice, potatoes, rolled oats, condensed milk and soup extracts.

Burned to Death. Tonkawa, Ok., March 21.—The residence of R. J. Von Vorla, near here, was destroyed by fire, and a little daughter aged 4 and son aged 7 perished in the flames, and their bodies almost entirely consumed. They were asleep up stairs, and the mother, who was alone, heard the fire roaring up stairs, but supposed it was the wind until too late to reach her children. Twenty-five tons of smokeless powder was shipped several days since from Germany to the United States.

MUCH SUSPENSE.

Report Expected in the Course of Two or Three Days. Washington, March 19.—An air of suspense was noticeable in the navy department due to the approach of the time for the delivery of the report of the court of inquiry. It is not known just when the document will come to Washington, but it is expected here in the course of two or three days.

The San Francisco reported her arrival from Lisbon at Gravesend yesterday. Under his orders the commander will divide his crew with the Amazonas and sail at the earliest possible moment for the United States, conveying the new ship. Beyond the Amazonas, her sister ship Abrouail and the Mayflower, no purchase of ships have been made by the navy department. A number of fleet steam yachts owned in the United States are being offered to the department, and it is probable that some of these will be purchased. Secretary Long takes the view that, failing to secure the torpedo boat destroyers he wants, the best plan is for him to equip some of these speedy boats with torpedo boats and light batteries and improvised torpedo boats.

The navy department is convinced that the Spanish government has not acquired possession of the Italian cruiser Varese. It would not, however, be a matter of deep concern if the report were true. The department itself had the vessel in mind as a possible acquisition, but abandoned the idea upon learning that she could not be made ready for service in less than three or four months. The gunboat Newport reported her arrival by cable to the navy department from Greytown. She will bring back to the United States the Nicaragua canal commission, and will then be attached at once to the north Atlantic squadron.

Some idea of the activity prevailing in naval circles is given by the statement that the payroll of the construction department, only one of several departments, in the Mare island navy yard, for March was \$50,000. This great expenditure per month, it is said, was not equaled during the late war.

A separate account will be kept of all funds expended from the \$50,000,000 emergency appropriation. A separate form of requisition has been prepared, and all amounts allotted from the fund are made upon the direct order signed by the president himself.

"The president wants to show congress just how every cent of this money is spent," said a member of the cabinet to-day, "and for this reason is adopting the course outlined."

To Lay a Cable. New York, March 19.—Further plans to make perfect the means of communication between the defenses of New York have been made. Within a day or two it is probable that a contract will be let for laying a large cable of the size used in the ocean between all of the local fortifications.

This plan to connect all the forts surrounding New York City with Governor's island, was one of the matters to which Major Gen. Nelson A. Miles gave his attention on his tour of inspection on Tuesday. Lieut. Col. Amos Kimball, acting quartermaster general, has issued orders for the transfer of two more batteries from Fort Slocum to Sandy Hook. The government steamship Gen. Meigs will go to Fort Slocum and the two batteries, numbering 139 men, will be taken to Fort Hancock to-morrow morning. When they are located there that fortification will have nearly 400 of the best trained artillerymen in the regular army.

Recruits from the new sixth artillery continue to apply at Fort Slocum. Enough of these men have already been enlisted to guard Fort Slocum against any temporary weakening involved in the transfer of men to Fort Hancock. As fast as the new recruits fill up the men will be assigned to various points on the Atlantic coast. Col. William St. Clair, who has been selected as commander of the new regiment, will take charge of Fort Slocum temporarily, relieving Lieut. Col. Tully McCrea, who goes to assume charge at Sandy Hook.

British Goods. London, March 19.—Replying in the house of commons yesterday to a question, Mr. Curzon, the parliamentary secretary for the foreign office, said that the British ambassador at Madrid, Sir H. Drummond-Wolfe, would be instructed to inquire into the report that the Spanish minister at Washington, Senor Polo y Bernabe, had received instructions to discuss the preferential treatment of American products in the Spanish West Indies, as under the existing treaty British goods were entered to the minimum colonial tariff.

Cheered the Soldiers. Memphis, Tenn., March 19.—Specialists from towns in Arkansas and Tennessee indicate the truth of the reunited country by the fact of delegations from every city, town and hamlet through which the artillery batteries passed en route from Fort Riley to the sea coast, gathering to meet the trains. In many towns the entire population turned out and cheered the soldiers to the echo. Prominent in these demonstrations were old confederate soldiers.

British-Venezuela Treaty. Washington, March 19.—By arrangement between the parties, Sir Julian Pauncefote for Great Britain and Senor Andrade for Venezuela, the cases relative to the boundary arbitration prepared by counsel on either side have been exchanged. The documents will be forwarded to their respective governments by the ambassador and the minister to serve as the basis for the counter cases to be exchanged later on and to prepare the way for the arbitration to meet in Paris next fall.

Senor Calvo's Statement.

Washington, March 19.—Senor Calvo, minister of Costa Rica, has furnished the following statement relative to the reported crisis between Nicaragua and Costa Rica: "Because of the cablegrams from Managua, Nicaragua, to the press of the United States, in which unfounded charges are made against the government of Costa Rica, the Costa Rican delegation in Washington has given to the public the report of the ex-consul, Senor Beechov, who was thrown into prison by order of the executive of Nicaragua, without having previously provided any charges against him. The report is preceded by some notes explanatory of the course pursued by the government of Costa Rica, showing that it has acted fully within the line marked out by dignity and prudence, having all right on its side, in the effort to bring the government of Gen. Zelaya, through the diet, which is its organ, to the friendly recognition of the justice of its complaints and the validity of its claims. These notes demonstrate that its efforts in this direction have been unfortunately fruitless."

"In this condition of things, the government of Costa Rica, on the 7th instant, was requested to give satisfaction within ten days for the alleged invasion of Nicaraguan political exiles over the Costa Rican frontier. The demand was immediately answered, and naturally rejected. "It was learned that an envoy from Guatemala would arrive at San Jose from Nicaragua, with the basis for a settlement. This, however, was unknown there. Costa Rica maintains her traditional good relations with all the other Central American states; she considers as her own everything that bodes good or ill for them, and is personally interested also in the risks that the independence and autonomy of any of them may run. She has given abundant proof of this; but in view of the actions of the government of Nicaragua, the characteristic peaceful spirit of the industrious Costa Rican people has changed into a warlike and patriotic spirit. The whole people are ready for war, animated by the great enthusiasm inspired in the justice of their cause. The internal order in the country is complete; public opinion is a unit; and, as at all times, the constitutional regime remains in force unimpaired."

COLLYAR FOUND DEAD. He Had a 45-Caliber Bullet Hole Through His Body. Durrant, I. T., March 19.—W. D. Collyar, a young newspaper man, was found dead on West Main street yesterday evening at 8 o'clock, with a 45-caliber bullet-hole through his heart. About four feet from him lay a 45-caliber Colt's pistol with one empty chamber. From Judge H. F. Jones, Mr. Collyar's bosom friend, it is learned that Collyar was in trouble. Mr. Jones said: "Collyar asked me for my pistol, stating he expected to have an awful fight. He said he had an enemy whom he would meet to-night, and that some one must die. I walked down the street with him, and offered to go with him, and stand by him in his trouble. He insisted that I return; in fact, commanded me to return home, saying that he would meet him single-handed. I returned there when I heard a shot in which Collyar had gone. I did not suspect that it was Collyar, for I had been led to infer that the fight with his enemy would take place in the office of the Durrant Times, with which paper Collyar was connected. I was soon informed of the fact that Collyar had been found dead. Before I left him he said: 'See Nichols and request him not to write anything in to any of the papers in case anything should happen to me. Do not write my people, but write to my brother, and tell him about it.' At this Collyar bade me return, and I did so."

Collyar was a graduate at law, and practiced law in this city up until about four months ago. He is connected with one of the most prominent families in Tennessee, and was a man of ambition and social refinement. Conversation held between Collyar and personal friends at various times during the past year add to the general belief that it was suicide. The vest had been unbuttoned and pulled back before the shot was fired. Other parties having wired Collyar's relatives, Judge Jones withdrew his request to withhold this information. The body will be buried to-day.

Order For Powder.

Santa Cruz, Cal., March 19.—The California powder works received orders from the navy department Wednesday for 3,000,000 pounds of brown prismatic powder. Thursday the same concern received an order for 200,000 pounds of the same kind of powder, for immediate delivery.

Presidential Amendment.

Washington, March 19.—The senate committee on privileges and elections yesterday authorized a favorable report on the amendment to the constitution of the United States, introduced by Senator Hoar, changing the time of year for the expiration of the terms of the president, vice president, senators and representatives in congress from March 4 until the last Wednesday in April, to take effect in 1901. The object is to avoid the harsh weather of March 4 for the ceremony.

En Route to Omaha.

Washington, March 19.—The train bearing the remains of Mrs. Thurston to Omaha left here at 4:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Besides Senator Thurston and his son Clarence there were included in the funeral party Assistant Secretary Metklojohn, Mrs. Hatcher and Mrs. Taplin, national officers of the D. A. R., members of the Cuban Relief Corps and other friends of Mrs. Thurston.

Sunday School Convention.

South McAlester, I. T., March 19.—Pursuant to a call previously made, delegates from various Baptist Sunday-schools sent delegates to Choate, I. T., to organize a Sunday-school convention. A number of delegates met, and there was an interesting three days' meeting. Mr. H. Heatham of Roff was elected president, L. L. Wright of Kully Chaska secretary, W. H. Kuykendall of Lone Grove corresponding secretary. The next time and place of meeting will be announced later.

Perished in the Mine.

Crawfordsville, Ind., March 18.—The relatives of Michael Lanahan, of Crawfordsville, have received information that he was on the Maine as a sailor, and perished. A letter from Capt. Sigbee's private secretary is to this effect. Lanahan was at one time a prosperous farmer here, but, having business reverses, disappeared three years ago. His wife did not hear from him again until yesterday. He was enrolled for the navy at Louisville two years ago.

REPORT SENT.

Findings of the Court of Inquiry en Route to Washington. Washington, March 18.—The president expects the report of the court of inquiry to-day or to-morrow. Key West is now on its way from Key West to Washington.

When the court arrived at Key West from Havana and reported to Admiral Seward what progress it had made toward reaching the end of its long task, the admiral promptly communicated with the secretary of the navy. It was the secretary's purpose to have a full synopsis of the court's conclusions put in cipher and telegraphed to Washington.

Upon consultation with the president, however, this plan was abandoned. Both the president and secretary are determined to spare no efforts to maintain the secrecy of the court's verdict until they themselves have determined to give it publicity. Therefore even the admirably designed naval cipher code could not be relied on with complete satisfaction and at the president's instance, Admiral Seward was directed to place the documents in the custody of some naval officer, according to the usual method, and forward them to Washington in that manner.

Whether this officer has started or not, is not yet known, but if he and Admiral Seward have executed their orders with regular naval promptness, it will not be long before the president will be in possession of such information and conclusions as the court has so far had. It is not even known positively that these conclusions are final, but if the ordinary routine of courts of inquiry has been followed in this case they probably are so, unless the secretary of the navy believes, after looking into the testimony, that some lines of investigation should be further pursued.

As before stated every precaution that human ingenuity can suggest will be adopted to safeguard the report, the main apprehension being that there may be somehow a publication in the newspapers that may interfere seriously with the successful working out of the policy of the administration. The documents will be sealed at Key West under the personal observation of Admiral Seward and the naval officer who takes the papers in his custody will be expected to deliver the envelope with the seal unbroken into the hands of the secretary of the navy. Probably the messenger will be Lieut. Commander Marix, judge advocate of the court of inquiry, though the selection is entirely within the authority of Admiral Seward.

After War Ships.

New York, March 18.—A dispatch from London says: Negotiations for the purchase of warships are still in progress. The Spanish agents have proposed the only vessel which they are believed to have purchased is McCalmont's large steam yacht now in the Mediterranean sea. Spain would have secured the Amazonas and Admiral Breaud a week ago if the vote of \$50,000,000 had not been passed. Lieut. Colwell had previously entered a bid for them; the Spanish agents made a determined effort to secure them, but failed. Brazil at first sought to sell four ships, including the two coast defense vessels in France, which are only half finished, but finally consented to deliver the Amazonas provided her sister ship at Armstrong was included in the contract. These negotiations were conducted by Mr. Henry White and the Brazilian minister with assistance from the naval attaches of each government. In addition the O'Higgins is now the object of keen bargaining and there is at least one fine cruiser in a continental port which is likely to be purchased.

Notwithstanding these warlike preparations, the general feeling among the American and English bankers here is that war between Spain and the United States will be averted. All the conservative men on the street consider an outbreak of hostilities improbable. The stock list reflects this feeling. The Rothschilds' influence is reported here to be strongly exerted, especially in Paris and Madrid, in the interest of a peaceful diplomatic settlement between the two countries.

Duel to Death.

Guthrie, Ok., March 18.—Wednesday morning the bodies of Bill Scruggs and Jim Newlin, cowboys in the employ of the "Bar X" ranch, were found on the prairie west of the ranch. A bullet was in Scruggs' forehead, and Newlin had been shot above the heart. The sixshooter of each man lay near his body, with one chamber emptied. The men had been good friends, and left in the morning to ride lines, but everything indicates that they had a disagreement about something, and fought a duel to the death.

Cyclone in Arkansas.

Little Rock, Ark., March 18.—A terrific wind storm almost completely destroyed the little town of Hunter, in Woodruff county, early Wednesday morning. The schoolhouse and several dwellings were entirely demolished. J. C. Earnest and daughter, Birdie, were hurt seriously, and West Densel sustained fatal injuries.

To Provision War Ships.

Chicago, Ill., March 18.—Preparations have been begun for provisioning the warships of the United States for any emergency. It was learned in Chicago last night that the representatives of the navy department and the representatives of the four immense packing-houses of Armour & Co., Nelson Morris, Swift & Co., and Libby, McNeill & Libby would meet in New York to-morrow to close contracts for 150,000 pounds of canned meats for immediate shipment.

There are few persons that have not looked in the dictionary especially who know how the term "spinnster" originated. It is often found in Shakespeare and other English classics, but it is not always used to define a spinner. This is its true meaning. Its general significance is wider. There was an old practice, in the years ago, that a woman should never be married until she had spun herself a set of beds, table and bed linen. It is not difficult to see how easy the term became applicable to all unmarried women, and finally became a law term and fixed.

To Have a Big Army.

Washington, March 18.—The largest measure of preparation yet made by the war department to meet the contingencies of the future probably has just been completed. It is the preparation of a bill providing among other sections for the placing of the army on a war footing for the full strength of 104,000 men. The bill has been carefully gone over by the war department, and will be introduced in the house by Representative Hull, chairman of the house committee on naval affairs, who, it is expected, will urge it vigorously, inasmuch as it is an administration measure. The basis of the bill will be the well-known three-battalion organizations. That is the ideal peace status of the army, but provision is made for the exercise by the president of full power to increase each one of the existing companies from seventy-five men, the present strength, to 250 men.

In view of the possibility of a conflict with Spain, considerable interest centers just now in the strength of the militia force of the United States, which would be liable to be called on in case of necessity. The aggregate strength of the force in each state is yearly reported to the adjutant general of the army, who in turn transmits it to congress, for the information of that body. An annual appropriation is made by congress for the support and maintenance of the militia, and it is allotted among the states according to the numerical strength of the militia of each.

The latest report to congress on the militia strength was made to congress by Acting Secretary of War Meiklejohn, and was based on returns received at the adjutant general's office for 1897. This statement shows that the total organized strength of the militia of the United States is 114,362 men, while the number of men available for military duty (unorganized), of which a report was made at the time that the statement of the militia was sent in, is 10,301,339.

SPANISH FLAG.

Will Wave Over Cuba Eternally, Says Gen. Blanco. Havana, March 18.—Gen. Blanco, at the banquet Thursday night to the officers of the Vizcaya and Almirante Oquendo, toasted "The King, the Queen Regent, the Army and the Navy of Spain." He said: "The present generation will never see another banner than that of Spain at the entrance to the Gulf of Mexico. That banner, representing civilization, progress, liberty, humanity and religion, will be eternal, like that of the first American nation."

These sentiments were received with shouts of approval and cheers. Admiral Manterola, responding on behalf of the navy, said: "In union the army and navy will always be indestructible." The American yacht Buccaneer, which has been expected here to take the remainder of the congressional party north, is more than forty hours overdue at the time this dispatch is filed, and there are fears that some accident has befallen her. Messrs. Money, Smith and Cummings decided not to wait longer, and left for Key West yesterday on the Arans. Two battalions of Havana volunteers are drilling in heavy artillery exercises at the Cabanas fortress. The Vizcaya is still coaling, and it is now said she will probably not go to Mexico. The Montgomery left yesterday afternoon for Key West.

Relief work will be under the supervision of Dr. Guzman, a Cuban, and Dr. Egan, of the Red Cross society. In case of a disagreement between them, Consul General Lee is to act as arbitrator. The schedules show 179,000 persons in the island entitled to receive relief. Commissioner Klopsch secured yesterday at the central station here an issue of 12,000 rations daily, and the same will be ordered.

A special vessel from New York with 2500 tons of supplies, 2000 of which are cornmeal, will make a trip to the island, delivering at various seaports selected as distributing points for the interior towns.

Buying Coal.

Little Rock, Ark., March 18.—It was learned here yesterday on the best of authority that the United States government has contracted for the immediate delivery of 500 cars of Arkansas coal for the use of the navy. The coal will be shipped from Coal Hill to Galveston, and will go forward as fast as it can be loaded upon the cars. Another contract of immense proportions is said to have been made with the Western Coal and Mining company.

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FARM AND STOCK ITEMS.

Geo. Slaughter shipped from the Amarillo stock pens 2500 head of 2 and 3-year-olds for Nebraska several days since and 1500 head for Emporia, Kan. W. A. Briggs shipped six cars of beef cattle from Waxahachie to St. Louis several days ago. The shipment went forward over the Houston and Texas Central railroad.

A number of fine bulks were recently placed in the Nun ranch near Colorado. L. R. Hastings, the owner and manager, has expended a large sum of money this past half year in grading up his herd. Lubbock county has been treated to heavy and welcome rains and the stock tanks are now overflowing. The cattle in that district have wintered well and the prospect for an early spring has greatly stimulated the stock interests.

Some parties in Hale county have recently shipped in a number of red Polled Angus cattle from Iowa. Many are discarding their Durhams to replace them with this breed, for they have given better satisfaction thus far than any other strain. Onion culture is becoming a feature in the Peecos valley and it has been found that the soil and climate are peculiarly adapted to it. Fifty thousand pounds to the acre is not an enormous yield, and the quality is said to be excellent.

Market gardening is being engaged in more extensively in Grayson county this spring than ever before. There are many acres planted in vegetables that have been in cotton or corn heretofore. There is a good market for all kinds of vegetables, and they pay better profit than any other crop that can be raised.

The sheep market in parts of the Peecos valley is about as active as cattle trading in the panhandle. Several large transfers have been made recently, one involving the transfer of 10,000 head and two ranges for \$50,000. A. J. Knollin, of Kansas City, was the purchaser. Several other sales of lesser importance have been made at prices satisfactory to the seller.

Fruit tree-planting around Denton has been carried on more extensively this spring than for a long time before. There are many new orchards set out, especially southwest of town. Pear trees seem to have the preference, with apples a close second. The experience of apple raisers in this section of the country last fall when the crop was large and apples sold for from \$1 to \$1.50 per bushel has taught the fruit farmers a lesson.

Mexican merchants and others are industriously denying the fact that the northern states of the republic are short of cattle. Gentlemen visiting Fort Worth during the Cattle Raisers' convention recently, stated definitely that whereas a year or more ago it was a very easy matter to purchase and gather a good-sized herd in either Sonora or Chihuahua in a week's journey and in bunches of from 300 to 500 from a single range, now it took a month or more to do it, and the stock was bought in lots going from ten to twenty-five head and that, in fact, it did not pay to attempt to purchase Mexican cattle now at any price on that account.

A banker from north Texas states that the number of persons now interested in the cattle growing industry far exceeds that of any previous year. He says that possibly those directly engaged in the business may not be so numerous, but the great number of money lenders and banks who hold what is known as "cattle paper" exceeds by 100 per cent that of any former year in the history of Texas. It would appear, he says, that every one in almost every kind of business was interested in some way in the cattle business of north Texas, and that the first item looked for in their morning paper was that which indicated the condition of the live stock market.

A surprising feature of the drought in California is that many head of stock from that state here found their way into Texas. Sanitary regulations forbade their pasturage in Arizona or in most parts of New Mexico, but Texas being far the greater part below the line has received a number of train loads. The passage of this stock through Arizona and New Mexico was only secured by a special application made to Secretary Wilson, of the department of agriculture. Recent rains in the cattle growing districts of California have now in a measure abrogated the difficulty under which cattlemen labored and no doubt the shipments will shortly cease. This incident clearly shows that the "southern fever" is not by any means confined to Texas and that its being termed the "Texas" fever is a distinct and decided misnomer.

Returns from twelve carloads of cattle shipped from Corsicana recently have been received from Chicago and the shippers are jubilant. The cattle weighed in at 1250 pounds and sold for \$4.30 per 100 pounds, making the average price \$53.75 per head. These returns are the most satisfactory that have been received by Navarro cattlemen this season. The shippers of these cattle were C. S. West, four carloads, and C. C. Wollin, eight carloads.

The alfalfa fields and the grass are putting on their green coats in the Eddy country and the trees and shrubbery are budding. This past winter has been the mildest ever known in Eddy since it was a town and the present spring has opened early in consequence. If no heavy frost comes to blight the blossoms the fruit crop in the Peecos valley will exceed that of any preceding year by 50 per cent, not counting the immense number of young trees that will bear this year for the first time.

Haskell Free Press.

J. E. POOLE, Publisher. HASKELL, TEXAS.

Money talks pretty conclusively at times, but occasionally its gets rattled.

Although women frequently handle each other without gloves there are no female pugilists.

It's a great pity men can't find an insurance company willing to take risks on their air castles.

It is said that contentment is better than riches—but most people are willing to take chances with the riches.

The Denver Times says: "An Indian chief will sell anything but his blanket." He is completely wrapped up in it.

It was the last regret of John Cochran that he couldn't hold over long enough to paint the sky with his own funeral oration.

It is urged that street car conductors should be provided with seats. It would be a good idea, too, to provide passengers with them.

J. Sterling Morton is to call his newspaper "The Dynamo." This has the advantage that any old issue can still be called "the current number."

Japan would like to know whether the death of the Japanese sailors on the Maine has any connection with her troubles with Spain in the Philippine Islands.

Pathetically the Boston Globe exclaims: "And still another temperance lecture from the scaffold!" The lecturer realized the embarrassment of taking a drop too much.

A Kokomo man has come into possession of an American silver dollar with two goddesses on it. Lucky man! Most of us are satisfied with dollars with one goddess on them. Kokomo asin the world.

The band which robbed the bank in broad daylight at Hayward, Neb., have got enough money to pay for the ammunition used in shooting at their pursuers. They probably didn't count on being chased.

Mr. Corbett says the punch over his solar plexus cured entirely a bad case of dyspepsia from which he had been suffering. It was pretty severe medicine, but no cure can be worse than that disease. There are thousands who would be glad to go into a prize-fight with such a cure in view, but such is the power of their misery, the professional butcher would be very likely to get knocked out in half the cases.

"Is it better?" asks a St. Louis paper, "to sue the woman for breach of promise or to shoot the man who marries her?" There is no "better" in either. The only sensible way is to grin and drop the subject. What man would accept damages of that kind and would it do him any good to do murder and get hanged for it? There are some things in this world for which there is no remedy, and why seek for that which doesn't exist?

The war against gum-chewing begun by Bishop Vincent of the Methodist Episcopal church is the result of too much thought on a very cheap subject. The bishop thinks that to resist gum is to prepare the young for self-sacrifice of a more important kind. If they forego gum they will omit liquor, and if they let that alone they will let alone other things equally as bad. It is logic, but it is foolishness. And, strange as it seems, the bishop is actually in earnest.

What is golf? A queen's counsel lately thus irreverently defined the game for the benefit of the English judge who was hearing a case involving the playing of golf. "I believe, my lord, that the game of golf is played in irregular fields or waste grounds with a small ball which the player tries to hit with a stick. If he succeeds in hitting the ball he spends the rest of the day in looking for it." To the solemn-faced golfer this description of the pastime must seem like trifling with a serious subject.

Mr. Choate reiterates the proposition that the law is the noblest profession, and remarks in defense of the fact that lawyers defend criminals whom they know to be guilty and have them acquitted, if possible, by breaking the law. "It is only out of the contest of facts and of brain that the right can ever be evolved—only on the anvil of discussion that the spark of truth can be struck out." But far more frequently it is the truth that is struck in; and again, would a lawyer defend a poverty-stricken criminal known to be guilty through respect for truth and the moralities? Then, too, the medical and some other professions have a few claims that ought to be recognized.

The trouble with most young men is that they do not understand the dignity of manual labor. They do not realize that honors and fortune may be more readily realized outside of the so-called learned professions than in them and that it is just as honorable to swing the hammer or to hold a plow as it is to make a speech in court or amputate a limb. The lesson young men should be taught as early as possible is that it is not so much what a man does for a living as it is how well he does it, and that manual labor is as honorable as any other.

A scientist says that in an Italian earthquake in 1795 two hogs were buried in the ruins and were taken out alive forty-two days later. Standing women have seen several hogs buried in newspapers in street cars and come out alive at Thirty-ninth street.

A society club in Chicago, composed of leading ladies, will devote itself to the breeding of cats. We have long looked for such an organization. It will fill a long-felt want. The cats of this country have been unrepresented too long.

FIRST BLOW.

Secretary Harvey of the Railway Company Knocked Senseless.

Houston, Tex., March 21.—The first blow in the street car strike was struck Saturday. While assisting in getting a car out Secretary Harry Chase of the street car company was struck on the head with a stick and knocked senseless. A gash was cut in his scalp by the blow.

T. J. Black was arrested yesterday afternoon and brought before Justice Fitz on the charge of assault and battery. He was released on a bond of \$100 to answer. His arrest grew out of the blow received by Chase.

Mayor Rice taking of the matter yesterday afternoon said the law should be enforced and that there should not be any more trouble and the company would be protected in its rights. He has issued a proclamation to that effect.

Houston, Tex., March 21.—The status of the strike of the street car employees yesterday was pretty much as it appears to be quiet, or, rather, there are fewer people in crowds upon the streets. Secretary Harry Chase, who was assaulted Saturday at the power house, is suffering a good deal from pains in the back of his head and neck and in the forehead.

There were a number of friends called during the day, but they were not allowed to see him, as any excitement was considered injurious.

Yesterday afternoon there was a meeting of the street car employees in Labor hall and the situation was very thoroughly discussed. There was a large crowd present.

Mayor Rice stated that he will be on hand in time this morning to see that the cars run if the management desires it. Public sentiment appears much stronger against the course of the strikers than it was Saturday.

DEED OF TRUST.

Hempstead, Waller Co., Tex., March 21.—T. E. Shuttles filed a deed of trust with the county clerk late Saturday afternoon conveying to L. D. Thompson, trustee, his entire stock of goods, wares, merchandise, counters, fixtures, etc., to secure the following creditors in the order named:

Class A—H. A. Thompson \$1200, C. F. Thompson \$1000, H. F. Smith \$70, Emma Suttles \$1300, P. J. Willis & Bro. \$707.

Class B—Taylor Manufacturing company \$40, P. C. Thompson \$13, E. J. Bowen \$10, D. M. Perry & Co. \$10, Brown Tail works \$25, Planters' Corn company \$54, C. H. Cox & Co. \$19, L. Heidenheimer \$230, Galveston Crocker Store \$19, Galveston Coffee and Spice company \$42, Houston Crocker store \$18, Kelly-Goodfield Shoe company \$250, H. & A. Lesser \$158, L. L. May & Co. \$17, Moore, McKinney & Co. \$46, E. Matzmaur \$8, Preston & Stalder \$88, Southern Soda works \$8, Standard Stamping company \$47, Southern Broom company \$11, T. H. Thompson & Co. \$34, Texas Paper Manufacturing company \$23, Waters-Pierce Oil company \$105, Borchard, Brashear & Co. \$88, Carson, Sewell & Co. \$231, Peist & Boehme \$4, Focke, Wilkins & Lang \$44, Enterprise Soap works \$8, Eddy & Eddy \$7, Gust Heyp & Co. \$208, Rankin Bros. \$732.

COMMITTED SUICIDE.

San Antonio, Tex., March 21.—William Snell, a private in the United States army, committed suicide here yesterday. He was found in an unconscious condition, but still alive, near the National cemetery yesterday, and taken to the post hospital, where he died about 11 o'clock. The cause of his death was stated to be opium poisoning. Snell was formerly a member of the fifth cavalry band, and while with that organization at the Dallas fair he had some trouble with the principal musician, was court-martialed and reduced to ranks. This, together with the recent death of his wife, is given as the cause of suicide.

NEW COURTHOUSE.

Giddings, Tex., March 21.—Commissioner's court was in session all last week, considering plans and specifications for the new courthouse, to be erected when a location for the county site is determined. A number of architects from different points have been in attendance. Plans and specifications presented by J. R. Gordon of San Antonio were adopted by the court. The new building will cost about \$23,000.

DISTRIBUTION OF RUSSIA'S MILLIONS.

The entire population of the Russian empire is 129,211,114 souls, of whom 94,188,750 inhabit European Russia; 9,442,590, Poland; 9,723,553, the Caucasus; 2,027,801, Finland; 5,731,732, Siberia; 3,415,174, the Steppes regions, and 4,175,101, the provinces of Transcaucasia and of Turkestan. There are, also, 6,413 subjects of the czar now residing in Khiva and Bokhara.

FARMERS AND RENTERS.

Marlin, Tex., March 21.—Pursuant to the call of Chairman S. G. Kelley, about 100 members, white and colored, of the Farmers' and Renters' union met at the courthouse here Saturday afternoon. A committee was appointed to draft by-laws and constitution. N. C. Moore, F. C. Bauman and V. B. Ritter were appointed to draft a circular letter stating the aim and object of the association, to be published in the state papers. The meeting then adjourned until June 15.

HAMILTON ZOUAVES.

Gatesville, Tex., March 21.—Lieut. Boynton of the Hamilton zouaves was down Saturday from Hamilton. He says the zouaves are the crack company in central Texas, and he told the boys here that felt like taking the field in case of war, they could do no better than attach themselves to the zouaves. He says his company is in fine shape, and ready for the call from the president, and are regular crackerjacks on the drill.

REFERRED TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Austin, Tex., March 19.—The contention by some lawyers that the blunder of the codifiers in omitting from the civil code the clause fixing the date of state elections repeals that clause, and that there is no legal election until the legislature fixes a day, has induced the governor to refer the matter to the attorney general, and it is believed as the day for the state election has been with brief exception on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November every two years since the days of the old republic, that the governor's action in ordering the last election on that date, though the codifiers repealed the old provision before the governor ordered the election, will not be invalidated, nor can his power to designate that day be questioned. This seems to be the opinion of those in official circles. One contention is that the ordinance of the constitution fixing the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November every two years for all elections until the legislature otherwise provides is revived by the codifying repeal. Another clause of the code requires the governor to order elections for state and district officers, presidential electors and other officers, respectively on the same date. Article 1811, civil code, fixes Tuesday next after the first Monday in November every four years as the day of election for presidential electors. It is inferred that this recognition of the date always in force is a statutory direction to the governor to continue the operation of the old laws and constitutional ordinances as to the date for the election of all other officers.

Engineer Boers and assistants began laying of the ground several days since for the erection of the new brick Wells-Fargo express office at Corsicana, which is to be erected at the north end of the old building that has been used by the Central railroad for its passenger and baggage rooms. The new building will not be mammoth in proportions, but will be modern in all its appointments and construction. The work of tearing away the old wooden shell will begin as soon as the new passenger depot is finished, which will be soon.

The following letter was addressed to the farmers and ginners of Texas: Two years ago I addressed you on the adoption of a standard bale of cotton, advising the sizes recommended by the Maritime association of New Orleans and Galveston and approved by the cotton exchange and various other bodies, namely: 26 inches wide and 58 inches long. Experiments have proven that the width is too great because of the expansion of the bale after it comes out of the box, notwithstanding which there has been a vast betterment in the Texas bale which would have been much greater had the boxes been made narrower. I think the time has now come for a further effort to improve our packages, especially in view of the fact that new methods of baling cotton are being introduced, which threaten to destroy the business of the old-fashioned ginner unless he keeps up with the times and makes as good a bale as anybody else can. Experiments just completed in Waco and Temple with boxes measuring inside 24 inches wide and 54 inches long show an average weight of bale of 540 pounds, and an average density after compression in the ordinary press in the usual manner and at the usual rate of speed of 41 pounds to the cubic foot; and the cotton is fully covered by the bagging and in every way in better shipping condition. This is a greater density than can be gotten by any other process before the public, and the only way to get cheaper freights is to increase the density. In other words, if the ginners of Texas will make their boxes 24 inches wide and 54 inches long, inside measurement, they will turn out a bale that can be handled in the usual manner and shipped abroad at a lower rate of freight than any other cotton package whatever. This change in the size of the boxes can be made for \$8 each. Farmers should see that the process we now use is improved in every way possible so that when other processes come along you can distaste the terms upon which you will use them and not be deterred to.

I would advise you to carefully consider this matter and in your own interest to adopt this change. Yours respectfully, E. S. PETERS, Protective Association of Texas.

A big \$50,000 press is likely to be built at Cleburne before the coming season. A deal is on foot whereby this will be the result, if made. There has been no press this season, as the old one was burned.

The jury in the Gib Gay murder case at San Marcos returned a verdict of murder in the first degree with life sentence to the penitentiary. Defendant will make a motion for a new trial and falling in that will appeal to the supreme court.

The residence of John P. Roberts, a well-to-do farmer living eleven miles southeast of Marshall, was destroyed by fire several days since. The loss is estimated at \$1500, no insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

The stock of goods assigned by S. G. Maddox to Harry W. Kuteman, trustee, at Weatherford, was sold several days since in bulk to Messrs. Baker, Paston & Co. Amount of invoice was \$12,000, and they were sold for 75 cents on the dollar.

The 15-year-old son of Geo. F. Durrert, living three miles east of Weatherford, while out hunting recently, accidentally discharged his gun. The contents of the gun took effect in his thigh and he lived about six hours.

Mrs. Smith, wife of a sawmill man at the end of the tram railway at Glimmer, was suffering with headache several days ago and placed a handkerchief saturated with chloroform over her face. When found she was dead.

TEXAS NEWS ITEMS.

P. Baldeschweller, grocery merchant at Corpus Christi, filed a deed of trust several days since. Most of the creditors are local.

William Edward Moore died at McKinney several days since from a knife wound in the back. Jim Johnson, colored, is in jail charged with the crime.

A contract has been let for the erection of four new two-story brick buildings on the north side of the square at Hillsboro. Work will begin on them within five days.

August Weber, formerly superintendent of carriers in the Galveston postoffice, several days ago was found guilty of the charge of tampering with the United States mails.

Motions for rehearing and to argue orally were made several days since in the supreme court at Austin for the Houston and Texas Central and Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio railways in the school fund cases, involving over \$1,000,000.

The Breunstedt Hardware company of Waco, having a capital stock of \$100,000, filed an amendment to its charter at Austin recently, changing its name to Eikel-Breunstedt company, and providing that it shall have not less than three nor more than five directors, instead of five as originally provided for.

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WIVES.

By S. T.

RED DAYTON assisted his wife's cousin, J. E. Searles, into the carriage that was waiting for her at the station.

She had been his wife's bridesmaid, and he sighed as he looked in her smiling face.

It was three years since that so-called happy event occurred, but though she was a trifle more staid and dignified, she had the same happy smile, and neat, trim appearance that he so well remembered.

"You will find Fanny a good deal altered," he said, as he took a seat by her side.

Jenny cast a somewhat surprised glance at the grave face of the speaker. "Why? How? Has she been ill?"

"Well, no; I can't say that she has been ill," was the hesitating reply; "but she—she's changed. Marriage don't seem to have agreed with her very well."

The laugh that ended these words sounded rather forced. Perhaps he felt the implication conveyed in them—or, rather, the fact itself.

Jenny looked earnestly into the frank, kindly face of the speaker. "Was it his fault?" for there must be a fault somewhere.

The house, as the carriage stopped in front, looked as if it was all shut up.

If Jenny had expected to see her cousin in the hall she was disappointed. Fred looked slightly disconcerted as he glanced around.

"Fanny's in her room, I suppose; I'll hunt her up."

"Ah! there you are, Fan."

"Here a dowdily-dressed woman made her appearance at the other end of the hall, whom Jenny would have failed to recognize had it not been for the warm embrace and eager greeting.

After leading the way to the dark, and rather untidy, sitting-room, Fanny's animation, all at once, forsook her, and, throwing herself upon the sofa, she burst into tears, much to Jenny's surprise and consternation.

"The sight of you reminds me so of the happy past," sighed Fanny, as she wiped away her tears.

"And the present is no less happy, I hope," suggested Jenny, feeling for her cousin's husband, who looked foolishly conscious that he was, in some way, considered to be at fault.

Fanny's only reply was a mournful shake of the head, which, rightly interpreted, meant that she never expected to be so happy again so long as she lived.

"If you knew how that noise goes through my head, Fred!" remonstrated Fanny, as she rang for Ann to take away her cousin's things.

Fred ceased whistling, taking himself out of the room at the same time. Fanny gave her cousin a look, as much as to say, you see what I have to put up with.

As soon as the door closed after her husband, Fanny's countenance lost its disconsolate, abused expression, and she commenced talking with her visitor with considerable spirit and animation.

Jenny, now, had opportunity to observe her more particularly.

It was nearly dinner time, and still she had on the calico wrapper that she had worn at breakfast; not much soiled, but still faded and wrinkled.

She wore neither cuffs nor collar, while her pretty brown hair—pretty when properly cared for—was smoothed over the top, and tucked back of her ears in tangled bunches.

Her feet were thrust into a pair of old slippers, much too large for her, and down at the heels.

As Jenny looked at her she could hardly believe that it was her cousin, Fanny Burns, who always used to look fresh and neat, so smiling and happy.

From the habit of giving way to all her peevish and discontented feelings as they arose, it seemed impossible for her to look pleasant now, when she tried, while her very voice, which used to have such a clear and cheerful ring, had become infected by them.

In answering and asking questions the time passed rapidly, until it was nearly time for dinner.

"I had no idea it was so near dinner-time," said Jenny, rising to her feet, as she glanced at her watch. "I shall hardly give you time to dress."

"Oh! I shan't make any change in my dress; there'll be nobody but husband at dinner, and you won't mind."

"No, certainly, I shan't mind." There was more than this on Jenny's lip, but she checked herself. "This was not the right time to speak, even if she had any right to speak at all."

husband worth dressing for," retorted Fred.

"If she does I hope it will be for a husband who cares enough for her society to spend one evening at home out of six."

Fred turned red with anger and mortification. It was evident to Jenny that this would not have been the last of it had she not been present.

She hastened to change the subject, being aided in the endeavor by the advent of baby.

It was a lovely child, and one would suppose would be an additional tie to bind their hearts together, but instead of that it was a constant bone of contention.

Thus matters went on for some days. Jenny observed with pain that Fred was in the habit of spending most of his evenings out. For a while after she came he stayed in, but mortified as well as irritated by his wife's slovenly appearance and fretful complainings, he gradually absented himself, until he rarely spent an evening at home.

"Is Mr. Dayton out this evening?" inquired Jenny, as, entering the sitting-room, she glanced around.

"You never need ask that question," returned Fanny; "he's always out."

Jenny had long wished for an opportunity to talk with her cousin. After a moment's grave silence, she said: "And do you know what the end of this will be, Fanny?"

"Ruin, I suppose," was the bitter response. "But there is no help for it, as I see. It is something for which I am not responsible."

"But I think you are, Fanny."

"It's replied Fanny, opening her eyes widely, "what do you mean?"

"Just what I say, my dear cousin. When you married Frederick Dayton, no man was more domestically inclined or fonder of his wife and home than he."

"He's got over it, bravely!" exclaimed Fanny, with a bitter laugh. "He don't act as if he had the slightest affection for me, and seems to prefer any place to his home."

"And is not this in a great measure your own fault, Fanny?"

"Nay, look not so angry, dear cousin; I love you too well to see you thus recklessly throwing away your happiness and his. Did not the alteration you speak of spring from the change in you? You cannot love what is unlovely. No man can love a wife who takes no pains to make her person neat and attractive, or a home that is full of bickerings and discomfort. Before your marriage, you would have been terrified at the idea of his catching a glimpse of you in the attire in which you allow him to see you all day. Why should you seek to look less pleasing in his eyes now than then?"

Fanny glanced at the opposite mirror that revealed so unflattering a tale, coloring with anger and mortification.

"It is impossible for a married woman to dress as she did when a girl, and no man has a right to expect it."

"Every man has a right to expect his wife to have sufficient respect for him to present a neat and tidy appearance. You did not consider it too much trouble to dress when Judge Barry called on you. And last evening, at the party, when Mr. Howard picked up your handkerchief, you received it with a look and smile such as I have not seen you bestow upon your husband, even when he took twice the pains to please you?"

"You are very severe," said Fanny, her eyes filling with tears.

"Faithful are the wounds of a friend. My dear Fanny, two ways are open to you. You can either make home to your husband the dearest place in the world and yourself one of the most beloved and happy of wives, or you can alternate his affections, driving him to haunts and companionship that will wreck the peace and happiness of both."

Here they were interrupted by the advent of visitors.

Jenny returned home the next morning, so she had no opportunity of knowing what effect her earnest appeal had upon the better feelings of her cousin.

It was some months before Fanny and Jenny met again, and then it was at the marriage that transformed the latter into the loved and loving wife of the husband of her choice.

The happy smile on the face of Fred and which was reflected back from the smiling eyes of his wife, told of the happy change that had been wrought.

"Fred spends all his evenings at home, now," said Fanny, giving her cousin a significant look.

"Why shouldn't I?" cried the happy husband, "when I have the dearest wife and the pleasantest home in the world?"

Are there not many wives who would do well to make the same experiment, reaping the same happy results?

Polo in the British Army. Wherever Tommy Atkins is stationed, the officers who "drill 'im," and who "make 'im look so neat" are first players. When the game, there was a disposition to check its progress by the army authorities on the ground that it was too expensive for the officers who had only their pay to depend upon. It was soon learned that the training acquired on the polo fields stood the officers, especially the cavalry, in good stead in the sterner strife of war, and now polo is considered an essential part of the British army education.—Exchange.

Skates of Glass.

Through persistent experimenting a process has been discovered by which glass can be hardened to the consistency of steel, and its first practical application is being given to the manufacture of skates. The product has so many advantages that it is certain of being a successful competitor of steel skates, it having already withstood satisfactorily all the tests to which it has been submitted. It is of lower cost, much more durable, lighter and faster.

Managing Her.

Fretty Wife (pointing)—That Mrs. De Platine has a dozen dresses handsomer than the only good one I've got. Smart Husband—A homey woman like that needs rich attire to attract attention from her face. You don't. (Pretty wife subsides).—New York Weekly.

A man is never as comfortable in bed as when called in the morning.

To Cure Headache in 15 Minutes. Take Dr. Davis' Anti-Headache. All Druggists.

A girl gives her age when she tells she is cutting her wisdom teeth.

America's Greatest Medicine

Greatest. Because in cases of Dyspepsia it has a touch like magic, which just hits the spot, brings relief to the sufferer, and gives tone and strength to the stomach as no other medicine does.

Could Not Eat without Pain. "For many years I have been a sufferer from a severe case of dyspepsia. I could not eat without great pain in my stomach and would be sick and vomit up what I did eat. One day I read of a case cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla. I told my husband I believed this medicine would help me. He went right away and got a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla. I took four bottles and I was cured." Mrs. ALLEN BRIDGES, Makanda, Illinois.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is America's Greatest Medicine. \$1.50 for 25. Sold by all druggists. Get only Hood's.

Hood's Pills

are the best after-dinner pills, aid digestion, etc.

TOWER'S FISH BRAND SLICKER

WILL KEEP YOU DRY.

Don't be fooled with a mackintosh or rubber coat. If you want a coat that will keep you dry in the hardest storm, buy the Fish Brand Slicker. It is not for sale in your town, write for catalogue to A. J. TOWER, Boston, Mass.

FOR 14 CENTS

FRIENDSHIP EXPRESSED.

Chile and Argentine Both Siding With the United States.

Washington, March 21.—The presence of Mr. Charles R. Flint at the White House conference yesterday naturally gives inference that the president and his advisers were discussing the question of acquiring additional ships.

Both Chile and the Argentine Republic have the warmest friendship and admiration for the United States and her institutions.

The attention of Mr. Flint was called to the published report that the United States would purchase the Brazilian torpedo boat Tuby, but this, he said, would not be done, so far as he was aware, as there were no negotiations under way to that effect.

Situation Unchanged.

New Bedford, Mass., March 22.—The fifth week of the struggle between capital and labor in this city finds the situation practically unchanged, except the operatives have conceded that they might be willing to go back to work under a reduction of 5 per cent instead of 10.

The most important meeting was held yesterday afternoon, and at its conclusion the following statement was given out by the manufacturers:

"Now we submit to you, as intelligent men, how can we do this? For months before we posted notices of the reduction in the wage schedule we found it impossible to meet competition.

"No, conditions to-day demand a larger reduction of the wage schedule than the posted notices called for, and it is out of the question for the manufacturers to modify these; they are faithful custodians of their respective properties simply cannot.

"Our employees sadly misapprehended the condition of the market and the supply and demand when they left their work several weeks ago, and the conditions have not changed for the better since, but on the contrary have gone from bad to worse."

After extended discussion of this and the subject generally, the manufacturers, in answer to the inquiry what they could suggest, replied, viz: "What we can say to you is that when the condition of the market warrants an increase of wages the New Bedford mills will give their employees the benefit of it with others."

DASTARDLY OUTRAGE.

A Mob Enter a Residence at Mukogee, L. T., and Kill Husband and Wife.

Muskogee, L. T., March 21.—A dastardly outrage was committed Saturday night near the town of Wyback, five miles north of here, resulting in the death of two men and a woman.

The house of Ed Chalmers, a negro, who recently married a white woman, was attacked during the night by six white men who had evidently determined to murder both the negro and his wife, both of whom had been threatened by white men who disliked the union.

A door of their cabin was broken in and both the negro and his wife were shot down, but before Chalmers had put up a good fight against his assailants. The woman was killed outright and though Chalmers succeeded in driving off the attacking party, they left him mortally wounded and he died before daylight.

Yesterday morning the body of one Matthews, an aged white man who lived at Gibson Station, was found near the Chalmers cabin, pierced with a bullet. Matthews answered the description given by Chalmers before he died of one of his assailants. There were evidences that Matthews' body had been dragged from Chalmers' house to the place where it was found.

It is impossible to say definitely whether any synopsis of the findings of the court up to date has been sent to Washington. The notion prevails here that this has been done, but no official confirmation is obtainable.

Constantinople, March 21.—In consequence of the sultan's direct appeal, the czar has consented to withdraw his demand for the 3,750,000 roubles of the Russo-Turkish war indemnity which his majesty at first insisted should be paid from the Græco-Turkish war indemnity.

London, March 19.—Replying in the house of commons yesterday to a question, Mr. Curzon, the parliamentary secretary for the foreign office, said that the British ambassador at Madrid, Sir H. Drummond-Wolfe, would be instructed to inquire into the report that the Spanish minister at Washington, Senor Polo y Bernabe, had received instructions to discuss the preferential treatment of American products in the Spanish West Indies, as under the existing treaty British goods were entered to the minimum colonial tariff.

Washington, March 19.—By arrangement between the parties, Sir Julian Pauncefote for Great Britain and Senor Andrade for Venezuela, the cases relative to the boundary arbitration prepared by counsel on either side have been exchanged. The documents will be forwarded to their respective governments by the ambassador and the minister to serve as the basis for the counter cases to be exchanged later on and to prepare the way for the arbitration to meet in Paris next fall.

Washington, March 19.—The senate committee on privileges and elections yesterday authorized a favorable report on the amendment to the constitution of the United States, introduced by Senator Hoar, changing the time of year for the expiration of the terms of the president, vice president, senators and representatives in congress from March 4 until the last Wednesday in April, to take effect in 1901. The object is to avoid the harsh weather of March 4 for the ceremony.

Washington, March 19.—The train bearing the remains of Mrs. Thurston to Omaha left here at 4:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Besides Senator Thurston and his son Clarence there were included in the funeral party Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn, Mrs. Hatcher and Mrs. Taplin, national officers of the D. A. R., members of the Cuban relief corps and other friends of Mrs. Thurston.

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MUCH SUSPENSE.

Report Expected in the Course of Two or Three Days.

Washington, March 19.—An air of suspense was noticeable in the navy department due to the approach of the time for the delivery of the report of the court of inquiry. It is not known just when the document will come to Washington, but it is expected here in the course of two or three days.

The San Francisco reported her arrival from Lisbon at Gravesend yesterday. Under his orders the commander will divide his crew with the Amazonas and sail at the earliest possible moment for the United States, conveying the new ship. Beyond the Amazonas, her sister ship Aboumal and the Mayflower, no purchase of ships have been made by the navy department. A number of fleet steam yachts owned in the United States are being offered to the department, and it is probable that some of these will be purchased. Secretary Long takes the view that, failing to secure the torpedo boat destroyers he wants, the best plan is for him to equip some of these speedy boats with torpedo boats and light batteries and improvised torpedo boats.

The navy department is convinced that the Spanish government has not acquired possession of the Italian cruiser Varese. It would not, however, be a matter of deep concern if the report were true. The department itself had the vessel in mind as a possible acquisition, but abandoned the idea upon learning that she could not be made ready for service in less than three or four months. The gunboat Newport reported her arrival by cable to the navy department from Greytown. She will bring back to the United States the Nicaragua canal commission, and will then be attached at once to the north Atlantic squadron.

Some idea of the activity prevailing in naval circles is given by the statement that the payroll of the construction department, only one of several departments, in the Mare Island yard, for March was \$80,000. This great expenditure per month, it is said, was not equaled during the late war.

A separate account will be kept of all funds expended from the \$50,000,000 emergency appropriation. A separate form of requisition has been prepared, and all amounts allotted from the fund are made upon the direct order signed by the president himself.

"The president wants to show congress just how every cent of this money is spent," said a member of the cabinet to-day, "and for this reason is adopting the course outlined."

The amount paid for the Mayflower was about \$400,000.

To Lay a Cable.

New York, March 19.—Further plans to make perfect the means of communication between the defenses of New York have been made. Within a day or two it is probable that a contract will be let for laying a large cable of the size used in the ocean between all of the local fortifications.

This plan to connect all the forts surrounding New York City with Governor's island, was one of the matters to which Major Gen. Nelson A. Miles gave his attention on his tour of inspection on Tuesday.

Lieut. Col. Amos Kimball, acting quarter master general, has issued orders for the transfer of two more batteries from Fort Slocum to Sandy Hook. The government steamship Gen. Meigs will go to Fort Slocum and two batteries, numbering 130 men, will be taken to Fort Hancock to-morrow morning. When they are located there that fortification will have nearly 400 of the best trained artillerymen in the regular army.

Recruits from the new sixth artillery continue to apply at Fort Slocum. Enough of these men have already been enlisted to guard Fort Slocum against any temporary weakening involved in the transfer of men to Fort Hancock. As fast as the new recruits fill up the men will be assigned to various points on the Atlantic coast. Col. William St. Clair, who has been selected as commander of the new regiment, will take charge of Fort Slocum temporarily, relieving Lieut. Col. Tully McCrea, who goes to assume charge at Sandy Hook.

British Goods.

London, March 19.—Replying in the house of commons yesterday to a question, Mr. Curzon, the parliamentary secretary for the foreign office, said that the British ambassador at Madrid, Sir H. Drummond-Wolfe, would be instructed to inquire into the report that the Spanish minister at Washington, Senor Polo y Bernabe, had received instructions to discuss the preferential treatment of American products in the Spanish West Indies, as under the existing treaty British goods were entered to the minimum colonial tariff.

Cheered the Soldiers.

Memphis, Tenn., March 19.—Specials from towns in Arkansas and Tennessee indicate the truth of the reunited country by the fact of delegations from every city, town and hamlet through which the artillery batteries passed en route from Fort Riley to the sea coast, gathering to meet the trains. In many towns the entire population turned out and cheered the soldiers to the echo. Prominent in these demonstrations were old confederate soldiers.

British-Venezuelan Treaty.

Washington, March 19.—By arrangement between the parties, Sir Julian Pauncefote for Great Britain and Senor Andrade for Venezuela, the cases relative to the boundary arbitration prepared by counsel on either side have been exchanged. The documents will be forwarded to their respective governments by the ambassador and the minister to serve as the basis for the counter cases to be exchanged later on and to prepare the way for the arbitration to meet in Paris next fall.

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REPORT SENT.

Findings of the Court of Inquiry on Route to Washington.

Washington, March 18.—The president expects the report of the court of inquiry to-day or to-morrow. It may even now be on its way from Key West to Washington.

When the court arrived at Key West from Havana and reported to Admiral Seward what progress it had made toward reaching the end of its long task, the admiral promptly communicated with the secretary of the navy. It was the secretary's purpose to have a full synopsis of the court's conclusions put in cipher and telegraphed to Washington.

Upon consultation with the president, however, this plan was abandoned. Both the president and secretary are determined to spare no efforts to maintain the secrecy of the court's verdict until they themselves have determined to give it publicity. Therefore even the admirably designed naval cipher code could not be relied on with complete satisfaction and at the president's instance, Admiral Seward was directed to place the documents in the custody of some naval officer, according to the usual method, and forward them to Washington in that manner.

Whether this officer has started or not, is not yet known, but if he and Admiral Seward have executed their orders with regular naval promptness, it will not be long before the president will be in possession of such information and conclusions as the court has so far had. It is not even known positively that these conclusions are final, but if the ordinary routine of courts of inquiry has been followed in this case they probably are so, unless the secretary of the navy believes, after looking into the testimony, that some lines of investigation should be further pursued.

As before stated every precaution that human ingenuity can suggest will be adopted to safeguard the report, the main apprehension being that there may be somehow a publication in the newspapers that may interfere seriously with the successful working out of the policy of the administration. The documents will be sealed at Key West under the personal observation of Admiral Seward and the naval officer who takes the papers in his custody will be expected to deliver the envelope with the seal unbroken into the hands of the secretary of the navy. Probably the messenger will be Lieut. Commander Marx, judge advocate of the court of inquiry, though the selection is entirely within the authority of Admiral Seward.

After War Ships.

New York, March 18.—A dispatch from London says: Negotiations for the purchase of warships are still in progress. The Spanish agents having money at their disposal in London. The only vessel which they are believed to have purchased is McCalmont's large steam yacht now in the Mediterranean sea. Spain would have secured the Amazonas and Admiral Breaud a week ago if the vote of \$50,000,000 had not been passed. Lieut. Colwell had previously entered a bid for them; the Spanish agents made a determined effort to secure them, but failed. Brazil at first sought to sell four ships, including the two coast defense vessels in France, which are only half finished, but finally consented to deliver the Amazonas and Admiral Breaud a week ago if the vote of \$50,000,000 had not been passed. Lieut. Colwell had previously entered a bid for them; the Spanish agents made a determined effort to secure them, but failed. 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Don't FORGET OR LIGHT OUT OF

JOHN STRANGE WINTER

INTERNATIONAL PRESS ASSOCIATION.

CHAPTER I.

It was in the sweet month of September, the soft afternoon of a day that had been not even on the borders of the North Sea, which sends its breezes flying over the part of Essex and marshy, but rich and undulating, and fair and pleasant to look upon. In London the people were gasping for breath, but here, though the day had been fairly hot, it was now at six o'clock soft and balmy, and by nightfall the air would be sharp and fresh.

It was such a fair day and such a fair view! Behind on the higher ground stood a rambling old house, half hall, half farm-house—a house with a long red-brick front, and a sort of terrace-garden from which you might look across the fields and the long green stretches of land over which the hold sea came and went at ebb and flow of the tides. It was a quaint old garden, with turf like velvet, and raised beds cut in it here and there, gay with blazing scarlet geraniums and blue lobelias, and kept neat and tidy by a quaint bordering of red tiles set edge-ways into the ground. There were tall



TURNED AND WALKED ON. trees, too, about this domain, which hid the farm-buildings from sight, and also helped to shield the house from the fierce winter blasts, and in front there lay a rich and verdant meadow sloping gently down to the high-road, where just then a man and a young girl had stopped for a moment as they walked along together.

"Mayn't I come in?" the man said, impudently.
"No, I don't think you must," the girl answered. "You see, auntie has gone to Colchester, and she wouldn't like me to ask you in when I knew she wasn't there. No, I don't think you must come in this time."
"Perhaps she will be back by this time," he urged; but the girl shook her head resolutely.

"No; for the train does not get to Wrentham till twenty-four minutes past seven—it is not as much past six yet," she said, simply.
"But," he said, finding that there was no chance of his effecting an entrance within the fortress, "are you bound to go in just yet?"

"No, I am not; but you are bound to go back to Lady Jane's for your dog-cart. She knows that you came with me, and she knows that auntie is in Colchester."
"Lady Jane knows too much," he said, vexedly. "Yes, I suppose I must go back. But I may carry your racket as far as the door, eh?"

"Oh, I think you may do that," answered the girl demurely.
So together they turned and walked on. The road took a curve to the right, skirting the sloping meadow and rising gradually until they reached the gates of the old house, with its quaint red front and its many gables and dormer windows, and at the gate Dorothy Strode stopped and held out her hand for the racket.

"Thank you very much for bringing me home," she said, shyly, but with an upward glance of her blue eyes that went straight to the man's perhaps rather susceptible heart; "it was very good of you."
"Yes, but tell me," he answered, not letting go his hold of the racket, "the aunt has gone to Colchester, you say?"

"Yes."
"Does she often go?"
"Oh, no; not often."
"But how often? Once a week?"
"Once a week—oh, no; not once a month. Why do you ask?"
"Because for the present I live in Colchester. I am quartered there, you know, and I thought that perhaps sometimes when the auntie was coming you might be coming, too, and I might show you round a little—the house and all that, you know. That was all."
"But I don't think," said Dorothy Strode, taking him literally, "that auntie would ever want to be shown round Colchester, or the lions, or anything. You see, she has lived at the Hall for more than fifty years, and probably knows Colchester a thousand times as well as you do."
"True! I might have thought of that," and he laughed a little at his own mistake, then added suddenly: "But don't you think your aunt might like to come and have afternoon tea in my quarters? Old ladies generally love a bachelor tea."

"I don't think she would," said Dorothy, honestly. "You see, Mr. Harris, my aunt is rather strict, and she never does anything unusual, and—" At that moment she broke off short as a fairly smart dog-cart driven by a young man passed them, and returned the salute of the occupant, who had lifted his hat as soon as he saw her.
"Who is that?" asked the soldier, father jealously, frowning a little as he noticed the girl's heightened color.

"That is Mr. Stevenson," she answered, looking straight in front of her.
"Oh, Mr. Stevenson. And who is he when he's at home?" the soldier demanded.
"Very much the same as when he is not at home," answered Dorothy, with a gay laugh.
He laughed, too. "But tell me, who is he?"

"Oh, one of the gentlemen farmers round about."
It was evident that she did not want to talk about the owner of the dog-cart, but the soldier went on without heeding: "And you know him well?"
"I have known him all my life," she said, with studied carelessness.
In the face of her evident unwillingness to enlarge upon the subject, the soldier had no choice but to let her take the racket from him.

"Good-by," she said, holding out her hand to him.
"Good-by," he answered, holding it a good deal longer than was necessary; "but tell me I may come and call?"
"Yes, I think you might do that."
"You will tell your aunt that you met me, and that I am coming to call tomorrow?"

"That is a little soon, isn't it?" she said, laughing. "Besides, tomorrow there is a sewing-meeting."
"And you go?"
"Always."
"And you like it?" incredulously.
"No, candidly I don't; but in this world, at least in Graveleigh, one has to do a great many things that one does not like."

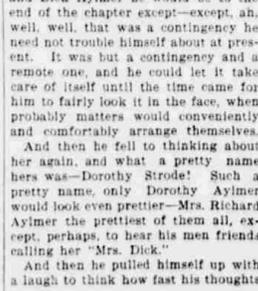
"And you might have to do worse things than go to a sewing-meeting," he suggested, for it suddenly flashed into his mind that there would be no gentlemen farmers in smart dog-carts at such feminine functions as sewing-meetings.
"That is so. Well, good-by."
"But you haven't said when I may come," he cried.
"No; say one day next week," with a gay laugh.
"But which day?"
"Oh, you must take your chance of that. Good-by," and then she passed in at the wide old gate, and disappeared among the bushes and shrubs which lined the short and crooked carriage-drive leading to the house.

CHAPTER II.

OR a moment he stood there looking after her, then turned on his heel and retraced the steps which he had taken in Dorothy Strode's company, and as he went again over all that she had said, he thought of her beauty, her soft blue eyes, and fair, wind-tossed hair, of the grace of her movements, the strength and skill of her play, the sweet, half-shy voice, the gentle manner with now and then just a touch of roguish fun to relieve its softness. Then he recalled how she had looked up at him, and how softly she had spoken his name, "Mr. Harris," just as that farmer-fellow came along to distract her attention and bring the bright color into her cheeks, and by love's he had come away and never told her that his name was not Harris at all, but Aymer—Richard Aymer, commonly known as "Dick," not only in his regiment, but in every place where he was known at all. Now how, his thoughts ran, could the little woman have got hold of an idea that his name was Harris? Dick Harris! Well, to be sure, it didn't sound bad, but then it did not suit him. Dick Aymer he was, and Dick Aymer he would be to the end of the chapter except—except, and well, well, that was a contingency he need not trouble himself about at present. It was but a contingency and a remote one, and he could let it take care of itself until the time came for him to fairly look it in the face, when probably matters would conveniently and comfortably arrange themselves.

And then he fell to thinking about her again, and what a pretty name hers was—Dorothy Strode! Such a pretty name, only Dorothy Aymer would look even prettier—Mrs. Richard Aymer, the prettiest of them all, except, perhaps, to hear his men friends calling her "Mrs. Dick."
And then he pulled himself up with a laugh to think how fast his thoughts had been running on—why, he had actually married himself already, after an hour and a half's acquaintance and before even he had begun his wooing! And with another laugh he turned in at the gates of Lady Jane's place, where he must say his farewells and get his dog-cart.

Lady Jane was still on the lawn, and welcomed him with a smile. She was a stout, motherly woman, still young enough to be sympathetic.
"Ah, you are back," she said. "Now, is not that a nice girl?"
"Charming," returned Dick, sitting down beside her and answering in his most conventional manner.



SITTING DOWN BESIDE HER.

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Lady Jane frowned a little, being quite deceived by the tone. She was fond of Dorothy herself, and would dearly like to make a match for her. She had seen with joy that Mr. Aymer seemed very attentive to her, and had encouraged him in his offer to escort her down the road to her aunt's house—and now he had come back again with his cold, conventional tones as if Dorothy was the tenth charming girl he had taken home that afternoon, and he had not cared much about the task.

"I heard you say a little time ago that you were going away," he remarked, after a moment's pause.
"Yes, we are off tonight by the boat from Harwich," she answered. "Yes, it is rather a long passage—twelve hours—but the boats are big and the weather is smooth, and it is a great convenience being able to drive from from one's own door to the boat itself—some starts so much fresher, you know."
"Yes, that must be so," he replied, "though I never went over by this route. And how long do you stay?"

"All the winter," Lady Jane answered. "We go to Kissingen, though it is a trifle late for the place. Then on to the Engadine, Italian Lakes, and to Marselles. After that to Algiers for several months."
"Algiers," he said in surprise, "really?"

"Yes, I need a warm climate in the winter, and it gives Mr. Sturt a chance both of life and of sport, so that he does not really feel being out of England for so long."
"And you come back next spring?"
"Yes, some time next spring," she answered.

Dick Aymer got up then and began to make his adieux.
"Then good-by, Mr. Harris," said Lady Jane, with much cordiality, "and I hope to find you still at Colchester when we come back again. If not, you must come and see me in London during the season."
"Thanks, very many," he said, "but my—"
"Oh!" cried Lady Jane, in dismay, "look! look! the fox-terrier is worrying the Persian kitten. Do rescue it somebody, do, do!"
(To be continued.)

HERMIT IN A BIG CITY.

Why an Old Lady Has Shut Herself Off from the World.

Various, indeed, are the ways in which eccentric people indulge their little peculiarities, but a decidedly original manner has been adopted by an old lady living here, says a Paris letter to the London Telegraph. On one of the grand boulevards stands a house with closed shutters and fastened door. Scarcely a sign of life is there about the place and the house has remained in a similar state over a quarter of a century.

The owner is an old lady, who, on Sept. 4, 1870, the day on which the republic was proclaimed, resolutely determined that no one affected by republican ideas should ever cross the threshold of her dwelling. To avoid any such contingency she simply declined to allow any one inside and has refused all offers to hire either apartments or the shop below. The only time she breaks through her hard and fast rule is when workmen are permitted to enter in order to carry out repairs. Painters, carpenters, locksmiths and masons once a year in turn invade her privacy and make good any damage. To relatives whose political tendencies are the same as her own she is particularly gracious, but at the death of each one an apartment in the building is sealed up, and now all are closed barring the very small one at the back of the house, which the anti-republican hermit reserves for her own use and that of her three servants. This strange behavior on the part of an old lady has repeatedly excited comment and numerous have been the attempts of people to gain an entrance by some ruse or other. All their efforts are foiled by an aged servant, who guards the front door with dragon-like vigilance, and the would-be intruder soon finds the portals slammed in his face and himself none the wiser for his curiosity.

STAMPEDED AT THE ALTAR.

How a French Bridegroom Was Rounded Up by His Intended.

Paris exchanges tell of a French Captain Bunsby, who was recently led to the altar twice in one day by a Gallic Mrs. Mettinger. The ludicrous affair took place at the little town of Issoudun. The Frenchman went to the matric, in company with a widow, for the purpose of being married.

When asked, however, whether he would take the woman for his wife, to everybody's surprise he said emphatically: "No, I was too unhappy in my first marriage to wish to begin again."
"Come, come," said the mayor, "you should have thought of all that before you came here. You must have known what you were doing." "It is never too late to avoid doing a foolish thing," said the bridegroom, and so saying he put on his hat and rushed out of the place. The whole wedding party, with the bride at their head, ran after him through the streets of the town, amidst the jeers of the passers-by. The fugitive was run to earth at last and brought back in triumph by the lady, who showed by her manner that she was not to be balked of her prey. The wretched man, now thoroughly cowed, went through the ceremony as meekly as a lamb. Loud cheers greeted the newly wedded couple as they reappeared on their way to the restaurant where the wedding breakfast was being prepared.

In Clearer Bree.

"Yes, I always let people know that my wife is a Republican and I'm a Democrat. It saves me lots of explanations."
"In what way?"
"Why, when people hear us raising merry turmoil they think, of course, it is only a party dispute."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Similar, but Different.

Landlord (to delinquent tenant)—"Well, what do you propose to do about the rent?" Tenant (examining torn trousers)—"Oh, it's not so bad. My tailor can fix it all right."

FOR WOMAN AND HOME.

A Lochovar in skirts. Sixteen-year-old Miss Minshall of Eldorado Springs, near Nevada, Mo., played the role of a Lochovar in skirts the other day, but, sad to say, it was no avall that she carried off her lover on horseback. He is 18 years of age and bears the euphonious name of Sidney Hathaway. Miss Minshall said she saddled her own horse and went to Harwood in search of her lover. Not finding him there, she went to Eve's schoolhouse, thence to Oak Grove schoolhouse, where she took him up behind her on the horse and they struck out by moonlight alone. They arrived at Walker, a station on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas ten minutes too late to take the train south for the Indian territory, where they intended to get married. Then the girl's father and big brother arrived on the scene and stopped further progress. Her father objected to the marriage, on account of her youth. She returned home, leaving the bridegroom expectant. He would not take the risk of going back with the big brother.

Miss Gotham's Awful Error.

Not long ago a New York girl went to Washington expecting to pay a long visit to a recently married schoolmate. Her stay was limited to just four days, being cut short by a most embarrassing error she made. She had accepted a young man's invitation to attend a theater, and woman-like, took a long while to dress. It was almost time for

making it up. Taffeta and chiffon are still the favorite materials, the former for skirt material and the latter for trimming purposes. Silk muslin takes the place of chiffon sometimes, but it is thicker and much less adaptable. It is, however, very soft and graceful.
A rather noticeable evening gown had a skirt of bluish rose taffeta. The waist was of the same with silk muslin thickly gathered over it. A pink ribbon was gathered around the neck, as in bows on the shoulder and at the belt. The ends hung to the floor. The only trimming upon the skirt was a shirring of ribbon.



HOW EVENING GOWNS ARE WORN THIS SEASON.

Tea Gown and House Dress.

The most noticeable thing about the new house dresses is their drapery and shape. The Watteau plait will always be popular, but the draped front has for the present taken its place. This consists of a front laid across in folds, draped from one side to the other. To form this the front is laid in side plaits. Under each plait there is attached a big hook. When the dress is put on these hooks fasten into eyes that are sewed upon the left side of the waist. This is the secret of the draped fronts, which are neither difficult nor intricate when once understood.

Rage for Evening Gowns.

It is perhaps due to a revival of early century styles that the evening dress is so much worn, and by "evening" is meant the gown that is short-sleeved and low in the neck. For all except strictly house occasions, this low cut and short-sleeved dress is seen, and many are the pretty modes for

An Unique Wedding Gift.

A recent bride had one among her many presents which will serve the double purpose of reminding her of the home she has left and also will be of great practical use to her. One of her friends armed herself with a blank

book and went about in the town where both lived to all their mutual acquaintances, asking for cooking recipes. These she copied in the book, appending in each case the name of the giver and classifying them carefully for future reference. One could scarcely imagine a more thoughtful gift.

Let's Old Lover's Fortune.

Though death prevented Mrs. Lucille Morris of Omaha from marrying late in life the man of her early love, she has been somewhat solaced by the gift of his fortune. A few days ago she received word that the efforts of the heirs of C. E. Allison to break his will by queering his property, valued at \$150,000 to her has been defeated, and that she will obtain the fortune in a few weeks.

Mrs. Morris is known as a writer on reform topics, having published a thesis on society reform, and several other books. While in her teens she met C. E. Allison in Butler, Mo., and they fell in love. She was then engaged to L. Morris, a Sedalia, Mo., professor. In spite of her love for Allison she kept faith with the professor and married him. Morris and his wife did not live happily, and Mrs. Morris obtained a divorce three years ago. Allison had in the meantime grown rich from mining investments in Mexico. He met Mrs. Morris in Kan-

SERVA-TS' LIVERIES.

They Had Their Origin During the Reign of King Pepin of France.
So far as the present writer is aware the earliest mention of "liveries" made in history was during the reign of King Pepin of France, who flourished about the year 750 A. D., says London Society. A form of amusement in which King Pepin was partial was what were termed cours pleneiers. These were assemblies at which, upon the king's invitation, all the lords and courtiers of France were expected to be present. They were held twice each year—at Christmas and Easter—and generally lasted for about a week at each time. Sometimes these gatherings took place at the king's palace, sometimes in the neighborhood of one of the larger French cities and sometimes in some rural district, while the festival lasted the king took all his meals in public, bishops and dukes alone being privileged to sit at the royal table. A second table was provided for abbots, counts and other leading men, and at both tables there was shown more profusion than delicacy, both in the quality of the meats and drinks and the manner in which they were served. Flutes, hautboys and other musical instruments were played before the bearers of each course as it was removed from the tables. When dessert was served, twenty heralds, each holding aloft a jeweled goblet, shouted thrice, "Largesse, largesse from the most potent of kings!" As they shouted they scattered among the crowds handfuls of gold and silver coins. Then the trumpets were blown, while the better class of spectators shouted and the meaner sort scrambled and often fought vigorously for the money scattered by the heralds. Charles VII. of France put a final stop to the cours pleneiers, alleging that the expense attendant upon his wars with England made it impossible for him to continue them. One of the severest causes of expense, it was explained, arose from the fact that, beginning with King Pepin's time, etiquette and custom alike demanded that the king should upon these occasions give an entire suit of new and gorgeous clothing not only to his own servants and retainers, but also to those of the queen and all the princes of the blood royal. These garments were said to be lives—that is, "delivered" at the king's expense—and from this word the English word "livery" was derived, as was the custom of providing servants with "livery" from the above-mentioned practice of certain of the French kings.

HINTS FOR SMOKERS.

Never Smoke Before Breakfast or When the Stomach Is Empty.
Generalarzt Dr. Shoier publishes in the Centralblatt zur Gesundheitspflege a collection of "Hints for Smokers," which are founded, as the doctor states upon his professional observation for many years of the mouth, teeth, stomach, lungs, heart and skin of the devotee of tobacco. The first and foremost rule is never to smoke before breakfast, nor, as a rule, when the stomach is empty; this custom is the worst possible foe of digestion. Never smoke during any exertion of great physical energy, as dancing, running, cycling, mountain-climbing, or rowing and especially if in a contest. Never follow "the bad customs of the French and the Russians" by allowing the smoke to pass through the nose; never inhale it through the nose. Keep the smoke as far as possible from the eyes and nose; the longer the pipe the better; the use of a short pipe during work is to be avoided. A pipe is the most wholesome form of smoking, a cigar the next, a cigarette the worst. Always throw away your cigar as soon as you have smoked four-fifths of it; the last end of it is the most hurtful, in cauda venenum, the poison lurks in the tail. All cigarettes are bad, but eastern cigarettes the worst, for they are almost always compounded with some degree of opium. The smoker ought to rinse out his mouth, not only before every meal and before going to bed at night, but several times during the day. The best rinse for the smoker is a glass of water in which a teaspoonful of table salt has been dissolved. It should be used as a gargle at night and care should be taken that every cavity in the teeth is well washed with it. The pipe's proper place is in the hand and only occasionally in the lips or teeth.

A Curious Forest.

The most extraordinary forest in the world is one discovered by Dr. Welwitsch, which occupies a tableland some six miles broad, at a height of 300 feet or 400 feet above the sea, near the west coast of Africa. The trunks of the trees of this peculiar forest are four feet in diameter, and yet they only attain a height of one foot, giving the tree the appearance of a round table. There are never more than two leaves, which attain a length of six feet and a breadth of two feet, the flowers forming crimson clusters.

Shot the Shutes.

Because they seriously objected to the attentions he was paying to their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Shute of Brooklyn were shot by William Smith, who escaped to Chicago. And now he is to be arrested for shooting the Shutes.

SOME FOREIGN PROVERBS.

If a girl is born beautiful, she is as good as born married.
A house without a wife or a fire is like a body without a soul.
You can never wait too long for a good meal or a good woman.
Before you propose to the daughter, study her mother's character.
Marry your son when you like, but your daughter as you can.
The happiest couple in the world would be a deaf husband and a blind wife.
It is easy to eat the wedding breakfast; it is not so easy to eat the week-day dinners that come after.
People should never marry unless the bridegroom has enough to buy every day's dinner, the bride to buy the supper.

It Produced an Effect.

"You really ought to have heard the sermon today, Henry," she said, when she got home from church. "It was one of the finest Dr. Thirly ever preached."
"What was it about?" he asked.
"The pomps and vanities of this wicked world," she answered, promptly, "and do you know, Henry, there wasn't a woman in church who was dressed any better than I. I tell you, my new gown made a sensation."—Chicago Evening Post.

Dangerous Insulation.

Nellie—"I know that I am not perfect. I realize that I have my faults."
George—"Yes; that's so."
Nellie (indignantly)—"I have, eh? I like to know what they are. Just name one."

It Was Late.

Gerald—"You look sweet enough to eat."
Geraldine—"You evidently think we run a night lunch wagon."

TALMAGE'S SERMON.

"STONING OF STEPHEN," SUNDAY'S SUBJECT.

From the Text, Acts VII, Verses 58 to 60 as follows: "Behold I see the heavens opened, etc.—A Sermon in Pictures.

Stephen had been preaching a rousing sermon, and the people could not stand it. They resolved to do as men sometimes would like to do in this day, if they dared, with some plain preacher of righteousness—kill him. The only way to silence this man was to knock the breath out of him. So they rushed Stephen out of the gates of the city, and with curses, and whoop, and fellow they brought him to the cliff, as was the custom when they wanted to take away life by stoning. Having brought him to the edge of the cliff, they pushed him off. After he had fallen they came and looked down, and seeing that he was not yet dead, they began to drop stones upon him, stone after stone. Amid this horrible rain of missiles, Stephen clammers up on his knees and folds his hands, while the blood drips from his temples to his cheeks, from his cheeks to his garments, from his garments to the ground; and then, looking up, he makes two prayers—one for himself and one for his murderers. "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit," that was for himself. "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge," that was for his assailants. Then, from pain and loss of blood, he swooned away and fell asleep.

I want to show you today five pictures. Stephen gazes into heaven. Stephen looking at Christ. Stephen stoned. Stephen in his dying prayer. Stephen asleep.

First, look at Stephen gazing into heaven. Before you take the leap you want to know where you are going to land. Before you climb a ladder you want to know to what point the ladder reaches. And it was right that Stephen, within a few moments of heaven, should be gazing into it. We would all do well to be found in the same posture. There is enough in heaven to keep us gazing. A man of large wealth may have statues in the hall, and paintings in the sitting-room, and works of art in all parts of the house, but he has the chief pictures in the art gallery, and there four after four you walk with catalogue and glass and ever-increasing admiration. Well, heaven is the gallery where God has gathered the chief treasures of his realm. The whole universe is his palace. In this lower room where we stop there are many adornments; tessellated floor of amethyst, and on the winding cloud-stairs are stretched out canvases on which commingle azure, and purple, and saffron, and gold. But heaven is the gallery in which the chief glories are gathered. There are the richest robes. There are the richest crowns. There are the highest exhilarations. John says of it: "The kings of the earth shall bring their honor and glory into it." And I see the procession forming, and in the line come all empires, and the statues and the host of the hosts to march under. The hosts keep step to the sound of earthquake and the pitch of avalanche from the mountains, and the flag they bear is the flame of a consuming world, and all heaven turns out with harps and trumpets and myriads of acclamation of angelic dominion to welcome them in, and so the kings of the earth bring their honor and glory into it. Do you wonder that good people often stand, like Stephen, looking into heaven? We have many friends there.

There is not a man in this house today so isolated in life but there is one one in heaven with whom he comes shook hands. As a man gets older, the number of his celestial acquaintances very rapidly multiplies. We have not had one glimpse of them since the night we kissed them goodbye, and they went away; but still we stand gazing at heaven. As when some of our friends go across the sea, we stand on the dock, or on the steaming, and watch them, and after awhile the bulk of the vessel disappears, and then there is only a patch of sail on the sky, and soon that is gone, and they are all out of sight, and yet we stand looking in the same direction; so when our friends go away from us into the future world we keep looking down through the Narrows, and gazing and gazing, as though we expected that they would come out and stand on some cloud, and give us one glimpse of their blissful and transfused faces.

While you long to join their companionship, and the years and the days go with such tedium that they break your heart, and the viper of pain and sorrow and bereavement keeps gnawing at your vitals, you stand still, like Stephen, gazing into heaven. You wonder if they have changed since you saw them last. You wonder if they would recognize your face now, so changed as it has been by trouble. You wonder if, amid the myriad delights they have, they care as much for you as they used to when the gave you a helping hand and put their shoulder under your burdens. You wonder if they look any older; and sometimes in the evening, when the house is all quiet, you wonder if you should call them by their first name if they would not answer; and perhaps sometimes you do make the experiment and when no one but God and yourself are there, you distinctly call their names and listen, and sit gazing into heaven.

Pass on now, and see Stephen looking upon Christ. My text says he saw the Son of Man at the right hand of God. Just how Christ looked in this world, just how he looks in heaven, we cannot say. A writer in the time of Christ says, describing the Saviour's personal appearance, that he had blue eyes and light complexion, and a very graceful structure; but I suppose it was all guess work. The painters of the different ages have tried to imagine the features of Christ and put them upon canvas; but we will have to wait until with our own eyes we see him and with our own ears we hear him. And yet there is a way of seeing him and hearing him now. I have to tell you that unless you see and hear Christ on earth, you will never see and hear

him in heaven. Look! There he is. Behold the Lamb of God. Can you not see him? Then pray to God to take the scales off your eyes. Look that way—try to look that way. His voice comes down to you this day—comes down to the blindest, to the deafest soul, saying: "Look unto me, all ye ends of the earth, and be ye saved, for I am God, and there is none else." Proclamation of universal emancipation for all slaves. Proclamation of universal amnesty for all rebels. Babylon gathered to the banquet; Napoleon III. welcomed the Czar of Russia and the Sultan of Turkey to his feast; the Emperor of Germany was glad to have our minister, George Bancroft, sit down with him at his table; but tell me, ye who know most of the world's history, what other king ever asked the abandoned and the forlorn and the wretched and the outcast to come and sit beside him?

On the day of his death, Stephen spoke before a few people in the Sanhedrim; now he addresses all Christians. Paul the Apostle stood on Mars Hill addressing a handful of philosophers who knew not so much about science as a modern school girl. To-day he talks to all the millions of Christendom about the wonders of justification and the glories of resurrection. John Wesley was howled down by the mob to whom he preached, and they threw bricks at him, and they denounced him, and they jostled him, and they spat upon him, and yet to-day, in all lands, he is admitted to be the great father of Methodism. Booth's bullet riddled the Presidential chair; but from that spot of conflagration blood on the floor in the box of Ford's Theater sprang up the new life of a nation. Stephen stoned, but Stephen alive.

Pass on now and see Stephen in his dying prayer. His first thought was not what the stones hurt his head, nor what would become of his body. His first thought was about his spirit.

"Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." The murderer standing on the trap door, the black cap being drawn over his head before the execution, may grimace about the future, but you and I have no shame in confessing to some anxiety about where we are going to come out. You are not all body. There is within you a soul. I see it gleam from your eyes, and I see it irradiating your countenance. Sometimes I am ashamed before an audience, not because I come under their physical eyesight, but because I realize the truth that I stand before so many immortal spirits. The probability is that your body will at last find a sepulchre in some of the cemeteries that surround your town or city. There is no doubt but that your obsequies will be decent and respectful, and that you will be able to pillow your head under the maple, or the Norway spruce, or the cypress, or the blossoming fir; but this spirit about which Stephen prayed, what direction will that take? What guide will escort it? What gate will open to receive it? What cloud will be cleft for its pathway? After it has got beyond the light of our sun, will there be torches lighted for it the rest of the way? Will it have to travel through long deserts before it reaches the good land? If we should lose our pathway, will there be a castle at whose gate we may ask the way to the city? Oh, this mysterious spirit within us! It has two wings, but it is in a cage now. It is locked fast to keep it; but let the door of this cage open the least, and that soul is off. Eagle's wing could not catch it. The lightning are not swift enough to take up with it. When the soul leaves the body it takes fifty worlds at a bound. And have I no anxiety about it? Have you no anxiety about it?

I do not care what you do with my body when my soul is gone, or whether you believe in cremation or inhumation. I shall sleep just as well in a wrapping of sackcloth as in satin lined with eagle's down. But my soul—before this day passes, I will find out where it will land. Thank God for the intimation of my text, that when we die Jesus takes us. That answers all questions for me. What though there were massive bars between here and the city of light, Jesus could remove them. What though there were great Saharas of darkness, Jesus could illumine them. "What though I get weary on my way, Christ could lift me on his omnipotent shoulder. What though there were chasms to cross, his hand could transport me. Then let Stephen's prayer be my dying litany: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." It may be in that hour we will be too feeble to say a long prayer. It may be in that hour we will not be able to say the "Lord's Prayer," for it has seven petitions. Perhaps we may be too feeble even to say the infant prayer our mothers taught us, which John Quincy Adams, seventy years of age, said every night when he put his head upon his pillow:

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep.

We may be too feeble to employ either of these familiar forms; but the prayer of Stephen is so short, so concise, so earnest, so comprehensive, we surely will be able to say that: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Oh, if that prayer is answered, how sweet it will be to die! This world is clever enough to us. Perhaps it has treated us a great deal better than we deserve to be treated; but if on the dying pillow there should break the light of that better world, we shall have no more regret about leaving a small, dark, damp house for one large, beautiful and spacious. That dying minister in Philadelphia, some years ago, beautifully depicted it, when in the last moment, he threw up his hands and cried out: "I move into the light!"

Pass on now and I will show you one more picture, and that is Stephen asleep. With a pathos and simplicity peculiar to the Scriptures, the text says of Stephen: "He fell asleep." "Oh, you say, what a place that was to sleep! I had rock under him, the blood streaming, the mob howling. What a place it was to sleep!" And yet my text takes that symbol of slumber to describe his departure, so sweet was it, so contented was it, so peaceful was it. Stephen had lived a very laborious life. His chief work had been to care for the poor. How many have heard of bread distributed, how many have felt he had sanded, how many coats of sickness and distress he blessed with

ministries of kindness and love. I do not know; but from the way he lived, and the way he preached, and the way he died, I know he was a laborious Christian. But that is all over now. He has pressed the cup to the last fainting lip. He has taken the last inult to those crushing weight he is susceptible has been hurled. Stephen is dead! The disciples come. They take him up. They wash away the blood from the wounds. They straighten out the bruised limbs. They brush back the tangled hair from the brow, and then they pass around to look upon the calm countenance of him who had lived for the poor and died for the truth. Stephen asleep!

I have not the faculty to tell the weather. I can never tell by the setting sun whether there will be a drought or not. I cannot tell by the blowing of the wind whether it will be a fair weather or foul on the morrow. But I can prophesy, and I will prophesy what weather it will be when you, the Christian, come to die. You may have it very rough now. It may be this week one annoyance, the next another annoyance. It may be this year one bereavement, the next another bereavement. Before this year has passed you may have to beg for bread, or ask for a scuttle of coal, or a pair of shoes; but at the last Christ will come in and darkness will go out. And though there may be no hand to close your eyes, and no breast on which to rest your dying head, and no candle to lift the night, the odors of God's hanging garden will regale your soul, and at your bedside will halt the chariots of the King. No more rents to pay, no more agony because flour has gone up, no more struggle with the world, the flesh, and the devil; but peace—long, deep, everlasting peace. Stephen asleep!

Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep,
From which none ever wakes or weeps;
A calm and undisturbed repose,
Uninjured by the last of foes.

Asleep in Jesus, far from thee
Thy kindred and their graves may be;
But there is still a blessed sleep,
From which none ever wakes or weeps.

DECAY OF SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

The Average Sunday-School of To-Day is a Rebuttal to Stilleigence.

In the Ladies' Home Journal Edward Bok writes on "The Decay of the Sunday-School," and points out the reason therefor. "I have in mind," he says, "not less than twelve different men who are acting as superintendents of our Sunday-schools. Not one of these men has even a suggestion of force; not a spark of personal magnetism, not a personal possession which goes to draw children to him or to the school over which he presides. In five of these cases the men have been failures in business; by men in the outer world they are passed over, and yet the church places them in positions which call pre-eminently for every element which they so distinctly lack. To be a successful head of a Sunday-school calls for a man with the instincts of leadership; a man who will infuse life into the school; hope and courage into his teachers; who is fertile of mind and infinite in capacity; who can draw children to him and retain their interest. Not only must he elevate his children in a spiritual sense, but lessons of the highest morality must be taught; an influence refining to mind and nature must be exhaled, and all the time the interest of the children must be arrested and held. Infinite variety of method must be sought. The young quickly tire of anything which long remains the same, and that is why they are thrifing of the Sunday-school. It has too long remained the same. It has fallen into a rut, and the fault lies between the presiding spirits of the school who have no ability for their positions, and the churches who have placed them to remain." Mr. Bok concludes his discussion with the assertion that "the average Sunday-school of today is a rebuke to intelligence and a discredit to the church."

Where it Never Thunders.

In Finland, East Turkistan, Iceland, Nova Zembla, the north part of Siberia, as well as all places in the extreme north, a clap of thunder is an unknown occurrence; while Peru has only one, or at most, two, thunderstorms in the century, its thunderstorm of 1877 having been the only one since 1803. Some parts of France, on the other hand, appear to be the most thundery places on the earth's surface, as, according to the president of the French Meteorological Society, in six or seven months of 1892 as many as 328 were counted.

The director of the observatory at Odessa, who has closely studied the question, states that there is a zone of electric activity of great intensity on both sides of the equator, which is also the zone of the greatest rainfall. This zone he divides into three sections, the first embracing Asia and Oceania, India, China and the Sunda Isles to New Guinea. The year's thunderstorms over that zone average from ninety to a hundred. The second zone starts from the west coast of Africa, between 5 degrees and 10 degrees north latitude, and 10 degrees to 15 degrees south latitude, while the third zone comprises the tropical regions of America, where the mean annual number of thunderstorms exceeds one hundred. To the north of this zone, which is termed the electric equator, the storms decrease in number until the deserts of Africa, Egypt, Persia and Central Asia are reached, where the rainfall is scanty and thunderstorms rare.

Progress in Steamships.

During the last fifty years the size of steamships has been multiplied twenty-fold, the horsepower employed to drive them has been multiplied forty-fold and the speed with which they traverse the sea has increased threefold.

Learn to be contented, and you will know how to be rich.

HOW VERNE WRITES.

HE LOVES THE QUIET OF HIS HOME.

Has Never Traveled—All of His Works Are Thought Out in the Seclusion of His Library at Amiens—His Unique Surroundings.

HAVE just returned from Amiens, where I have succeeded in obtaining what many have sought in vain, a most interesting interview with Jules Verne, the popular novelist. I was received in a most cordial manner by the novelist, who lives with Madame Verne in a splendid house in the Rue Charles Dubois. In answer to my request that he tell me something regarding his daily life and literary habits the veteran novelist replied:

"I have long ceased to have any desire to revisit Paris. I have grown to love the clear, mild, salubrious air of Amiens, and at my advanced age, for," added the novelist, gravely, "I have approached very near to the three score years and ten—a man is glad to get away from the whirl of a big city, and seek rest from the turmoil of life amid quieter surroundings. I suppose I should go back to my earlier life in order to tell you the story in proper sequence. My first recollection of writing anything was when, as a student in Brittany, I perpetrated half a dozen tragedies, or in other words, wrote them, and then being possessed with the idea that I was a budding young genius, for those talents Brittany offered too little scope, I packed my valise and started for Paris. Here, fortunately for me, I met a friend in the elder Dumas. I wrote a play in collaboration with Dumas fils, which at-

tracted little notice, composed 'Un Drame dans les Aris,' which attracted some attention, and which I achieved my first great success with my 'Cinq Semaines en Ballon.' The success of this production intoxicated me. I expected to become a new Balzac within a week, and had it not been for the paternal advice of my publisher, the elder Hetzel, I might have gone astray completely in the literary world. He advised me to stick steadily to the line of the mysterious and adventurous. I am glad I took his advice. Of my seventy-six books I leave the world to speak. You ask about my habits. They are simple. I am up with the lark every morning, and do my best work soon after dawn. I write on usually until 11 o'clock, when, after luncheon, I go to a reading room in the town, and look over the newspapers, except on the days when I attend the municipal council, of which I am a member. In the afternoon I work again, finishing up for the day at about 5 o'clock, when I dine with Madame Verne. In the evening I take my ease as a country gentleman should, resting luxuriously in my home. Occasionally I go to the theater, but not often. I have no extravagant habits, neither am I sportily inclined. I once owned a yacht, and sailed the channel and the Mediterranean, but I never saw any of the scenes described in my 'Around the World in Eighty Days.' I neither hunt, shoot nor fish, although I did have a little adventure with a gun on one occasion, when I aimed at a duck, and succeeded in lodging the entire charge of shot in a policeman's hat. My Nimrod days died with that unfortunate shot. I have had no desire to go hunting since. I am quite content to sit at home in the quiet of my study and learn all about those countries concerning which I write from the volumes on my library shelf. Some novelists think it absolutely impossible to write about a particular place without going there first in order to study its local color. It is probably advantageous to do so, but it would puzzle a writer to find a means of obtaining such help in writing a romance of the ocean, such as my 'Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea' or my 'Voyages from the Earth to the Moon.' A little thing suggests to me a great story. Thus the 'Tour of the World in Eighty Days' was suggested while I was studying one of Cook's tourist advertisements. When the idea had once been born it was an easy thing for the story to develop. I had to study the characteristics and geography of the countries through which I took my voyages, and construct the story around them. So it is with many of the ideas that come to me. They are suggested by some

little, simple thing like that I have referred to, and as I think about them more and more, they gradually take such shape in my mind as enables me to compose the outline of my story. Then I go to work and build it up, little by little, until the complete literary structure is erected. Such ideas as those that I select for most of my books are not obtained by traveling. They come to me when I need them. Mind, I do not intend to say anything against the stories that are written by men who travel many miles to accumulate the data and spend days and weeks in getting the local coloring to their liking. This is not my way. My books are written in my home, and the ideas get their being there, too. I am still writing and feel so well and enjoy my quiet life so much that I see no reason why I should not expect to continue writing for many years to come."

And the writer of this can bear witness to the fact that Jules Verne has all the appearances of a man who will delight the public with his thrilling volumes for a long time yet, despite the fact that he is nearing the limit allotted to man's life.

NEW SPECIES OF RED SNAPPER

Discovery of Scientific Importance Made at the Aquarium.

It has been discovered that the red snappers at the New York aquarium, which were received from Bermuda last summer, belong to an entirely new species, says the New York Advertiser. There are about a dozen specimens in the tanks and they have attracted attention because of their fine color, liveliness and exuberant good health. Recently one of them became ill, and before it could be ascertained the scientific man a dead fish is much more valuable than a live one, for the identification of live specimens is always difficult, sometimes impossible. It was found that a bit of gravel had lodged in one of the gills and that

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

SOME GOOD STORIES FOR OUR JUNIOR READERS.

The Window Artist—Edgar's Soldier Lesson—A Successful Prayer from a Child That Had Faith—Games for Evenings.

The Window Artist.
"Is passing strange, my children, dear. You cannot see, you cannot hear. Though you look and listen and look again, the artist that draws on the window pane. Upon the window pane, behind the window curtain hides. And while the hour grows cold and late His fair frost-pictures doth create; Hills that climb to the frozen skies; Magic meadows that dip and rise; Roads that run through the landscape bright; Over rivers and out of sight; Noble castles with turrets high, Lords and ladies riding by; Many a wondrous tropic tree; Forests of fern etched airy. On frosty mornings the children run, Outspending the weary winter sun. With curls in tangles and faces bright, To see what the artist has done in the night."
—Mary F. Butts.

Edgar's Soldier Lesson.
Really it was too bad. Edgar was going out to play soldier. He slipped on the steps and twisted his ankle. "My little lad must go to bed and get well," said Mamma Gates. "Boo hoo," howled Eddy. Uncle Caspar looked up from his paper and smiled. "I don't want to go to bed. I want to go and be a soldier," sobbed poor Edgar.

"But if your ankle is not bathed and put to bed you will be very lame tomorrow." "I don't care," whined Eddy. "I don't want to go to bed." "I thought you were playing soldier," said Uncle Caspar. "Yes, sir." "Well, what does a soldier do?" Edgar looked up puzzled. "He marches and he drums," Eddy looked at his drum and began to cry again. "Is that all he does?" "He doesn't have to go to bed," whined Eddy. "But sometimes he gets hurt badly. He is shot in battle. Then what does he do? Does he howl and cry?" "Now, Uncle Caspar was an old soldier, whom Eddy admired very much. "No-o-o! I guess not. I don't know," said the boy. "No. He goes to the hospital. There he is as brave as when he drums and marches." Edgar wiped his eyes and looked eagerly at his uncle. "Is going to bed and not crying being a good soldier?" he asked.

"Yes, my boy, that is the bravest part of it. Now let me be the ambulance—that's a wagon, you know—and take you to the hospital." Uncle Caspar picked up Eddy in his arms and carried him gently to his chamber. "Now, I'm going to be a good soldier," said the boy, with a smile. He did not wince when his uncle felt of the sore ankle and bound it up. "There's a brave lad, Eddy," said his uncle. "Now, play it does not hurt, and go to sleep." Half an hour later Edgar was dreaming. He looked like a brave little corporal taking his rest. Uncle Caspar hung up Eddy's flag and gun where he could see them when he awoke. "The drum with the soldier cap upon it was placed on the bed. Edgar limped down stairs the next day and went into camp on the sofa. He whined and complained no longer. He had learned a lesson, that a brave man is patient in suffering.

A Successful Prayer.
Sometimes a child can teach us best how to pray. A grandfather tells in the Watchword how his little grandson came into his bedchamber one morning before he had risen, and supposing that he was asleep, knelt down and prayed as follows: "God, won't you let grandpa be a Christian, same as me and mamma is? Grandpa don't swear and drink whiskey like papa does, and mamma prays for papa, and maybe God don't like papa, 'cause he drinks whiskey. Now, God, I want to know if you will let grandpa who don't drink whiskey or swear, be a Christian, like me and mamma are. Now, God, I'll just wait and see if mamma knows, for she says you see all ways do what you say you'll do, and if grandpa may be a Christian I'll just wait till he wakes and see if mamma is right, 'cause she thinks you can hear everything, and I want to know for sure. She says you are always in the room and everywhere. Now, make grandpa a Christian, so that I'll know it is true, so that grandpa will let me know as soon as possible, and I'll thank you very much. Grandpa wears glasses, and maybe he can see you, 'cause mamma says we see by faith, and maybe it's glasses." What followed is told thus: "Then the little fellow came and whispered in my ear, 'Grandpa?'" "What is it, Willie?" I answered, unconcernedly, although I was deeply moved. "Wait," said he, "till I bring your glasses." "Now," said he, "do you see anybody in this room 'cept me? 'Cause there is." "Why, yes, Willie; I see myself. Of course there is some one besides you." "But, grandpa, do you see God? Look good, now, 'cause I made a bargain with him to make you a Christian, like me." "Run down stairs now Willie," I said. "I'd can't, grandpa, 'cause I told God I'd wait and see if he'd have you." "What could I do but promise the child that I would try to see God? And morning, noon and evening I was met with the question, 'Did you, grandpa?'"

Now, note the following elements of successful prayer: The child had faith; he asked for just what he wanted; he believed in the imminence of God; he

expected results; having prayed once, he showed his impatience working for results; his prayer was answered, and his grandfather was converted, and through him, his father.

Blind Man's Buff is so tired and popular with young and old, that one would think it impossible to devise a better game of the kind. The newer game of Buff with the Wand, however, is thought by many to be superior to the long-established favorite. The blinded person, with a stick in his hand, is placed in the middle of the room. The remainder of the party form a ring by joining hands, and to the music of a merry tune which should be played on the piano, they all dance round him. Occasionally the music should be made to stop suddenly, when the blind man takes the opportunity of lowering his wand upon one of the circle. The person thus made the victim is then required to take hold of the stick until his fate is decided. The blind man then makes any absurd noise he likes, either the cry of animals, or street cries, which the captured person must imitate, trying as much as possible to disguise his own natural voice. Should the blind man detect who holds the stick, and guess rightly, he is released from his post, the person who has been caught taking his place. If not, he must still keep the bandage on his eyes, and hope for better success next time.

A Bird That Won't Sing.
J. M.—What should be done for a bird that does not sing, and has been so for a year. Has lost its feathers on the neck, and has some insects? Answer—A bird—just the same as a person—only sings when it is happy. Consider how it would be for yourself, if you were in the same condition as this unhappy bird. The bareness of the neck indicates an inflammatory condition, and the insects are a serious torment to it. First get rid of these vermin, which are doubtless the cause of the loss of feathers by their continual sucking of the blood on the bird's neck, where they gather because the bird cannot reach them to relieve itself. To do this get some Persian Insect powder from the drugist and dust some of it into the bird's plumage. Also touch every joint of the cage with a feather dipped in sweet oil. Clean out the cage and give clean sand mixed with a little of the powder every morning. When the bird is relieved of its troubles it will probably begin to sing. If not you should get a companion for it, as two in the same room will sing in imitation and conversation with each other.

How to Puzzle Your Friends.
Here is a trick that will delight the small boy because by doing it he can astonish an army of friends. They will not know how in the world it is done and he will be correspondingly happy. To hang a bottle on an ordinary match, as shown in the design,



tie a string tightly about the neck of the bottle, lay a match on the cork and holding it, tie the match as shown in the illustration. Then call in your friends and watch their expressions of astonishment.

What One Child Did.
Says an exchange: "Some few months ago, after preaching a sermon urging everyone to try to do something for Jesus, a little girl 8 years of age came to me and said: 'I think I can do something for Jesus.'"

"And what do you think you can do, dear child?" I asked. "If, sir," she replied, "you would put some little tracts, on keeping God's day, in envelopes and address them to people who keep their stores and shops open on the Lord's day I could carry them to them." "I adopted the suggestion, and put the addressed envelopes into the dear little one's hands, and acting as a missionary in the district, she has been instrumental in shutting up six places of business which were formerly kept open on the Sabbath."

Cupid is Coming.
In this game all the adverbs that can be thought of will need to be brought into requisition. Seated in order round the room, the first player begins by saying to his neighbor, "Cupid is coming." The neighbor, then says, "How is he coming?" To which the first player replies by naming an adverb beginning with the letter A. This little form of procedure is repeated by every player until every one in the room has mentioned an adverb beginning with A. Next time Cupid is declared to be coming "beautifully, bashfully, beautifully," etc.; then "capriciously, cautiously, carefully," and so on, until the whole of the alphabet has been gone through, by which time, no doubt, it will be thought desirable to select another game.

Guggenheimer. "Say, kid, how do you get into all de theatres free of coat?" Rosenthal: "I had a grand scheme. I go in backwards, 'n' de ticket collector 'tinks I'm comin' out."

Some men live of more than they can eat.



LATEST PORTRAIT OF VERNE.

traced little notice, composed 'Un Drame dans les Aris,' which attracted some attention, and which I achieved my first great success with my 'Cinq Semaines en Ballon.' The success of this production intoxicated me. I expected to become a new Balzac within a week, and had it not been for the paternal advice of my publisher, the elder Hetzel, I might have gone astray completely in the literary world. He advised me to stick steadily to the line of the mysterious and adventurous. I am glad I took his advice. Of my seventy-six books I leave the world to speak. You ask about my habits. They are simple. I am up with the lark every morning, and do my best work soon after dawn. I write on usually until 11 o'clock, when, after luncheon, I go to a reading room in the town, and look over the newspapers, except on the days when I attend the municipal council, of which I am a member. In the afternoon I work again, finishing up for the day at about 5 o'clock, when I dine with Madame Verne. In the evening I take my ease as a country gentleman should, resting luxuriously in my home. Occasionally I go to the theater, but not often. I have no extravagant habits, neither am I sportily inclined. I once owned a yacht, and sailed the channel and the Mediterranean, but I never saw any of the scenes described in my 'Around the World in Eighty Days.' I neither hunt, shoot nor fish, although I did have a little adventure with a gun on one occasion, when I aimed at a duck, and succeeded in lodging the entire charge of shot in a policeman's hat. My Nimrod days died with that unfortunate shot. I have had no desire to go hunting since. I am quite content to sit at home in the quiet of my study and learn all about those countries concerning which I write from the volumes on my library shelf. Some novelists think it absolutely impossible to write about a particular place without going there first in order to study its local color. It is probably advantageous to do so, but it would puzzle a writer to find a means of obtaining such help in writing a romance of the ocean, such as my 'Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea' or my 'Voyages from the Earth to the Moon.' A little thing suggests to me a great story. Thus the 'Tour of the World in Eighty Days' was suggested while I was studying one of Cook's tourist advertisements. When the idea had once been born it was an easy thing for the story to develop. I had to study the characteristics and geography of the countries through which I took my voyages, and construct the story around them. So it is with many of the ideas that come to me. They are suggested by some

the fish had died of suffocation. It is the practice of the aquarium to send all fishes that die to the laboratory, where careful measurements and dissections are made. When that was done with the red snapper it was found that it did not conform to any known species, notes were sent to Washington, and it developed that the species was unknown there. The red snapper, which lives in the Gulf of Mexico, and is frequently seen on our tables, often grows to large size; the new species seldom attains a length of more than one foot. The latter has been named Neomolis Hastingsi, in honor of Gen. Hastings of Bermuda, who gave much valuable assistance to the biological expedition to Bermuda last year, even giving up one of his islands for use as a collecting station for the New York aquarium.

WAY TO PREVENT KISSING.

Mrs. Joseph Kingsberry, the Atlanta woman who is so indignant about the kissing that is going on in her town, should adopt this suggestion. It is made by the New York World "for the relief of those awfully kissable Atlantans." Any man who was half-way ardent could soon have a pass-key made from mamma's, and then—but that would not suit the irate dame who started all this fuss. One is inclined to wonder if Mrs. Kingsberry has forgotten the days when she was young. Or is she becoming sour because so few kisses fall to her lot nowadays? She says she doesn't object to kissing when it's open and above board. Yet she is most angry over a case of a girl who was kissed on a piazza in the full glare of an electric light. If this isn't open and above board they must have queer notions of frankness down in Atlanta. The printing press is responsible for many of the revolutions of this world.



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POWDER SHIPMENT.

800,000 Pounds Left Jersey City for Key West.

New York, March 16.—It is reported here that the formation of a flying squadron to menace the Spanish torpedo boat flotilla now on its way from Cadiz to Havana is being considered at the navy department.

The vessels in the Spanish torpedo flotilla which left Cadiz on Sunday evening are the Artete, Rayo, Pluton, Azor, Terror and Furor.

A special train bearing over 300,000 pounds of powder left the Jersey City station of the Pennsylvania railroad yesterday morning bound for Key West.

Gangs of men were busy aboard the cruiser Chicago all yesterday morning. Fourteen mounts for five-inch guns were hoisted aboard the Chicago in the morning, and mechanics set about fixing them in place.

The painting of the Dolphin has been finished, and the dispatch boat only requires the services of machinists and carpenters for the finishing touches.

Sympathy From England.

London, March 16.—The Honorable Artillery company of London gave a banquet Monday night to several members of the Boston Honorable Artillery company, the Earl of Denbigh presiding.

Consul General Osborne, who received an ovation on rising to reply to the toast, referred to the talk of an Anglo-American alliance and testified to the friendship existing between the two countries.

Order for Range Finders.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 16.—Prof. John A. Braasch of Allegheny yesterday received an order from the United States government for 145 range finders for use in the navy and on the land fortifications along the coast.

Disorderly.

San Francisco, March 16.—Edna Wallace Hopper has brought suit in this city for divorce from Dr. Wolf Hopper, the well known operatic star.

Seriously Stabbed.

San Francisco, March 16.—James Curtin, better known as "Spider" Kelly, was seriously, but not fatally, stabbed Monday night by Solly Smith, the publicist, who was intoxicated.

Will Not Sell the Vessel.

New York, March 16.—A dispatch from Valparaiso says: President Errazuriz stated to a correspondent in the presence of the ministers of war, interior, navy and public instruction and Senator Eulogio Altamirano, a prominent statesman, that Chile had no intention of selling the O'Higgins or any other of her war ships.

News From Havana.

Havana, March 16.—Relief Commissioner Klopsch is developing great activity in pushing the work of relieving the destitute all over the island.

It is reported here that the Spanish cruiser Vizcaya, at the request of the Spanish residents of Mexico, will visit Vera Cruz.

Spain's Position.

Washington, March 16.—A statement which is believed to reflect correctly the sentiment of the Spanish cabinet in the present emergency was made yesterday by a gentleman intimately associated with Premier Sagasta and Senor Maura.

Program Outlined by one Who is Concerned with the Situation.

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House and Senate.

Washington, March 17.—Hon. T. V. Powderly was confirmed by the senate in executive session yesterday by the vote of 45 to 29.

Mr. Stevens's Visit.

Washington, March 16.—Former Vice President Adlai Stevenson was in the city for a few days and last before the cabinet meeting yesterday he called on President McKinley.

Crews Arrived.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 16.—About 200 seamen and marines, who will form a part of the crews of the cruisers Columbia and Minneapolis, arrived at the League Island navy yard yesterday afternoon from Washington, Boston, New York and Norfolk.

Railroad Assessment.

Guthrie, Ok., March 16.—The territorial board of railway assessors assessed the railways of the territory yesterday as follows: Rock Island, main line, \$2000 per mile; Santa Fe, main line, \$2000 per mile; Hutchinson, main line, \$4000 per mile; Hutchinson and Southern \$3000, Southern Kansas \$3500, locomotives \$2000 each. Pullman cars \$6000, passenger coaches \$2000, express cars \$1500, freight cars \$100 to \$200 each.

The Wretched Middle Class.

Doctor—You ought to take that child into the country for several weeks every summer.

Mother—Oh, doctor, I'm sorry to say we are not rich enough.

Doctor—Well, then, have her sent by a fresh-air fund.

Mother—But, doctor, we're not poor enough!—Fleegende Blaetter.

The United States marine hospital service will undertake to stamp out small-pox at Middleboro, Ky.

RAILROAD ITEMS

The Spanish Government is Giving its Attention to U. S. Purchases.

Washington, March 17.—The war preparations being made by the United States, the assembling of ships at Key West, the purchase of cruisers abroad and the emergency measure in the war and navy departments, have come to the official attention of the Spanish government, and the views of the Spanish cabinet thereon have been communicated to the state department here.

It has been especially pointed out that the presence of a large fleet of United States warships in Key West cannot be regarded as a friendly measure, as the sending of ships was officially represented, when the Maine went to Havana and Vizcaya returned the compliment.

Finally, and in the same spirit of friendly representation rather than of protest, Spain has pointed out that a war by the United States against Spain under such circumstances would be unjustifiable before the world, and a crime against humanity and civilization.

Ships Bought.

London, March 17.—The final contract providing for the sale of the warships Amazonas and Almirante Abrounall to the United States has been signed.

Missouri Pacific Meeting.

New York, March 17.—The directors of the Missouri Pacific railway company met here yesterday and elected these officers: President, George J. Gould; vice-president and general auditor, C. C. Warren; general manager, W. B. Dorrance; secretary and treasurer, A. H. Caffey; assistant treasurer, Guy Phillips; second assistant secretary, F. W. Ireland; local treasurer, D. S. H. Smith.

French Fleet Ready.

Paris, March 17.—The French fleet is being prepared for mobilization, adding that feverish anxiety prevails at all arsenals and shipyards, which are working over-time.

Are Leaving.

Mexico City, March 17.—Twelve Guatemalans of the staff of Gen. Morales, the Guatemalan rebel leader, left here this morning for Vera Cruz and will disembark for Chapultepec. They go well armed and take tents for fully 120 people.

Fire in Chicago.

Chicago, Ill., March 17.—It required just twelve minutes yesterday afternoon for one of the most savage fires Chicago has seen since the famous cold storage warehouse fire on the World's fair grounds in 1893 to take anywhere from five to fifteen lives, maim thirty people and reduce a six-story brick building into a pile of blazing timbers.

The building was six stories high, had a frontage of fifty-eight feet on Wabash avenue and extended back 160 feet to an alley. It was of what is known as mill construction, had two elevator shafts, one in front, and one in the rear, and reaching from the third story to the roof was a light shaft, which gave the flames every chance, and it was because of this shaft that the fire spread with such awful rapidity.

The building was occupied by a number of concerns, some of them employing a large number of people. It is estimated that 400 people were at work in the building when the fire was discovered.

The sound of the explosion threw the inmates of the building into a panic, and on several floors a wild stampede began for the stairs and elevators.

The action of Brazil in this matter is said to have been influenced by a desire to repay the good offices of the United States government during the Mello revolution.

After graduating at Yale College, he returned to South Carolina, studied law and entered upon his practice at Abbeville Court House.

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THE CALHOUN HOME.

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IT IS A QUIET SPOT.

OLD HOME OF JOHN CALDWELL CALHOUN.

It is still in an excellent state of preservation—surrounded with lovely landscape and mountains—The Calhoun Family.

(Pendleton, S. C., Letter.) FEW miles to the northwest of the town of Pendleton, in excellent preservation is Fort Hill.

In South Carolina, the historic home of John Caldwell Calhoun. Here, remote from the clamor of the world, from its bustling marts of trade, surrounded with a lovely landscape of mountain and valley scenery, the great statesman lived and labored in formulating his theories of government.

When a recess from the responsibilities of his official station gave him the opportunity to renew his strength in the sweet seclusion of a quiet home life, and from this inviting retreat, he went to die at his post of duty in Washington city, a Senator worthy of his people's veneration and of his country's honor.

Patrick Calhoun, the father of the statesman, was a native of Ireland and of that sterling stock of people which for centuries has made itself distinctively characteristic by its persistent opposition to all forms of government that oppressed the many for the benefit of the few.

It is a fact of history worth mentioning that the Scotch and Irish crosses, who were generally Protestants, have furnished a large per cent of the most distinguished men and noblest women who make the long list of worthy characters in our American biography.

The mother of Mr. Calhoun was a woman of a very high character, earnest in her spirit, industrious and endowed with a strong intellect. It appears from a close study of the narrative of great men that without exception they are the children of great mothers.

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Pay of Professional Men in France.

In France there are from 12,000 to 13,000 doctors, of whom 2,500 are found in Paris and about 10,000 in the provinces. Of this number 5 or 6 only make incomes of from \$10,000 to \$20,000 a year, 10 to 15 make from \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year, 100 make, say, \$10,000, 300 make from \$3,000 to \$5,000, 1,200 make from \$1,500 to \$3,000, while 1,200 earn less than \$1,500 a year.

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Remarkable Two Colored Gem.

New deposits of topaz of delicate colors have been discovered in the neighborhood of Ekateringurg, Russia, the center of the trade in topaz and other precious stones.

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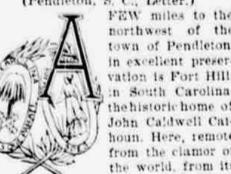
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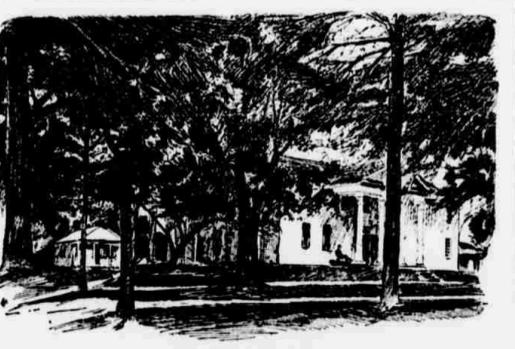
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JOHN C. CALHOUN.



THE CALHOUN HOME.



JOHN C. CALHOUN.

Anger 24,000 Miles Long.

A German military critic has been adding up the grand total of the continental armies, and, after noting that we can form only a vague idea of what is meant by tens of millions, he tries to bring home to his readers in another way the colossal growth of modern armaments.

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The Haskell Free Press.

J. E. POOLE, Editor and Proprietor.

Advertising rates made known on application.

Terms: \$1.50 per annum, invariably cash in advance.

Entered at the Post Office, Haskell, Texas, as Second Class Mail Matter.

Saturday, March 26, 1898.

Announcement Rates.

The following rates will be charged by the FREE PRESS for announcements of candidates for office and will include placing their names on a sufficient number of the party tickets for the general election in November. Terms cash.

For State & District offices, \$10.00
For county offices, 5.00
For precinct offices, 3.00

Announcements.

For County and District Clerk, C. D. LONG.
For County Treasurer, JASPER MILLHOLLON, J. E. MURFEE.
For Tax Assessor, F. M. GREER, S. E. CAROTHERS.

LOCAL DOTS.

Mr. Robt Fields came in Saturday last on a visit to the home folks.
GERMAN MULLET seed for sale, the big kind, at S. L. Robertson's.
Mr. A. Lee Kirby came over this week and completed his removal to Aspermont.

Don't forget that you can get a dish of chillie or a nice warm lunch at Keedy's any time.
600 pairs of ladies', misses' and children's slippers and sandals at bargain prices, 30 to 50 per cent under regular prices. Don't miss this chance.

F. G. ALEXANDER & CO.
We are pleased to note that the cemetery fence is being put up this week.

Have your sewing machines repaired by W. H. Parsons. He keeps needles for all machines in stock.
We are indebted to Mr. Keedy for a treat the other day in the shape of a nice, fresh fish.

We now have a nice line of fancy goods in the way of chow chow, celery sauce, olives, sweet mixed pickles, &c. These goods are put up with the best vinegar and the flavor is fine. W. W. FIELDS & BRO.
Gillett's Cowboy band of Woodbine, Kan., has been secured to play at the Cowboy's reunion here in July. This band is very popular in the west.

We desire to say to all persons owing accounts to the firm of T. G. Carney & Co., that since the purchase of an interest in the business by R. H. McKee it is essential that we close up and settle all outstanding accounts and we hereby ask one and all to come forward without delay and make satisfactory settlement of such accounts. Please see us at once and save us the trouble of having to go to see you.

T. G. CARNEY & CO.
Capt. Fields, Robt. Fields, Ed Robertson, W. B. Anthony and Mr. Coons have been spending several days on the Clearfork this week fishing.

Mr. W. M. Towns found some money on the street last Sunday and says the owner can get it by describing it and paying for this advertisement.

Mr. Bob Davis and Miss Cora Hanson were united in marriage on Sunday evening last at the home of the bride. Rev. M. L. Moody performing the ceremony that made them one. They are a worthy young couple and the FREE PRESS wishes them a happy and prosperous journey through life.

We are pleased to say to our friends that we are back again with the choicest stock of goods we have ever been able to offer them, and there is enough of them for everybody, so much in fact that our groceries are crowded out and had to be moved to another building. This tells the story of our increased business better than we can do it in words, and while we flatter ourselves that good, honest goods, fair prices and the courteous treatment which we have extended to all alike have been large factors in building up and extending our business in spite of competition, we are at the same time grateful to our friends for the liberal patronage they have extended to us and we assure them that we shall be pleased at all times to extend to them every courtesy possible and to give them the best the shop affords for their money. Respectfully, F. G. ALEXANDER & CO.

Miss Addie Posey, who has been visiting the family of her nephew, Mr. S. W. Scott, left yesterday for her home at Granger, Texas. She was accompanied by Seymour by Mr. Scott.

The elocutionary entertainment on Tuesday night by Misses Minnie Lindsey and Lillie Rike was a success. The programme of fourteen numbers was well rendered throughout, and each of the young ladies exhibited considerable talent in some of their pieces, but our local space is too limited this week to allow of a report in detail.

FOR \$35 you can buy the best 8-foot Steel Wind Mill made with pipe, brass cylinder, sucker rod, lumber, bolts and nails complete for 30-ft. well and 24-ft. tower, of S. H. Leavell, the distributing agent of Eclipse mills, Abilene, Tex., and wholesale water supply goods. This offer is good till present car of mills are sold. S. H. LEAVELL, 16 Abilene, Texas.

A strong, cold north wind blew all day Tuesday and was followed during the night by a light sleet, the ground being white Wednesday morning and the temperature down to 20 degrees. A clean sweep was made of all fruit and tender garden stuff was wiped out. Corn was cut to the ground and wheat and oats somewhat damaged.

The RACINE line offers absolutely the best medium price vehicles made in the United States today.

We are getting a car every 20 or 30 days and can order for you just what you want, and secure for you the benefit of car freights. Write us for catalogue. ED S. HUGHES & CO., Abilene, Texas.

Rev. L. R. Milligan, of Waco, a general missionary of the Baptist church, preached here Wednesday night. He gave professors of religion some mighty straight doctrine.

The many friends of Mr. J. W. Middleton and family here were surprised and grieved to hear of his sudden death at Greenville, to which place he had recently moved, on Saturday of last week. We understand that pneumonia was the cause of his death. His mother, Mrs. Jasper Millhollon and Mr. Millhollon of this place on hearing of his serious illness started to see him, but he died before they reached him. His remains were brought to Albany for enternment near other members of the family.

A WORD TO YOU.

We just want to whisper softly to you that it will be to your interest to hold up on your spring purchases until our goods arrive, which will be during next week.

We say this for the reason that we believe we can save you money while we make some for ourselves, because we have bought a much larger stock than ever before, bought them cheaper than ever before, selected them better than ever before and will sell them cheaper than ever before—so just wait and see and judge for yourself, is all we ask.

P. S.

There has been some delay in the arrival of our goods, but they are now coming in daily—our millinery and some other lines are now here—call and see something nice. Watch for our ad. next week. C. & MCK.

A Big Sheep Deal.

Mr. Major Smith sold on Wednesday 5000 "black faces" or Shrophire yearling sheep to Messrs Tom and John King of Pecos City, for \$17,000. This is thought to be the biggest price ever paid in the state for a similar bunch of sheep. These sheep were all of Mr. Smith's own raising and were in one mark.

B. Y. P. U.

Programme for March 27, 3 p. m. Leader, H. R. Jones. Lesson, A Comprehensive Prayer. Eph. 3:14-21. Roll Call. Prayer. One minute papers on lesson by Misses Garren and Lindsey. Recitation, Miss Robt. Lindsey. Vocal Solo, Mrs. H. R. Jones. Talk, D. W. Courtwright. Reading, Mrs. J. W. Collins.

It is, or should be, the highest aim of every merchant to please his customers; and that the wide-awake drug firm of Meyers & Eshleman, Ill., is doing so, is proven by the following, from Mr. Eshleman: "In my sixteen years' experience in the drug business I have never seen or sold or tried a medicine that gave as good satisfaction as Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy." Sold by A. P. McLemore. 13

SOME RAILROAD ITEMS

From statements of Mr. La... representing the Chicago construction company, as published in the Dallas News of the 18th, it would seem that the building of the Fort Worth & Northwestern has been abandoned, at least in so far as the Chicago company is concerned.

Another Railway.

Sweetwater, Tex., March 16—The citizens of Anson, at a meeting held Monday, accepted a proposition which requires the county of Jones to put up a bonus of \$30,000 for the new railway to be constructed from Sweetwater via Anson to Jacksboro to connect with the Rock Island, thence east via Decatur to Plano and Dallas.

Activity at Bridgeport.

Bridgeport, Tex., March 18.—For the last week Bridgeport looks like a camping ground, wagons, tents, scrapers and teams are here and the needed supplies for carrying on this Rock Island extension makes business good here in all lines. Work is being pushed on, clearing out the right of way and graders following right up.

The news of the discontinuation of the Fort Worth and Northwestern in to-day's News means lots for Bridgeport, as that extension would build a market at Springtown, Poolville and Gibtown, thus affording a nearer market for a good deal of our southwestern trade. Our people are confident of another improvement in the way of another telephone line coming from the west via Sweetwater, Anson and Jacksboro on to Bridgeport.

It is now thought by those best calculated to know that we may expect the extension of the Rock Island railway from this point on to the coast when the Jacksboro westward line is completed. Real estate here has been active the past week and there is no longer a question of doubt as to the commercial importance of Bridgeport.

A Clever Trick.

It certainly looks like it, but there is really no trick about it. Anybody can try it who has Lame Back and Weak Kidneys, Malaria or nervous troubles. We mean he can cure himself right away by taking Electric Bitters. This medicine tones up the whole system, acts as a stimulant to Liver and Kidneys, is a blood purifier and nerve tonic. It cures Constipation, Headache, Fainting Spells, Sleeplessness and Melancholy. It is purely vegetable, a mild laxative, and restores the system to its natural vigor. Try Electric Bitters and be convinced that they are a miracle worker. Every bottle guaranteed. Only 50c a bottle at A. P. McLemore's drug store.

To the Roby Banner: We drink to your health, long life and great prosperity—on account of that two column boost you gave us on the Cow-boys' reunion.

ON the morning of Feb. 20, 1893, I was sick with rheumatism, and lay in bed until May 21st, when I got a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. The first application of it relieved me almost entirely from the pain and the second afforded complete relief. In a short time I was able to be up and about again.—A. T. MOREAUX, Luverne, Minn. Sold by A. P. McLemore. 13

HAPPINESS IS WHAT WE ARE AFTER but we can't have it while we are sick. Truly the great pleasure of life is to have health, and Parker's Ginger Tonic has surprised many by bringing back the health they supposed was forever lost. Those who are weak and suffering grow worse by delay—therefore, use Parker's Ginger Tonic now—it reaches the vital parts, and when you take it you feel that every organ of the system is being spurred to real and vital action. Pains disappear, the nerves are soothed, cheerfulness returns. Sleep and digestion improve, and these good things come to stay—so say those who use it.

STOP THE FRETTING.

Care, worry, dread, anxiety, when the hair too early, stop fretting and use Parker's Hair Balsam and save both life and color to your hair.

To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All Druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by A. P. McLemore.

TO MY FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS:

Nothing gives me more pleasure than to credit a man when I think he appreciates it enough to come and settle every few months, but when it runs for a year, two years or longer it shows very clearly to my mind that there is no appreciation for favors extended. Now a great many I have carried for a long long time; some few have come and settled and a great many have not. Last year was over an average crop year and I certainly expect you to make satisfactory settlements, for I am in great need of money to pay what I owe. Am sure I am not asking too much of you after I have carried you as long as I have without worrying you. As long as you haven't paid your account you need not ask for credit as it will only be embarrassing to you to be refused. So please come and settle at once and lets start in the new year afresh and by so doing we all will feel better. Your friend, A. P. McLEMORE.

RAG CARPET AND RUG WEAVING.

I have received my Daisy Flying Shuttle rag carpet loom and have tried it and find that it does excellent work. Its capacity is 50 yards per day.

I can weave Carpets, Rugs and Mattings of most any design, and I will be glad to weave for any one desiring this kind of work. Will guarantee satisfaction. Call and see me about work, or write if at a distance and it is more convenient and I will answer all inquiries. Work may be sent in by mail back and it will receive prompt attention and be returned when done. I live two miles east of Haskell on the Throckmorton road.

I am also a dress maker. Cut by "Rude's Magic Scale." Cut most any sort of a garment. I have a sister able to assist in either sort of work, so that all will have prompt attention. Will say that my father is a poor man, an ex-Confederate, who served four years in Gen. Lee's army and received wounds which render him unable to work as he once did, and I adopt this method to assist him, preferring it to leaving home to teach school. Hoping for a liberal patronage. I am truly, MISS ORETHA MILLER.

Experiments with Sorghum.

We take the following from an advance report sent out to the press from the Texas Experiment Station. As sorghum for hay is one of the very important crops in this section we recommend a close study and comparison of the different results shown from different depths of preparation, methods of sowing and quantity of seed giving such result.

"This is now such an important crop in Texas that the results of carefully conducted experiments are of interest. All experiments with sorghum for hay and silage, conducted by the Texas Experiment Station show that the largest yields are given when planted on subsoiled land, broadcasted at the rate of 4 bushels per acre. On medium prepared land, broadcasted at the rate of 2 bushels per acre; and on shallow prepared land at the rate of 4 bushels per acre.

The following gives depth of preparation, method and amount sown, yield in pounds of hay and second growth as silage: 5 inch preparation, broadcasted, 4 bushels per acre; 10,600 lbs hay, 14,000 lbs silage. 5 inch preparation, broadcasted, 2 bushels per acre; 12,800 lbs hay, 14,350 lbs silage. 5 inch preparation, drilled, one-half bushel per acre; 10,800 lbs hay, 5,300 lbs silage. 5 inch preparation, drilled, 1 bushel per acre, 7,450 lbs hay, 4,300 lbs silage. 14 inch preparation, broadcasted 4 bushels per acre, 1,140 lbs hay, 12,500 lbs silage. 14 inch preparation, broadcasted, 2 bushels per acre, 9,650 lbs hay, 9,750 lbs silage. 14 inch preparation, drilled, 1/2 bushels per acre, 10,450 lbs hay, 4,350 lbs silage. 14 inch preparation, drilled, 1 bushel per acre, 5,800 lbs hay, 3,900 lbs silage. 2 inch preparation, broadcasted, 4 bushels per acre 9,520 lbs hay, 11,850 lbs silage. 2 inch preparation, broadcasted, 2 bushels per acre, 10,750 lbs hay, 6,600 lbs silage. 2 inch preparation, drilled, 1/2 bushel per acre, 8,000 lbs hay, 2,100 lbs silage. 2 inch preparation, drilled, 1 bushel per acre, 6,100 lbs hay, 3,700 lbs silage.

B. C. PITTBURK, Agriculturist Texas Experiment Station College Station, Texas.

I desire to attest to the merits of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as one of the most valuable and efficient preparations on the market. It has broken an exceedingly dangerous cough for me in 24 hours' and in gratitude therefor I desire to inform you that I will never be without it and you should feel proud of the high esteem in which your Remedies are held by people in general. It is the one remedy among ten thousand. Success to it.—O. R. DOWNEY, Editor Democrat, Albion, Ind. For sale by A. P. McLemore. 13

Are You Weak? Weakness manifests itself in the loss of ambition and aching bones. The blood is watery; the tissues are wasting—the door is being opened for disease. A bottle of Brown's Iron Bitters taken in time will restore your strength, soothe your nerves, make your blood rich and red. Do you more good than a special course of medicine. For sale by All Dealers.

THE way to overcome all unhealthy affections of the skin is to apply Greig's Ointment, and when the feet or limbs are tired, stiff, aching and sore, Greig's Ointment affords the most grateful and speedy cure. Gout, Rheumatism, Pains, Burns, Inflammation, Swellings, and all Irritations of the skin, readily yield to its soothing influence, and the comforting relief it affords from Clapped Skin, Chilblains, Frost Bites, and all skin troubles, is of such value to everyone, that all should have it in 50c. bottles. Ask your Druggist for it.

SHERRILL BROS. & CO. A Healthy Skin.

PARKER'S GINGER TONIC. This delicious combination of the best vegetable medicines known, cures Weak Lungs, Female Complaints, Rheumatism, Nervousness, Weakness, and all disorders of the bowels, stomach, liver, kidneys, and urinary organs. If you have lost your appetite and are low spirited, or suffering from age, or infirmity, take Parker's Ginger Tonic. It will strengthen your brain and body and give you new life and vigor. Try a bottle to day; it may save your life. 50 cent and 60c sizes at all druggists.

HINDEROORNS. The safest, surest, quickest and best cure for Corns, Warts, Moles, Callouses, Ac. Stops all pain, gives no trouble. Makes the feet comfortable. Hinderoorns cure when everything else fails. Sold by Druggists at 10c. Hancock & Co., L. I. City, N. Y.

HERE WE ARE With our New Goods

Our new goods are arriving daily and are being placed on the shelves for public inspection.

OUR LADIES DRESS GOODS.

This line has been selected with more care and taste than ever before and include all the latest weaves, patterns and designs in the most stylish fabrics for spring and summer wear. We know that our lady customers will be pleased when they see them.

Staple Dry Goods.

Our stock of all the staple dry goods is unusually full, covering the best brands of prints, gingham, checks, shirtings, sheetings, jeans, etc. etc.

Clothing.

The gentlemen are invited to call and see our clothing. Knowing the requirements of the trade in this line we think we have the quality, variety and styles to suit all and we guarantee the prices to be all right.

Boots and Shoes.

We have undoubtedly the largest stock and greatest variety of these, including the latest styles in all grades, ever displayed in Haskell. There is every class and grade to select from from the heaviest plow shoe to the daintiest slipper for the belles of fashion.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is called to our job lot of 600 pairs of ladies, misses and childrens slippers, going at a reduction of 30 to 50 per cent under regular prices. Call promptly if you want to participate in these bargains.

Spring Millinery.

Our Milliner, Miss Lena Wilson is just back from Chicago where she got all the latest points in styles and modes of trimmings and selected a splendid line of hats and trimmings. This stock is up to date in every particular and we feel confident that she can please our lady friends in dainty and stylish headgear.

Our Grocery Department.

The necessity for more room for our increased stock of Dry Goods has forced us to move our groceries into the building formerly used by us as a ware room and storage house, two doors east of our main store. We have also increased our stock of groceries and our customers will find in it everything fresh and desirable in the eating line.

We extend a cordial invitation to all to call and look at our goods and get our prices. Respectfully, F. G. ALEXANDER & CO.

M. S. PIERSON, President. A. C. FOSTER, Vice-President. J. L. JONES, Cash. LEE PIERSON, Asst. Cash.

THE HASKELL NATIONAL BANK, HASKELL, TEXAS.

A General Banking Business Transacted. Collections made and Promptly Remitted. Exchange Drawn on all principal Cities of the United States.

DIRECTORS:—M. S. Pierson, A. C. Foster, J. L. Jones, Lee Pierson, T. J. Lemmon.

J. W. BELL, Manufacturer & Dealer in SADDLES and HARNESS.

Full Stock, Work Promptly to Order. Repairing done neatly and substantially. Prices reasonable and satisfaction with goods and work guaranteed. Your Trade is Solicited.

Haskell Hardware Store Wire, Plows, Stocks, Buggies, Harrows, Lumber, Wagons, Hardware, Cultivators, Plow Gear, Steel Shapes, Double Shovels. PRICES MODERATE. TREATMENT HONORABLE.

SHERRILL BROS. & CO. Car Load.

IT IS TIME To Think of BUYING A STOVE. We have just received a Car Load. OF THE POPULAR BRIDGE BEACH & CO'S COOKING AND HEATING STOVES.

These stoves are first class in every particular and will be sold at prices that will beat going to the railroad for them. Call and see them. McCollum & Wilbourn Co.

REEDY'S RESTAURANT.

MEALS at all HOURS. FRDSH OYSTERS SERVED TO ORDER Also keeps fresh Fruits, Nuts, Candies, Cider, Cigars and Tobacco.

A SHARE OF YOUR PATRONAGE SOLICITED. NEXT DOOR TO BELL'S SADDLE SHOP. W. M. REEDY.