

Haskell Free Press.

J. E. POOLE, Publisher.

HASKELL, TEXAS.

The less there is in a dude's pockets the better his clothes fit him.

A man's height in the social world is estimated by the length of his purse.

A Philadelphia young man, who is heir to \$5,000,000, has been abducted. Search the girls.

New York is enthusiastic over a young violinist by the name of Patschukoff. He certainly has the name of a genius.

The Hon. Thomas Reed, practicing lawyer, is the central figure in court, but the "czar" privileges are entirely history.

All other dramatic failures of the season have been as naught compared with Capt. Carter's debut as the American Dreyfus.

The Pittsburg Telegraph says: "Sausage links are now more conspicuous than golf links." Let it be hoped that neither variety will join the missing links.

That Chicago "buggy robber" is not wholly up to date in his extensive operations. He should ride in a horseless carriage and commit only cashless robberies.

An exchange is worried over a New York paper's headline reading: "General Wood Ordered Home by Cable." Perhaps "General Wood Ordered (by cable) Home" might be more intelligible to some exchange editors.

The humorist's assertion that talk is cheap, women half price, seems in the whirligig of time to have brought in its own revenge. At the recent international council of Congregationalists, every speaker exceeded the time allotted him, thus encroaching upon the privileges of his successor. At a subsequent meeting of a state federation of women's clubs, only a single speaker overstepped the limit of time, and the exception was a man!

Persons sometimes wonder why patent medicines, prepared foods and other proprietary articles take such outlandish and heretofore unheard-of names. Mr. Duell, the commissioner of patents, in an address on trademarks before the commercial congress made it clear. The government cannot allow a man to use his own name as a trademark, for other men may have the same name. Neither can he use a geographical term, for other people have a right to that as well. Any descriptive word denoting the qualities or ingredients of the article is also unavailable, for other producers might use the same materials and be entitled to the same descriptive adjectives.

Interrogation, as a figure of speech, may be made quite effective when used by a writer, but must be treated warily by the orator, lest it provoke disconcerting replies. Mr. Andrew Carnegie delights in repeating a story of his youthful days in Scotland. He says that a minister, who gave full value for salary received, and ordinarily preached for an hour, one morning, when in splendid condition, spoke for an hour and a half. Then, without turning a hair, he remarked that what he had hitherto spoken concerned the major prophets. He would now turn to the minor prophets. "But what place," he asked dramatically, "shall we reserve for Malachi?" Just here a restless sister of the flock rose from her seat under the pulpit, noisily dropped her palm-book, made her way down the aisle, and after opening the heavy, creaking door, turned to face the astonished pastor and people. "Malachi," she said, succinctly, "Malachi may have my place!"

The aggregate number of passengers carried during the year ending June 30, 1898, as returned in the annual reports of railroads, was 501,966,881, indicating an increase, as compared with the year ending June 30, 1897, of 11,621,483. The number of passengers carried one mile during the year was 13,379,939,964, there being an increase of 1,122,990,357 as compared to the year previous. The increased density of passenger traffic is shown by the fact that in 1898 the number of passengers carried one mile per mile of line was 72,462, as compared with 66,374 for the previous year. The corresponding figure for 1893, however, was 33,809. The number of tons of freight carried during the year was 37,309,361. The number of tons of freight carried one mile was 114,077,576,295, compared with the previous year, shows the large increase of 18,938,554,980. The number of tons of freight carried one mile per mile of line was 617,810, which is 98,731 greater than the corresponding item for the year preceding.

In attempting to regulate the apparel of the schoolma'ams of Kansas City, the superintendent of schools of that town is not only getting beyond the outskirts of his official authority, but is also getting so far behind the procession that there is no possibility of his being ready for the twentieth century when it arrives. He has gone on record as being opposed to a movement that promises more for the liberation of womankind from the thraldom of senseless fashion than any similar reform of the century.

After much wrangling and an almost insupportable amount of petty bother the Illinois flag law has again been decided void and unconstitutional. The decision, unfortunately, does not restore the money to the pockets of those who were snatched in a score of justice shoes, nor does it deprive the cheap informers of their insignificant gain.

The Pittsburg Telegraph wants to know what Aquinaldo has lost his hat. Possibly he is through talking.



CHAPTER VIII.—(Continued.)

"How odd!" she said absently. "I nearly remembered that name again. My memory must be coming back, I think."

"Let me trust it is," said Valdaire rather nervously.

She leaned her chin upon her hand and looked thoughtful for a few moments then, raising her eyes—

"Mr. Martineau," she said, with a little sigh, "I should like all this business set on one side for a few weeks, please. Mr. Stelling is gone for his holiday—to Lord Umfraville's for the shooting."

"To Clarisdale?"

"Yes," she paused, and asked in some astonishment, "Do you know Lord Umfraville?"

"Well—a yes; his wife was my cousin. I generally stay there every autumn."

"Indeed! Viscount Thornheath is a great friend of Mr. Stelling's."

"Ah, perhaps we shall meet! You wish then for me not to institute inquiries just yet?"

"Not just yet, please. I don't feel strong enough—not in quite good spirits enough to—"

She checked herself bravely. Not for worlds would she have hinted, even to herself, that she thought Bernard might before all things have taken steps to ascertain whether or no she were free. But he had chosen instead to go to Clarisdale, and she was too loyal to murmur even to her own heart.

To Valdaire it seemed like a respite. "Will you let me have a line when you wish me to pursue this matter, then?" he asked, rising to take his leave.

"Yes; or Mr. Stelling will come to see you. May I keep this copy of the will?"

"Certainly, but please don't lose it."



"MR. STELLING, IT WAS VERY FOOLISH OF YOU TO LOSE ALL THE SPORT."

He lingered simply because he could not tear himself away, though he could see in every drooping movement that she was exhausted and unhappy, and wished to be alone.

He would have barred all his prospects for the privilege of taking her in his arms and soothing her—of holding her to his heart, and telling her that henceforth nothing should ever grieve her. He held out his hand at last reluctantly.

"Is there nothing more that I can do for you?" he asked.

"No, there is nothing," she replied, shaking her head and smiling. "You are so kind, I don't know how to thank you sufficiently for your kindness."

It seemed a painful wrench when he loosed the little fingers from his own.

"By-the-by, Mr. Martineau," she followed him to the door—"I left my left my wedding ring on your table. I nearly forgot to mention it to you. Did you see it?"

"I did," he stammered. "It is quite safe—you shall have it; I have it safe," he reiterated in confusion; "but I can't give it to you now."

"How could he, when it was hung from his neck by a slender cord?"

CHAPTER IX.

It was a warm September day. Lady Mildred Ames lay out in the hammock under the shade of the spreading beech trees, and idly moved her large fan to and fro. Her brows were puckered into a frown, her large eyes were absently fixed upon the wide-spreading lawn which lay between her and the house. The white lines which marked the tennis-court seemed to quiver in the heat; the men were shooting, the chaparrons lying down, the girls had driven to the home covers to take the sportsmen to their lunch. Lady Mildred did not go; she said she had a headache, but the truth was she was suffering from a fit of ill-temper.

She was Lord Umfraville's only unmarried daughter and, being the youngest, had been spoiled and petted during infancy, neglected whilst her sisters went to their balls and receptions, and then suddenly found herself, on her mother's death, mistress of the house. It was a bad training, but the result was on the whole better than might have been expected. Lady Mildred was very charming and not at all arrogant, though she was rather selfish.

The Umfraville family was in a bad way, having the misfortune to possess property in Ireland. For the last few years the tendency of affairs had been

DAIRY AND POULTRY.

INTERESTING CHAPTERS FOR OUR RURAL READERS.

How Successful Farmers Operate This Department of the Farm—A Few Hints as to the Care of Live Stock and Poultry.

The United States department of agriculture is making strenuous efforts to establish a butter trade with the oriental countries, such as China and Japan. Recently a governmental order was given to a Minnesota creamery for 12 cans of butter containing 25 pounds each to be sent to China. The cans are hermetically sealed and then are packed in boxes with sawdust. The butter is similar to that put on our own market, with the exception that it has a trifle more color and more salt. The butter is not as highly flavored as some, but that fact increases its chance of keeping. It is learned that the government will carefully watch results and if this shipment does not prove satisfactory, will endeavor to ascertain the reasons and guard against the mistakes in future.

At the coming dairy conventions this winter makers of dairy butter will do well to send butter for exhibition purposes. Most of the poor butter on the markets comes from people that suppose they are good butter makers. Their grocers do not like to tell them that they do not make the kind of butter that the market demands, but the judges at the dairy exhibitions have none of that sympathetic feeling and will score the butter as it deserves. If more would compete at these places it would greatly advance the interests of the dairy. Every housewife should consider it a favor to be told just where she falls in coming up to the demands of the public. Sometimes it will be the color, sometimes the salt, often it will be found to be something that she can remedy. We should remember that there is a commercial standard that will have recognition. The trouble with most dairy butter is that it has been made in accordance with the standard in the mind of the butter maker, and not in accordance with the general commercial standard.

The export of Canadian butter to England has undergone many changes within the last twenty years. There was a time when it appeared certain that Canada would control to a large extent the butter market of Great Britain. In 1881 the value of Canadian butter imported into England was over \$3,300,000. Then Danish butter began to compete with it seriously, the latter being under the watchful supervision of the Danish government. That government did not hesitate to go beyond what we call governmental sphere to influence its trade. Canadian butter continued to decrease in quantity imported during the following eight years, till in 1889 the value of Canadian butter sold in England was only a little over \$174,000.

After that time there was some improvement but nothing that had the appearance of permanency until the Canadian government took the matter in hand in 1897. The authorities began the subsidizing of cold-storage steamers and the partial subsidizing of creameries and cheese factories to such an extent that the Canadians were stimulated to send their butter across the water in its best condition, and of best quality. It made a reputation for itself on the English market and from that time the trade has rapidly developed. In 1896 the value of butter sent to England was \$938,000, but in the following year, under the fostering care of the government, the amount sent over was valued at \$1,912,000. In 1898 the amount was about the same as the preceding year, namely, \$1,915,000.

A Poultry House. From Farmers' Review: We have about completed a poultry house to accommodate fifty hens that when finished will have cost less than \$1 in money. It is built of large poles, or small logs, and is 12 by 20 feet in size. It faces the southeast and is five feet to the eaves, the ridge pole being three feet higher. Eight twenty-foot poles are used for the back or northwest side; two twenty-foot poles are needed in front, one at bottom and one at the top, with six nine-foot poles between, for the length is partitioned with logs nine feet from the west end, making a room 9 by 12 to be used as a roosting room. Twenty-four twelve-foot poles are needed, eight at either end, and eight for the partition, but the partition poles need not be so large.

The larger room (11 by 20) is open to the southeast and will be the scratching shed, the only door opening from the shed into the roosting room. The east end logs were held in place and made solid at the southeast corner by a timber being set in the ground and spike nails driven through it into the ends of the logs. Small poles were used as rafters, being placed about one foot apart, and nailed, one end to the ridge pole the other to eave pole; straw is shed thickly on this—thick enough to wire or fasten poles or brush at intervals on this to secure it in place and to prevent the wind blowing it away.

A window placed in the south wall of the roosting room is necessary to allow light and sun in this room. The cracks between logs are chinked, then daubed carefully, inside and out. If this is well done and your mortar is good you will have a house that, if not a thing of beauty, will be very comfortable and will last as long as you want it to, with an occasional renewing of the roof and a patching with mortar. One man and one horse can build such a house, the poles are close by, in six days and with cash outlay only for nails, window and door. Such houses are practicable only where poles are plenty.

When the walls are whitewashed inside such a house will look very cozy, especially of a cold, windy day. The roosting poles will be flat on top and made level, and these, with a few nails, will constitute all the furnishings in the roosting room. The roosts will be placed to allow of one passing entirely around them, to allow of better and quicker removal of the droppings.

In the shed will be placed the box

containing their bath, which will consist of road dust and sifted ashes, renewed as often as necessary; drinking fountain, grit and charcoal box, several nests and a great amount of litter in which a little grain will be scattered in order to induce them to exercise. The litter will be renewed when necessary, often I hope, for the more they scratch and wear out the litter, the more eggs we will get. Common boxes will be used for nests, entirely separate from other furnishings and from each other, for while they will take more room than a continuous row of nests, they are much easier cleaned. Wheat or oats straw will be used for nesting material. A curtain made of gunny-sacks—burlap—will be used to confine the chicks to the shed of stormy days. Old carpeting would do all right. Poultry-risers who do not need to count the cost can pass this article to some one not so lucky.

EMMA CLEARWATERS.

The egg trade of Germany and Russia is said to be developing very rapidly, but the movement of eggs is toward Germany and from Russia, so far as these two countries are concerned. In 1890 Germany paid other countries \$3,498,000 for eggs, but since that time her imports of eggs have increased to such an extent that during the first eleven months of last year the value of her imports of eggs was \$1,993,000. On the other hand Russia is building up a fine trade in export eggs. In 1881 the total value of eggs exported from Russia was \$237,000, and in 1894 it had increased to \$9,232,000, for the first eleven months of last year it was \$17,990,000.

The raising of the poultry for the production of eggs has become an important factor in Russian husbandry. In 1894 freight on the Russian railroads was reduced, and this gave an impetus to the infant industry.

Little is known generally of the real character of what we call "black-head" in turkeys. Previous to the year 1894 even the cause was unknown, as no scientist appears to have investigated it thoroughly. In that year Dr. Theobald Smith, of the Rhode Island Experiment Station, set himself the task of finding out the cause of the disease. He requested persons having birds sick with black-head to send him parts of the birds that died. The parts received were sections of the heads and intestines, particularly the liver. The latter is always affected in this disease. The liver is covered with mottles of brownish, greenish or yellowish color. A microscopic investigation showed the trouble to be due to a minute parasite of the protozoan order. The life history has not, so far as we are informed, been determined, hence it is difficult to say if the parasite has an intermediate host, such as some animal or insect, that it must go through before being able to live in the turkey. Whenever the disease breaks out in a flock it is certainly well to isolate the sick birds and remove them from the pasture ground over which they have been roaming.

Breeding the Dairy Cow. Henry Wallace says: "We have no hesitation in saying that the farmer who has good dual purpose cows will learn how to mate them, learn how to grow calves on a balanced ration, can grow as good calves as ever followed their dams, and at present prices can sell them to feeders at 30 months old for \$50 per head and over. There is money in this, and plenty of it, but it is only the skillful breeder and skillful feeder that can realize it. He can, sometimes he does, in time, as a rule, he will, but only when he gives close attention and learns how to balance his skim-milk ration with corn."

We agree with Mr. Wallace. He means that the man who owns dairy cows should not be satisfied to breed to any old bull, but should select one that will get good feeders and beefers. When the dairymen intend to raise the female progeny the matter is different. He must breed to a dairy bull, but the thousands of dairymen who do not raise calves might make more by breeding calves that will feed well for beef. Skim-milk, being highly nitrogenous, requires a carbohydrate like corn to balance it, as Mr. Wallace suggests.

High Priced Cattle.—The prices of choice cattle on the market sound most encouraging. Sales at over \$6 are not uncommon now, and a number at \$6.60 to \$6.65 have been reported. This gives the owner of feeding cattle nerve, but it must be considered that the class of cattle that is bringing these fancy prices was high and that the country is not yet abundantly supplied with feeding cattle that are capable of being brought to such prime condition. It takes good breeding to produce the animal of the high beef type and only such animals, even in the hands of the most intelligent feeder, can be made to top the market. It is generally understood that there is only a small proportion of the feeding stock offered in the market that can be so handled as to finish them up as choice beef or export steers. The men who own them can get big prices whenever an intelligent feeder buyer comes around, but scrub stock must continue to go at less prices.—Texas Stock Journal.

When cattle come off pasture in fall to enter the stables or feeding yards, an attempt should be made to kill the young "warbles" which are forming upon their backs. Most of our readers will know that we mean by "warbles," the large grubs to be found in rounded abscesses upon the backs of cattle in winter time. Years ago the Farmers' Review showed in an exhaustive series of articles how serious is the loss caused annually by these grubs which puncture the hide, set up irritation and inflammation and consequently hinder the fattening process or milk production. It is claimed that the young grubs may be killed now by bathing the backs of the cattle with brine and this plan should be tried and again later on, should this method fail, a little mercurial ointment rubbed upon the warble will usually kill the grub, which is also sometimes dispatched by the thrust of a large needle. When, however, the grub has grown to a large size and is surrounded by puss it may be squeezed out and destroyed.

The greater the deeds the higher the seat in heaven.

How comforting is a benediction, how repugnant a malediction.

Earn your salary, but do not fritter it away.

Backward cakes are now very much in evidence.

Our life is in many ways what we make it.

Excitement usually runs entirely too high. It should stay nearer the earth.

The Earth's Age.

The age of the world was one of the interesting topics discussed at the recent meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. Sir Archibald Geikie, the well known geologist said that notwithstanding all the multiple researches of the century, no relic of the first condition of our earth has been found. As far as a reliable evidence can be drawn from the rocks of the globe itself, we do not seem to be nearer the discovery of the beginning than Hutton was a century ago. The most ancient rocks that can be reached are demonstrably not the first formed. They were preceded by others which we know must have existed, though no vestige of them may remain.

The geologists variously estimate the age of the earth at from 10,000,000 years to 400,000,000. They have been unable to discover any indication that the rate of geological causation has ever, on the whole, greatly varied during the time which has elapsed since the deposition of the oldest stratified rocks, though physicists hold that all kinds of geological action must have been more vigorous and rapid during bygone ages than they are to-day. So far as Sir Archibald has been able to form an opinion, 100,000,000 years would suffice for the portion of the history of the world which is registered in the stratified rocks of the crust.

The paleontologists, however, declared that 100,000 years was too short a time for the evolution of the discoveries in the evolution of organized existence on the globe. A special effort is to be made at the international geological congress, to meet in Paris next year, to organize a system of combined observation with a view of some more definite agreement on the age of the earth. The fact that the lowest estimate of the scientific men at the meeting in England was 10,000,000 years makes it clear that old notions on this subject were, to say the least, very far astray.

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Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets remove the cause that produces La Grippe. Dr. J. C. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

A cipher counts on each box stands in its proper place.

We will forfeit \$1,000 if any of our published testimonials are proven to be not genuine. The Pisco Co., Warren, Pa.

Conquettes favor a diversification of beans.

No Cure No Pay

Is the way FINDLEY'S EYE SALVE is sold. Chronic and Granulated lids cured in 30 days; common sore eyes in 3 days, or money back for the asking. Sold by all druggists, or by mail, 25c. box.

J. P. HAYTER, Deatur, Texas.

Pugilists are known by their fights, fugitives by their flights.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

DR. HENNEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known P. J. Cheney for the last 15 years and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by him.

West & Traub, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.; Wholesale and Retail Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 50c per bottle. Sold by all druggists.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

The ghost of pay day is feared by no man or woman.

DR. CHILTON, Practitioner Limited to the Eye, Ear, Throat and Nose, 30 North Texas Bank Building, Dallas, Texas.

Klondikes are sometimes in easy reach if we but knew it.

The Cause of Chapped Hands.

Much of the discomfort experienced from chapped hands is due to washing with inferior soap, the ingredients being poisonous to the skin. It is therefore important to have pure soap. If warm rain water and Ivory soap are used in washing the hands, they will be smooth and white at all seasons. ELIZA R. PARKER.

We are pattered in prosperity, pushed when in poverty.

If You Use Plug Tobacco

You should read the Star Plug Tobacco advertisement, which will make it plain the most attractive offer ever made for the return of their Tin Tags.

One who is envious is truly to be pitied.

A Bright Outlook.

La Porte, Texas, is now attracting the attention of the business men of the United States and during 1900 great interests will be manifested in it. Owing to an advantageous natural location it is destined to enjoy a growth in commercial manufacturing and shipping interests which millions of dollars in advertising and years of energetic promotion could not give it. If all knew what thousands of men are doing in La Porte, Texas, in the affairs with large experience in the upbuilding of cities are predicting a future for La Porte which if but half realized will make it the greatest seaport on the Gulf of Mexico and indeed one of the principal seaports of the United States as well as a city of great importance in the manufacturing, railroad and commercial world. It is at the head of Galveston Bay in the celebrated coast country of Texas and has a summer and winter climate which makes it a resort for travelers the year round. The farming land surrounding it is as fine as any in the United States.

It is a hard matter to correct the proof-sheet of life.

THE Pleasantest, most powerful, effective and never-failing REMEDY for

Rheumatism

Sciatic, Neuralgia, Migraine, Headache, etc.

DR. L. GRIFFER and GATAMBAI

If all knew what thousands of men and women know of the efficacy of "GRIFFER'S DROPS" as a Curative as well as a Preventive of any Ache or Pain known to the human body, there would not be a family in all America without a bottle of "GRIFFER'S DROPS" for trial, bottle, 25c, or large bottle, containing 300 doses, \$1.00, 6 bottles for \$5.00.

GRIFFER'S RHEUMATIC CURE CO., 180-184 E. Lake St., Chicago, Ill.

PISCO'S CURE FOR

DRUGGISTS

CONSUMPTION

A Brand New Christmas

(For the Children.)

The Barnes children couldn't have any Christmas this year. They live in the country, and there were trees enough, to be sure. But there was nothing to put on one to make it look "sparkly," as a tree ought to look, and there was not a penny to spend for tree trimmings.

The Barnes children, however, had a jollier time than they had ever had with a tree. Joe said so, and George said so, too; and Grace and Winnie agreed with them. This is how it was done. A delightful young aunt lives with them. They call her the Lady with a Bright Idea. She always has a new bright idea just in the nick of time, but this year it did seem as if the idea was brighter than ever. It fairly shone.

"We'll give the presents in a funny way," she said to the children. "Yes, we'll give them in two or three funny ways. You'll see!"

There was a very mysterious feeling in the air Christmas morning. Everybody looked at everybody else, and then they all smiled. Something good was going to happen. When the breakfast

cover. They could be taken out when filled and now ones put in.

George's "great big package" was a wooden box made into a nice little store. It had shelves and counters, and a set of scales besides.

Grace's gift was a fancy work bag, with pockets holding embroidery silks. It had some crochet needles and a pair of embroidery hoops, and some pretty dollies ready to begin work on.

Winnie's gift was an afghan, pillow and strap for her doll carriage. The afghan was made out of pink and white worsted knitted in stripes. The pillow was of pink silk, over which was a cover of Swiss with a lace ruffle. The strap was a piece of white ribbon with little pink flowers painted on it.

As the children were exclaiming over these gifts, they were startled by a loud noise at the door that led into the dining room from the hall. Bang! Bang! The boys ran to open the door. There stood their father. He had slipped away while they were upstairs, and they had not missed him. He had a trunk, covered with cotton and trimmed with evergreen, on his shoulder.

"Express from Santa Claus," he cried.

"Ho, ho! Express from Santa Claus!" the children shouted, dancing around the room.

It was a regular Christmas trunk, when opened. "Merry Christmas," was printed in green letters on a white ground inside the lid, and everything in the trunk was done up in white paper, tied with green cord. In each was stuck a sprig of evergreen. In the trunk were all the presents from papa and mamma to the children, and from the three grown folks to each other. Most of the gifts were homemade, and not costly, but all were received with delight. There never was such a jolly Christmas trunk!

"Why, we haven't given our presents to each other!" cried Winnie at last. Each of the four children always had some trifling gift for the other three. "I'll tell you a nice way to give them," exclaimed auntie. "All mark your presents with the first names of those they are for, and bring them to me. Then we'll go to the sitting-room and play 'hunt the thimble' with each bundle. The one whose name is on it must go out while we hide it." And off they trooped to collect their bundles and to spend a merry morning hunting for them.—Annie Willis McCullough in Youth's Companion.

A CHRISTMAS VISITOR.

Papa, Archie and May went to the woods to get a Christmas tree, and

the verses were all short. George read his next:

"Look behind your closet door,
For a great big package on the floor."
Grace read:

"In the northeast chamber, out of sight,
Under the coverlet, snowy white,
You'll find a gift if you search just right."

Last came Winnie's:

"A present lies on the garret stair;
I think that Santa Claus dropped it there."

Then off the children ran to search for their presents. Such a stamping and scuffling and shouting as the grown people heard! Pretty soon they came rushing in, one after the other. Then such an untying of strings and tearing off of wrapping papers as there was!

"Auntie! Auntie!" they shouted. "These are your presents! You are the Christmas postman!"

Auntie's gifts were not to be mistaken. She made them nearly always.

Joe's was an envelope album for scraps. Joe liked to cut all sorts of "things out of newspapers and magazines. The scrap-album was made of twenty-six big brown envelopes, tied together by cords, in a pasteboard

KEEP OLD SANTA CLAUS.



SANTA CLAUS AS WE KNOW HIM.

If all the little fictitious, fairy tales and fancies dear to children were to be given up, what would become of the imaginations of the coming generation? We have been called a practical people. So we are. If anything, too practical. As we grow older the realities of life crowd thick and fast upon us. Why then seek to destroy one of the most beautiful ideals of child life?

Let the little ones hang up their stockings on Christmas eve. Let them believe in the dear old white-bearded man who is one of their happiest illusions, and, above all, let them be good children while they may, not miniature men and women, tired of the real side of life before they leave the nursery for the schoolroom.

Yes, we believe that the best and truest mother can with perfect justice to both her children and herself conscientiously decide to keep Santa Claus in the special globe in which

he has sat enthroned for ages past. Give us Santa Claus! Throw the good old saint into the snow! Put away those delicious Christmas eve dreams, when every stir in the household after dusk meant the stamp of a reindeer? Bring up a child without the belief in the chimney and its capacity to stretch on Christmas eve? No; a thousand times no!

There's too little poetry in life now. Let the children have all of it they can get. Says a recent writer: "I wish there was a grown-up Santa Claus. I'd love to believe in him, and I would not thank anyone who told me he wasn't true. I'd listen to his sleigh bells with something very much like rapture, I'm afraid. It wouldn't be for the presents, either. That isn't why the children love Santa Claus. They love him because he means that somewhere there's a great-hearted creature, who is thinking of them and planning all the year through to delight them."

hand. "Let it stay. It is a poor little caterpillar's house."

May was right. One Indian summer day a caterpillar, dressed in brown velvet, was taking a walk in the woods. At last he came to the little pine tree and thought to himself, "What a nice place to spend the winter!"

So he made himself a little house. He made it very tight and close, of fine, soft thread, and fastened up the door. He did not leave himself even a window to look out. If there had been one, how it would have surprised him to see that he and his house and the pine tree were riding in a sleigh with pap and May and Archie!

He would have been still more surprised if he had seen the tree standing in the parlor, covered with toys and trinkets and little candles.

"It must be spring at last," he thought, for it was very warm in the parlor.

So he poked a hole in the wall of his house and out he came. But what do you think? He was not a caterpillar at all!

"Oh, see the lovely butterfly!" cried May.

He flew to the tip-top bough; and the children said there was nothing else on the tree so pretty as the butterfly.

"He must have come down the chimney with Santa Claus!" said May. And she never guessed that he came out of the caterpillar's house.



Goldilocks and I were walking back of Moss valley and happened to step, together, upon the Enchanted Flying Phantom Field. In a moment we were flying through the air, and in less time than you can count six plainly we were once more in Fairyland, under Tamalpais mountain.

And then what do you think we saw? Santa Claus picking plum puddings from trees! Real plum puddings from real trees!

This was in the plum pudding orchard which the fairies planted, long ago, for Santa Claus. He was whistling and chuckling and laughing. "Ho! ho! ho!" and sometimes slyly winking one eye as he viewed the many growing heaps of puddings as he laid them under the trees, and thought what jolly there would be Christmas day when they were eaten—and what tum-tummies afterwards!

Goldilocks thought the plum pudding orchard wonderful. It was watered by sparkling rills and was surrounded by hedges upon which candies and nuts and oranges were growing. These hedges were made of all Christmas trees, the burning little candles on which furnish Santa Claus light at night to work by. He will have only the candles to work by because they seem to bring him nearer to his mil-



A western lady, who formerly lived at Cambridge, Mass., writes entertainingly of what she declares was the happiest Christmas of her life. The climax of this merry occasion was a house party given at the home of her uncle not many miles from Cambridge. The lady writes:

"My uncle owned a big place about twenty miles from town, and every year he invited all his relatives to spend the Christmas holidays with him. He was a widower with two children—a son 26 years old and a daughter of 17. This girl, my cousin, Stella, was one of the brightest and most fun-loving girls I have ever known. I was just two years her senior, and between us we managed to stir up that house party to a degree nothing short of startling! Twenty people beside our family were invited, there being altogether about thirty guests in the house. Among them were a young lawyer from New York (for whom I immediately conceived a violent admiration), a naval officer, three Yale men from New Haven, my two brothers, an antique female cousin of ours (age unknown), some girls from New York and a young married couple from St. Louis. Before the end of a week Stella and I had almost originated a divorce case, where the young St. Louis couple were concerned. Of course, there were some other people, but they were sort of chaperones, old fogies who didn't count much. Well, that year the 25th of December fell on Wednesday, and the guests were invited from Dec. 23 to Jan. 2, and I can tell you we made Rome howl. My brothers and I, with our parents, arrived at our uncle's late Monday morning. The snow had been falling steadily for thirty-six hours, and was many inches deep.

"We drove from the little rickety station three miles across country to the farm. We were the first arrivals, and we made good use of the advantage over the other invited guests. The next train, at 4 o'clock, brought them all, and at 5 they came shouting and singing up to the house, in sleighs, wagons and carriages, borrowed from the farmers all over that part of the country. Well, the first evening was passed in the big dining room, all of us crowded about the roaring log fire. That is, all of us, excepting the young lawyer from New York and myself. We were seated on a chintz-covered soap-box, off in a dim corner of the room, discussing—er—the possibilities of effect of mistletoe on—ah—mankind. Before the candles were brought in to announce the 'time for disappearing,' we two had begun to understand each other. It was our first meeting, but in the country, and at Christmastide, people become acquainted very quickly.

"The next morning we all arose at 8 o'clock, and after the jolliest kind of a breakfast, we hauled in great bunches of evergreen, reels of crow-foot moss, and pile after pile of holly and mistletoe. We spent most of the day on step ladders or tables, hammering and tacking the Christmas decorations in place. And in the evening my uncle had a big pine tree brought in and set up in the parlor. We had each brought scores of little packages from town to present on Christmas morning, and these were suspended from the branches of the tree. Mistletoe was everywhere, and so were the girls. The consequences will be readily understood—the

men were not of the variety known as shy.

"It was long past midnight when we trooped off to our rooms and 2 o'clock struck before the last good night rang down the darkened hallway. As soon as all was quiet, I stole from my room, and tip-toed down the corridor to my cousin Stella's door. It was locked, but I tapped gently, and was soon admitted. We two girls slipped down stairs, where I had told the butler (an

old servant of my uncle's) to wait for us. And then we put our three heads together and concocted a grand scheme, for the undoing of everybody in the house. We tugged and hauled that big over-loaded Christmas tree from the parlor, through the hall into the library, and then we exchanged the names on all the presents. It was

RECEIVED A PAIR OF HUNTING TROUSERS.

She thought because she had no light He failed to bring her share, And crept at last into the night To lead the good saint there. And Christmas morning came, and lo! Her dead face smiled, because Amid a whirling drift of snow Her little weary soul I know Had found its Santa Claus.

Curious people are like skittish horses—it would be better for them if they were blind.

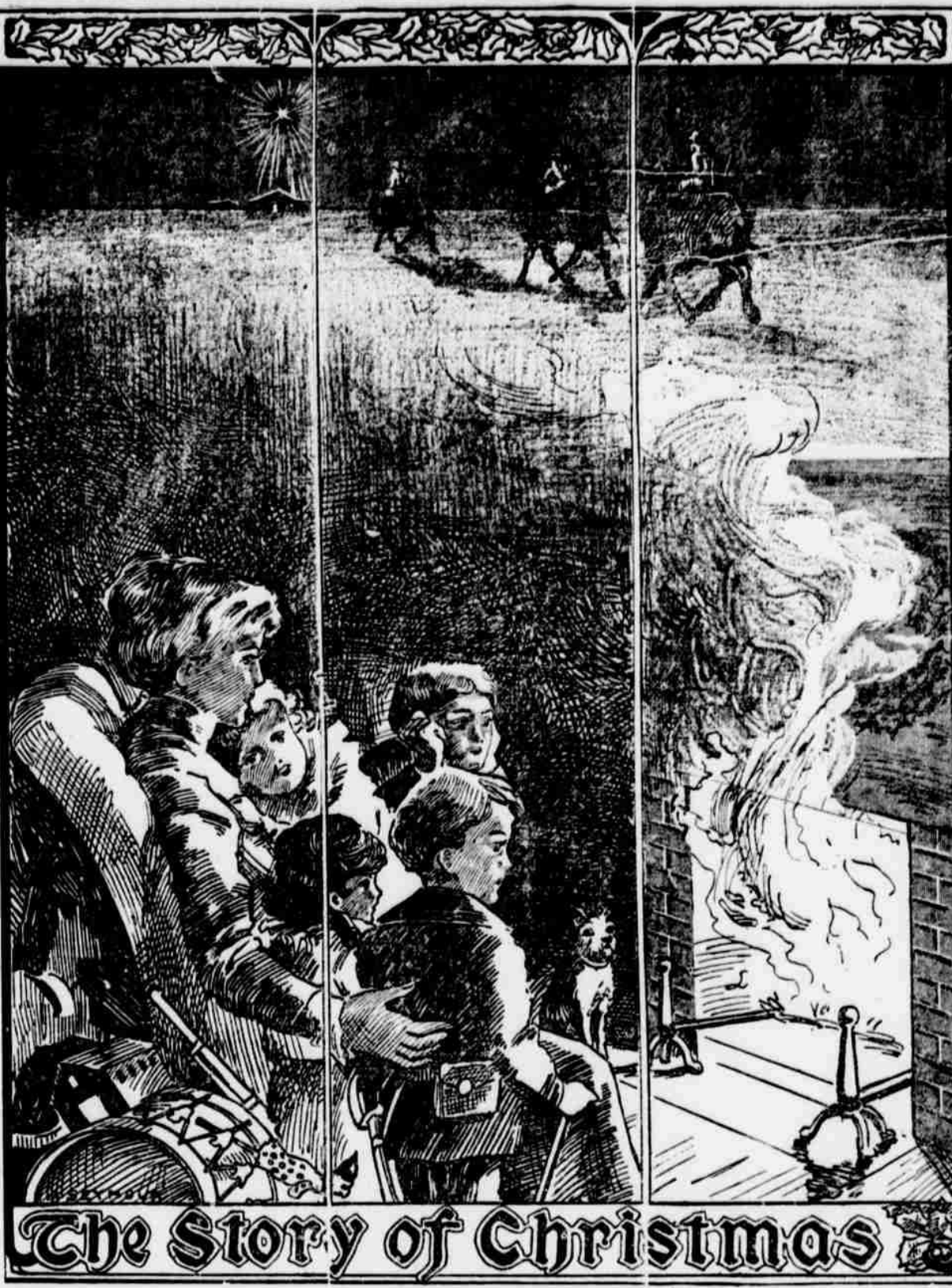
The lucky man is the man who sees and grasps his opportunity.

HER MERRYEST CHRISTMAS.

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The Story of Christmas



almost daylight before we finished, but we were amply repaid for our trouble. By 9 o'clock everybody was dressed and down stairs, exchanging greetings and gifts. Stella and I were the last to arrive, and our entrance was the signal for a grand rush to the parlor. And lo! the big Christmas tree had flown. My uncle was enraged, the guests much excited, and the young lawyer from New York looked very much amused. A search was promptly instituted, and of course the tree was found in the library, standing in stately solitude.

"Who on earth could have put it there? No one knew—and no one could guess—Stella and I were particularly obtuse. And after awhile the presents were distributed. The young married woman's cart was inclosed in a bundle of embroidered flannel petticoats to 'my darling husband,' and 'darling husband' presented his 'little love' with a volume of Mother Goose tales, and a red bathing suit; my old maid cousin received a Dutch pipe and a pair of hunting trousers; my uncle got a half dozen tallis veils and a pair of gold garter clasps."

WENT HOME TO SANTA CLAUS.

A bitter night—a squalid street— A basement bleak and bare, A hungry child with bleeding feet Alone sat waiting there. All day amid the surging throng She'd wandered far and near— All day had sung a feeble song That none had paused to hear.

But as she sang she caught the name Of Santa Claus, and how On Christmas night he often came To hungry children now. And so she waited in the dark For Santa Claus to come Till in her breast the feeble spark Of hope grew faint and numb.

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HAGGARDON THE WAR

BELIEVES ENGLAND'S DOWNFALL WILL RESULT.

Calls It Judgment from on High—His Private Life—Will Soon Stand for Parliament in a Cornwall Constituency.

Rider Haggard has had ample opportunities for forming his judgment of Transvaal affairs. He says that in the end England will be beaten and that it is the judgment of heaven. He is one of the few survivors, now only three or four in number, of the party that accompanied Sir Theophilus Shepstone on his mission to the Transvaal, which resulted in the annexation of that country on April 12, 1877. Mr. Haggard spends several months each year in a big house in Redcliffe Square, London; but after the season, if still in England, he is pretty certain to be found in Ditchingham Manor, the ancestral home of his wife's family, which the novelist has filled with souvenirs of his travels. His study is on the second floor. Its walls are lined with book-cases, with pictures above them, the latter being original drawings of the



RIDER HAGGARD.

illustrations in his books. Here, too, is Mr. Haggard's greatest treasure—a desk formerly used by Charles Dickens and bid in by Haggard at the Gads Hill sale. In this room he does the greater part of his work, writing away steadily if he feels in the mood, and often tossing his pen aside in favor of either a rod or gun.

Mr. Haggard's new book, "A Farmer's Year," has had abundant success. Its sales have been eclipsed by those of the sixpence edition of one of his earliest works. This is "Jess," whose scene, it will be remembered, is laid in the Transvaal. The astute publisher of this novel saw his chance, and in taking it was wise enough to make the new edition a popular one. The result is that he is unable to supply the demand for the book, and it is said that "Swallow," also a story of Boer life, is having a greatly increased sale.

However, the author of "Allan Quatermain" seems to have no idea of sitting down to watch his royalties pile up. He is planning a long trip through Cyprus, Egypt and the Holy Land, which is taken to mean a book from him. There is no truth in the report published by an American paper that the novelist has gone in for gold mining in Alaska with Lord Ernest Hamilton. It was a cousin of Rider Haggard instead who took a large slice of Bill Partridge's shares off his hands.

It would be supposed that the long and important trip that Mr. Haggard has mapped out for himself would be enough to occupy him fully, but the novelist adds politics to the list of things he wants to study, and it is announced that he soon will stand for a constituency in Cornwall.

BEGINS NEEDED REFORM.

Mrs. Lillian M. N. Stevens, the newly elected president of the W. C. T. U. and successor of the illustrious Frances Willard, will this season begin an active campaign against the sale of liquor to college students. She will try to have a national law passed forbidding the sale of intoxicating drinks near any college campus. The famous Princeton Inn, which was closed last year, was largely owing to the work of Mrs. Stevens' sisters in the W. C. T. U. Mrs. Stevens was born in Dover, Me., and has always made her home in the Pine Tree state. Her first public work was as a school teacher, but at the age of 21 she married Mr. Stevens, a leading business man of Portland. One daughter, now Mrs. Gertrude Stevens Leavitt, blessed their home. When the Maine Christian Temperance Union was organized about twenty-five years ago, Mrs. Ste-



MRS. LILLIAN M. N. STEVENS.

vans was elected treasurer, which position she held for three years. She was then made state president, and for twenty-two years was re-elected to the position, and in all that time has one ballot was cast for another candidate. From 1880 to 1885 she filled the position of assistant recording secretary, and in the latter year was elected recording secretary. Of profound wisdom, Mrs. Stevens holds the respect and love of the organization at whose head she is placed. She is a hard worker, and where she leads other women will gladly follow.

A WARM SESSION.

Closing Day of the General Debate on the Financial Bill.

MR. BAILEY OF TEXAS SPOKE.

In an Hour's Talk, He Vigorously Presented the Democratic View—Proceedings of the Senate.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The closing day yesterday of the general debate on the financial bill proved to be one of exceptional interest. At the outset a sharp personal colloquy occurred between Representatives Wheeler and Berry of Kentucky over the recent Kentucky election and the charges growing out of it. Considerable feeling was shown. Later in the day Mr. Bailey of Texas, until recently the Democratic floor leader, received close attention in an hour's speech, vigorously presenting the Democratic view, and eulogizing the time-honored and undying Democratic organization. In marked contrast with Mr. Bailey's utterances Mr. Snodder of New York, who followed him, announced that as a Democrat he believed in the gold standard and would vote for it. Mr. Payne of New York and Mr. Dabell of Pennsylvania also spoke during the day. The debate under the five-minute rule came to a close.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Soon after the senate convened yesterday, on motion of Mr. Hale of Maine it was agreed to adjourn from yesterday till next Monday. Mr. Aldrich presented a special order fixing the standing committees and their personnel for the senate of the fifty-sixth congress. The order was adopted without dissent, a statement being made by Mr. Cockrell of Missouri that such vacancies as existed in the minority representation would be filled at an early date.

Mr. Davis of Minnesota secured the passage of a resolution requiring the secretary of state to transmit to the senate the reports of Hon. Bartlett Tripp, Samoan commissioner, on affairs in Samoa.

The senate at 12:42 went into executive session and at 1:10 adjourned until Monday.

Republican National Convention.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The Republican national convention will be held at Philadelphia on Tuesday, June 19 next. The place and date were decided by the national Republican committee yesterday after a friendly contest for the honor of entertaining the convention between the city selected, Chicago, St. Louis and New York.

The meeting of the committee was held at the Arlington hotel and was presided over by Senator Hanna, the chairman of the committee. Forty-three of the forty-five states and all of the six territories were represented.

The proceedings throughout were enthusiastic and harmonious, every speech that was made emphasizing the fact that President McKinley will be renominated and that the convention will be in effect simply a ratification meeting. The claims of the rival cities were presented by distinguished citizens in open session.

The balloting occurred in the afternoon behind closed doors. On the first ballot Philadelphia received thirteen votes, Chicago twenty, New York seven and St. Louis nine. On the second ballot the contest narrowed to Philadelphia and Chicago. The New York votes went to Philadelphia and the St. Louis vote was split between the City of Brotherly Love and the Windy City of the Lakes.

Printers Strike.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 16.—The members of Pittsburg Typographical union No. 7 have walked out of the offices of the Pittsburg daily newspapers and struck work, although the scale of contract between the printers and publishers does not expire until Dec. 24. Their demand is that the machines employed to care for the members of Dequesne lodge No. 99 of the International Association of Machinists, be forced to become members of the Typographical union.

Caused Excitement.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Nicholas Davis of Kentucky, a member of troop B, third cavalry, stationed at Fort Myer, Va., who had been drinking heavily, armed with a Krak-Jorgensen rifle and several hundred rounds of ammunition, barricaded himself in an upper room of the company quarters Thursday. He imagined the place was assailed, opened all the windows commanding the various approaches and proceeded to shoot aimlessly about.

Capt. Shell Dead.

Charleston, S. C., Dec. 16.—Capt. George W. Shell died at his farm near Leesville yesterday in his 68th year. He served in Kershaw's brigade during the war of secession and was congressman for two terms after 1890. He is chiefly remembered as the reputed author of "The Shell Manifesto," which was the leading public document connected with "Williamism and the other matters." He was in the state.

BRITISH AND BOERS

Gen. Buller is Expected to Strike a Blow.

MORE TRANSPORTS WANTED.

Orders Have Been Issued at Woolwich to Prepare Another Siege Train to Go to the Front.

London, Dec. 15.—The war office is still without news from Ladysmith, other than that already issued. The general belief is that the large Boer forces Lord Methuen encountered at Magersfontein were partly drawn from Natal and that Gen. Buller will strike a blow before these have time to return.

The newspapers are calling upon the government to employ the Cunarders as well as the White Star steamers as transports, seeing the urgent necessity for getting more men to the Cape as speedily as possible. Forty thousand men could still be sent from England without calling upon the militia for foreign service. The militia effective is 100,000, and from this body 20,000 carefully selected could easily be spared for south Africa. Moreover, the colonies are again proffering assistance.

The greatest need, therefore, is speedy transports. Sir Charles Warren, who arrived at Cape Town Thursday, will possibly join Lord Methuen and take command of the combined forces.

The Daily Chronicle's Modder river dispatch, which is at variance with all the other reports, reports Lord Methuen's forces as retiring Tuesday on the camp at Modder river as the result of renewed artillery firing that day. The correspondent says: "Tuesday forenoon the Boers brought heavy guns into action. The British artillery replied, but failed to silence them. Lord Methuen thereupon withdrew his force out of range and concentrated at Modder river."

Orders have been issued at Woolwich to prepare another siege train to go out with the seventh division.

Conference to Be Held.

Denver, Col., Dec. 15.—A. R. Rucker, president of the United States Monetary league, left here yesterday for St. Louis, where he will hold a conference with the governors of several states friendly to the free coinage of silver, relative to a suit which is about to be begun by the state of Colorado for the purpose of securing a decision by the United States supreme court as to the legality of the demonetization of silver. The general assembly of the state passed a joint resolution authorizing the governor to take steps to bring this question before the supreme court, and the governor at once placed himself in communication with the executives of other states.

The replies have been most satisfactory, many governors promising assistance, and, if possible, active co-operation. Especially in Texas has the reception of the idea been cordial, and it is possible Mr. Rucker will go to that state before proceeding to Washington.

The suit will be begun in Denver. The United States Monetary league will give the state of Colorado as a present a solid silver brick of the purest metal of 100 ounces and representing \$100 at the present ratio. The state will send it to the United States mint at Washington with the demand that it be coined into 100 silver dollars.

"This, of course," says Mr. Rucker, "will be refused. Upon refusal, suit will be entered in the United States supreme court, for we have a right upon the constitution to demand that the tollon be coined. The question will be raised as to where the constitution lands us, and the suit is brought in the name of the state of Colorado to secure more rapid action than otherwise would be given it."

Mr. Rucker will be assisted by counsel from this and other states.

Big Coal Fleet.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 15.—Nearly three and a quarter million bushels of coal started down the Ohio yesterday, destined for Cincinnati, Louisville and New Orleans, making 13,000,000 bushels since the present movement began. The fleet consisted of seventeen steamers, and the further movement of coal will have to be suspended until the return of some of the empties.

An Asylum Burned.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 15.—The Western Pennsylvania institute for deaf and dumb, situated at Edgewood, was completely destroyed by fire yesterday evening. The 600 pupils in the building were panic-stricken, but the teachers quickly secured control of them and all were saved. The institute was an immense four-story building, which covered an acre of ground and was considered one of the best institutions of its kind under the care of Pennsylvania.

Ready to Report.

Savannah, Ga., Dec. 15.—M. A. Connolly, one of the alleged conspirators in the Gaynor-Green-Carter case, has written from Cuba to an attorney in this city that he is ready to report to the United States court whenever he is wanted to answer to the indictment. He is understood to be in the employ of the war department in Cuba. For several years he was secretary of Capt. O. M. Carter.

WASHINGTON HONORED.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Mount Vernon was the scene yesterday of the most unique and impressive ceremonies in its rich and picturesque history.

Masons of high degree from all over the United States and Canada met at the tomb of Washington in services commemorating the 100th anniversary of the death of the great statesman. President McKinley delivered a tribute to the memory of the first president, and senators and congressmen, high government officials and distinguished private citizens were participants and spectators of the solemn service. Later in the day, when the Masonic ceremonies had been concluded, the Independent Order of Red Men succeeded them in honoring the memory of Washington with the rites of their order.

At Mount Vernon the procession was formed in line at the mansion, where President McKinley and other distinguished guests joined it and moved solemnly to the old vault where first reposed the remains of Washington. This procession was formed and moved in exact order and over the same path which was followed at Washington's funeral. Halting at the vault, the third cavalry band played a funeral dirge and the Right Rev. A. M. Randolph, bishop of the southern Episcopal diocese of Virginia, offered an invocation. This was followed by an address by the grand master of Masons in Colorado, and the procession then moved to the tomb where the remains of Washington lie.

Then occurred the impressive services of the Masonic ritual. The grand masters of the thirteen original states formed in line, facing the representatives of other jurisdictions and the grand lodge and other brethren standing in a circle around the tomb with joined hands. Then the grand master of Virginia called upon each of the jurisdictions in turn for messages and tributes sent by them.

As the grand master of California, representing the western states, concluded, the following responses were made:

All of the grand masters—"Oh, death where is thy sting?"

The craft—"Oh, grave, where is thy victory?"

The grand masters then deposited their wreaths and evergreens and the craft slowly marched past, laying on the tomb their tributes.

Upon reaching the mansion the lines were drawn up and President McKinley delivered an address. He was introduced by the grand master of Virginia and delivered an eloquent oration which was listened to in profound and impressive silence.

The services concluded with a benediction by Brother Ed. N. Clain, rabbi of Beth Ahaba synagogue, Richmond, Va.

President McKinley was accompanied to Mount Vernon by all the members of the cabinet now in the city, Gen. Miles and Gen. Corbin.

Last night the order of Red Men supplemented their Mount Vernon ceremonies with elaborate exercises at convention hall, where patriotic music by the marine band, songs and addresses formed features of an interesting program.

Great Incoherence George E. Green, of New York, presided and speeches were delivered of Georgia and others. Senator made by Great Prophet Robert T. Dan-Chauncey M. Dewey of New York was the orator of the evening and was given a hearty reception.

Rev. Henry N. Cowden, chaplain of the house of representatives, pronounced the benediction.

Mexicans and Yaquis.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 15.—Lieut. Montes arrived at Ortiz Sonora Wednesday with an escort of nine soldiers and reports having encountered a band of renegade Yaquis some little distance east of Pitaya Pass. The Indians outnumbered his escort twice over, and in a running fight one of his men was lost.

The occurrence closes further safe travel over the short route from the military headquarters on the river and makes it impossible until the section is again swept by a strong force of soldiers.

Montes describes Torres' methods of the last two weeks as being very effective toward running down the rebellious Indians and that within a month there will be no need of further fighting, but heavy garrisons will have to be maintained along the river to afford protection to the peaceable Indians and Mexican inhabitants in the river country.

There are no renegade Yaquis now to be found in the lower river country, and traffic on the river is not interrupted.

Buried to Death.

New York, Dec. 15.—Three persons were burned to death and one seriously injured at a fire that occurred at an early hour yesterday morning in a dilapidated tenement at 390 South street in the Williamsburg district. The dead are: Mrs. Goscher, 65 years old; Mrs. Susan Smyth, 85 years old; Luke Freeman, 51 years old. Mrs. Goscher and Mrs. Smyth were found on the top floor suffocated to death. The body of Freeman was found on the second floor badly burned.

Charged With Contempt.

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 15.—In the district court yesterday Judge Scott sentenced Revs. T. J. Mackey and H. C. Her-ring and W. P. Hartford to pay a fine of \$200 each or be confined to jail for contempt of court. He gave them until 10 o'clock to-day to pay the fine. They will appeal the case to the supreme court. It grows out of a letter written by the ministers concerning a habeas corpus case regarding two children in the custody of the House for the Friends.

STORMBERG FIGHT

It Is Feared Many British Soldiers Were Killed.

GEN. GATACRE WAS DECEIVED

By His Guide—Rumors of Severe Fighting at Modder River Has Not Been Officially Confirmed Yet.

London, Dec. 13.—It is impossible to state the number of dead and wounded British. The words are those of President Steyn of the Orange Free State. Taken in connection with his and Gen. Gatacre's contradictory reports the number of prisoners they tell a tale of British valor that gives the British the first news of the Stormberg defeat.

Gatacre reports as captured six officers and 360 enlisted men of the Northumberland fusiliers and three of officers and 290 men of the Suffolk regiment, a total of 665. Steyn reports 489 prisoners.

There is a discrepancy of 176. Where are these 176? There can be but one answer—lying dead on the field of battle. And while the Briton's eyes have dimmed at the thought of these brave fellows shot down in a desperate fight, his heart swells with pride of tradition as he realizes how fiercely they fought before they surrendered.

Tommy Atkins gave up only when his ammunition was gone and the Boer shells were mowing down the British ranks; gave up when he could do nothing else except stand up and be killed, and when being killed would add nothing to British glory, save no foot of earth to the British flag.

Surrender is a word that Englishmen are unaccustomed to. Surrender is not a tradition of British arms, but under such circumstances is not disgrace; it is only self-preservation.

When the full details are told there will be, London is confident, as many stories of heroism in this disaster as there were in the Chitral campaign, which Gen. Gatacre conducted with such brilliance and success.

That Gatacre was deceived by his guide is evident from his report. Whether the guides led him astray through stupidity or through treachery is in doubt; Gatacre seems to think the former.

With two reports and the story of a brilliant sortie from Ladysmith and the unconfirmed rumor of a hot fight at the Modder river, the British public had to be satisfied yesterday.

New Strawboard Trust.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 13.—A new strawboard trust will be launched the first of the year in opposition to the old trust. The promoters are Crawford Fairbanks of Terre Haute, M. N. Williams of Anderson and Col. W. T. Durbin, Republican national committee man from Indiana. The first two were until recently connected with the American Strawboard company. The mills in the new combination are at Terre Haute, Anderson, Joliet, Elkhart and Lima.

The shipping bill was introduced in the national house by Representative Payne of New York, who, with Senator Hanna, prepared and introduced the bill last year. Mr. Payne says that it is the same in all its essentials as the former bill introduced.

Huge Tidal Wave.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 13.—The Bulletin says: The steamship America Maru, from the orient, brings advices from Ceram and reports that 5000 persons were destroyed on that island alone when the dreadful earthquake of Nov. 22 shocked the Japanese coast and agitated the islands adjacent to the empire. In the bay of Ambonia the sea came forward in the shape of a huge tidal wave and forced the water up fifty feet over the lowlands. As Paubhu and Samsaoera, on the bay, the waves swept over the tops of trees thirty feet high. Out of nearly 1800 inhabitants only forty escaped.

The whole coast for miles was transformed into a huge mud puddle. Corpses were everywhere. Broken trees and portions of houses were buried in the ooze. Every few rods were great mounds of stones and boulders that had washed up from the sea, changing the entire topography of the country. The exact number of killed along the coast will never be known, as the corpses are in many cases yards under the new ground.

Returning to Cuba.

New York, Dec. 13.—Senora Curmina Lopez, who was the wife of a Cuban general, and who in 1897 escaped from Cabanas fortress, Havana, in the guise of a nun and who took refuge on an Argentine warship, which conveyed her to Buenos Ayres, was held with her four children at the "large office" yesterday, having arrived here from Rio de Janeiro on the steamer Worldworth, en route for Cuba. The family is returning to its old home after long exile.

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EVENTS OF EVERYWHERE.

Election Commissioner Pryor.

Kentucky has resigned. The German Reichstag passed to third reading the bill repealing the law prohibiting workmen's associations.

President McKinley sent to the senate the names of 294 census supervisors appointed during the recess of congress.

The Hamburg police have received seventy requests from various parts of Germany for the detention of boys going to join the Boers.

An official dispatch from Manila says that 229 Spaniards who were formerly prisoners in the hands of the Filipinos have arrived there.

A great many bears are reported in the Choctaw country. Three were killed in Nashola county a few days ago. Their meat retailed for 15 cents per pound.

The Spanish chamber of deputies by a vote of 131 against 83 rejected a motion by Senor Romanes demanding that the government withdraw the navy estimates.

At Adel, Ia., Joseph Hutchens beat his wife to death with a club and then blew his brains out with a shotgun. He was about 65 years of age and had been married forty years or more.

A decided increase in trade between the United States and Mexico is shown by the receipts of the New Laredo Mex. custom-house, which in the last five months amounted to over \$2,000,000.

Andrew Carnegie has authorized the city council of Oklahoma City, Ok., to draw on R. A. Frank of Pittsburg, Pa., for \$25,000 for the purpose of erecting a public library at Oklahoma City.

A severe hail storm covered the country just northeast of Texarkana in Arkansas a few nights ago. The blow passed over Washington and Hope, Ark., and did a great deal of damage to property.

The investigation of the Cherokee auditor's office, which was recently burglarized, developed the fact that \$13,556 in uncollected national certificates has been stolen and are being sold all over the country.

The United States grand jury at Savannah, Ga., has during the present session returned six indictments against persons charged with conspiring against the work done in Savannah harbor.

Members of the Southeastern and Mississippi Valley Freight associations met at Chicago and discussed the general advance of freight rates that is to become effective Jan. 1. The average advance in southern territory will be about 15 per cent.

In the district court at Guthrie, Henry P. Rudens, a constable, sentenced to six years in the penitentiary for shooting Ella Arnold, a 19-year-old girl, who refused him admittance to her sister's house to serve a writ one day last summer.

The United States supreme court affirmed the opinion of the court of claims in the case of the claim of the La Abra company against the Republic of Mexico, holding the claim to be fraudulent and unfounded. Justice Haslan delivered the opinion.

On Christmas day the women of the Palmetto state will present to Lieut. Victor Blue, of the United States navy, a handsome medal as a testimonial of his services in the Spanish-American war. The medal was raised by the Association for Patriotic Award.

John Kendall, a farmer, was held up and robbed by masked men near Waukomis, O. K.

A mass meeting was held in Omaha, Neb., at which resolutions were adopted favoring the Boers in their conflict with England. Gov. Poynter presided and speeches were made by G. M. Hitchcock, candidate for United States senator, Gov. Poynter and a number of others.

The new electoral bill giving proportional representation, passed in Belgium the chamber of deputies. The Catholic party will be unable to elect more than seven deputies in Brussels, instead of eighteen, as heretofore. The Liberals say they will win in that country.

Cotton manufacturers of Augusta, Ga., will advance the wages of their 8000 operators Jan. 1, so dispatches from New York state. The wages of operatives elsewhere will also be advanced. About 160,000 all told will be benefited by the advance.

A Washington special to a New York paper says Germany, France, Russia, and Italy refuse to give the United States written assurance that the door will be maintained in China, as per this country's proposal, but will agree to a European plan.

Dispatches from Apia, Samoa, received at Berlin say that news of the final settlement of the Samoan question has been hailed with satisfaction by the German residents and a large majority of the Samoans. Maletoa Tanus' people are depressed.

According to the Jewish year book the number of Jews in this country is 1,043,800. New York has 400,000; Illinois, 95,000; Pennsylvania, 95,000; Ohio 50,000; California, 35,000 and Maryland and Missouri, 35,000 each.

A charter has been granted the Oklahoma Railway company, capital \$5,000,000. The road is to be 300 miles long and start from some point on the Rock Island railway between Enid and Okarche, Ok., and run to Coalgate, T.

Aguaalido in the Mountains. Manila, Dec. 13.—Gen. Young reports the rescue of Brune of the Nevada regiment and Edwards of the gunboat Yorktown, who have been held prisoners by the Filipinos. Gen. Tino, conveying the American prisoners north, is hotly pursued.

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LIEUT. BRUMBY.

Admiral Dewey's Flag Officer Dies at Garfield Hospital.

A BRILLIANT YOUNG MAN.

He Was Regarded as an Energetic and Capable Assistant and Was at the Head of His Grade.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Lieut. Thos. M. Brumby, flag lieutenant to Adm. Dewey during the Manila campaign, who has been ill with typhoid fever for several weeks, died at Garfield hospital shortly after 6 o'clock yesterday evening.

The lieutenant's present illness dated from about the 27th of November, the first symptoms being nothing more than a cold, which, however, failed to yield to treatment, and soon afterward he went to the Garfield hospital where he died.

The death of Lieut. Brumby, while not unexpected, was a great shock to Admiral Dewey. The relations of the two men for several years past have been very intimate and a strong friendship had grown up between them.

Lieut. Brumby went out to the Asiatic station with Admiral Dewey and had been with him until they both returned to the United States several months ago. In his capacity as a flag lieutenant to the admiral Lieut. Brumby was thrown with his chief practically all the time and acted as his personal representative in many matters of detail, delegated to him by the commanding officer. He was regarded by Admiral Dewey as a bright, energetic and capable assistant, while the devotion of the latter to the admiral was something marvelous.

The burden of his thought during the latter days of his illness, before his mind was wrecked with delirium, seemed to be regarding his work for the admiral.

Admiral Dewey was unremitting in his attentions to him until his condition became precarious and visitors were not allowed to see him. Some days ago Mrs. W. I. Hayward of Marietta, Ga., a sister, was summoned and Thursday she was joined by her husband, both remaining with him until he died. Brumby's aged mother is still living in Marietta, Ga.

The father, who is dead, was a colonel of the fourth Georgia regiment in the Confederate army. Lieut. Brumby was 44 years of age and unmarried. Nothing definite has been decided concerning the funeral except that the body will be taken to Georgia for interment, leaving here tonight for Atlanta. It is entirely improbable that Admiral Dewey will accompany the remains, but will designate his secretary, Lieut. H. H. Caldwell, to perform that duty.

Lieut. Brumby was appointed a naval cadet from Georgia, entering the service on the 25th of September, 1873, and his present commission dates from the 25th of August, 1892. Practically all the time during the last two years he has been with Admiral Dewey.

In his report of the battle of Manila Admiral Dewey spoke in very complimentary terms of the services and gallantry of his flag lieutenant and recommended that he be advanced some numbers on the list of lieutenants. His recommendation was adopted by the navy department and the name sent to the senate, but together with a number of other promotions made by the department failed to be acted upon.

The Willowdene.

New Orleans, La., Dec. 18.—The British steamer Willowdene, Capt. Anderson, from Rio de Janeiro via Santos, coffee laden, thirty-six days out, arrived at Port Eads and is now at the Mississippi quarantine station.

Her crew consists of twenty-five men. All are in excellent health and there was no sickness aboard during the voyage. The vessel will be put through the strict fumigation and unloading process provided by the United States treasury regulations. The ship took part of her cargo of coffee at Santos, and both English and American consuls testify that the bubonic plague exists there.

The American consul testifies that the ship was thoroughly disinfected, and since then she has been at sea thirty-six days with not a case of sickness aboard.

The board of health is not certain of its powers in prohibiting entry to a healthy ship, but will meet next Thursday to decide finally. The ship has 43,000 bags of coffee aboard.

Offering Their Services.

New York, Dec. 18.—Many thousands of loyal Britons have been calling at the British consulate in this city in the last few days offering their services to their mother country in her struggle with the Boers. Sir Percy Anderson, the British consul general, said that since the outbreak of the war he had received many thousands of applications from fellow-countrymen in this city, who were ready and willing to enlist and go to the front.

Plague Not Endored.

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 18.—The few members of the legislature who had arrived last night for the special session which opens to-day do not endorse Gov. Pingree's action in calling them together to pass upon a constitutional amendment permitting equal tax legislation. They say they are uninformed of any demand for immediate action and believe that voters want time to think it over.

Gen. Buller's Losses.

London, Dec. 18.—Gen. Buller's casualties at Colenso are reported at eighty-two killed, 667 wounded and 343 missing. His loss in officers was seven killed, forty-one wounded and seventeen missing. Several of the wounded have since died from their wounds.

Those ghastly figures given out by the war department caused dismay among those aware of the news. Buller's loss is even greater than Lord Methuen's at Magersfontein. The regiments suffering most were the royal field artillery, the Dublin fusiliers and the Devonshire regiment.

The defeat of Gen. Buller has entered the storm of indignation that has been growing for two weeks upon the ministry and the clamor against Colonial Secretary Chamberlain and the marquis of Lansdowne, the war minister, is force and determined.

They are scapegoats upon whom the wrath of the nation falls. Chamberlain is especially the object of vindictive invective since it was his policy that caused the war. Lansdowne is second only to Chamberlain in this denunciation, because of his sloth in putting in the field troops sufficient to stop the war in its bud.

Whether Lansdowne is removed at once or not it is certain that there will be a big shake up in the war office personnel at once. It is semi-officially admitted that the conduct of the war will result in a thorough reorganization of the department.

A clean sweep will probably be made in a number of the bureaus, and officials that have grown gray in the service will have to make way for younger men who are up to the times and can cut out the dry rot that permeates the whole system, bringing it up to the standard required by the great changes that have revolutionized warfare in the past few years.

Field Marshal Wolsley advised Lansdowne months before hostilities began to send a great army to South Africa. His advice was unheeded.

Lord Roberts supplemented his chief with like counsel. He, too, was ignored. Others only a degree below them in rank and war experience shared their views.

Field Marshal Wolsley, commander-in-chief of the British army, arrived in London yesterday, bearing special orders given to him by the queen at Windsor when she learned of the defeat of Buller.

Telegrams from Windsor had preceded his arrival in London, hastily calling a meeting of the cabinet, and the ministers met at the foreign office yesterday afternoon to discuss the reverses of Buller, Methuen and Gatacre and plan the most effective means of retrieving the disaster.

Joseph Chamberlain, the colonial secretary, was not present. Cape Colony is in a ferment, and Boer reports say that 5000 British colonial troops have joined the Boers.

Sugar Mill and Refinery.

Tampa, Fla., Dec. 18.—Plans have been perfected for the erection in this city of a big sugar mill and refinery. It is the intention of the men behind the enterprise to make Tampa not only the market for the sugar cane of Florida, but to bring the crude article from Cuba and refine it here. Those interested do not care to have their names made public at present, but have authorized the statement that the refinery would be established.

Carl Jahl was found dead in bed at Mineola the other day.

The Texas at Havana.

Havana, Dec. 18.—The United States battleship Texas, Capt. Sigbee commanding, has arrived here, and Capt. Greene, commandant of the naval station, has conferred with Capt. Sigbee with regard to the removal from Colon cemetery of the bodies of the victims of the Maine disaster. The present intention is to remove the remains with as little ceremony as possible.

The work of disinterment will begin this morning. Each coffin will be closed in a metal casket and be surrounded by a disinfecting compound. The caskets will be removed during the night to the naval wharf, where they will be under guard until all is ready for removal to the battleship which it is said, will take place Wednesday night or Thursday at daybreak. The Texas will then leave at once.

Father Chadwick will identify the coffins as they are taken from the ground, having a chart showing the exact location of each.

Surveying Appraisers.

Antlers, I. T., Dec. 18.—The United States surveying appraisers have folded their tents at this place and moved to Kosoma, twelve miles north of here. Superintendent Kenyon says the work is progressing most satisfactorily. This crew is carrying ranges 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17. They will get to the border sometime next June. Superintendent Kenyon says a great deal of time could be saved by skipping the mountainous country around Kosoma.

Steamer Disabled.

London, Dec. 18.—The British steamer Rappahannock, Capt. Foall, from London for Newport News, has been spoken southwest of Galley Head, southwest coast of Ireland, in a disabled condition. She was anchored at the time in a very heavy sea and a coaster was standing by trying to get a hawser aboard her. No further news has been received here.

Truck Growers Meeting.

Bonham, Tex., Dec. 18.—The Fannin County Fruit and Vegetable Growers' association held a meeting in the county court room Saturday morning and a very interesting session was held. A good attendance was had and each member seemed to take especial interest in the proceedings.

The constitution and by-law of the association were read by the secretary and adopted. They contain many things that insure the success of this diversification move.

It was decided that the membership fee should not be raised, but remain at 25 cents, and the members are confident that in a comparatively short time the membership will comprise every enterprising farmer in the county.

A program for the next meeting to be held at the same place Saturday, June 6, was arranged.

One object of these meetings every month will be to discuss how and what to plant at different periods, and how to successfully grow what is planted.

As the time for gardening will be at hand before many more meetings, the question of the purchase of seeds was discussed. It was decided that at the next meeting each member bring a list of wheat seeds he will need and the quantity and give same to the secretary, who will submit the entire amount of the association to the different seed houses and secure as low prices as possible.

The next meeting will no doubt be largely attended and good results will no doubt be had.

Bold Robbery.

Sherman, Tex., Dec. 18.—Sheriff Shrewsbury and Deputy Morrison were at Southmayd, eleven miles west of Sherman, investigating a bold and successful holdup at that place.

Harlis McBee, the victim, makes the following statement of the way it took place:

"I was walking from the postoffice to the Texas and Pacific depot. Just as I reached the railroad track a tall man in dark clothes with a broad-brimmed black hat and a handkerchief tied around his face just so his eyes were visible, met me and presented a revolver rather close to my face saying: 'Hold up your hands.' I thought he was one of the boys about town trying to play a trick on me, and I told him to take that pistol away; he might shoot somebody. His reply was: 'Well, I'd just as soon shoot you as any other d-d man.'"

"There was something in the ring of his voice which I realized belonged to a stranger that made me know he was in earnest. It was a chilly night and I had both my hands in my pocket. As I drew them out I brought my pocketbook out in my right hand and held both my hands up. He told me to stand still and with the muzzle of the pistol right against me he went through all my pockets with his other hand. It was not very light where we were and I don't think he ever saw the pocketbook in my hand until he ran his hand up along my arm until he reached the hand the book was in, then he took it. There was, to the best of my recollection, about \$14.50 in the pocketbook. He then told me to move up, and at the point of the pistol he made me walk into the space between McElroy's place of business and the postoffice. Addressing me, he said: 'Now, you run, and I proceeded to do so without further orders. The man was, in my opinion, about 5 feet 11 or 6 feet in height.'"

The officers are diligently at work in the matter, but it seems hard to get a clew.

Natural Gas.

Corsicana, Tex., Dec. 18.—The demand for natural gas for heating purposes is causing the owners of the two pipe lines to extend their mains into the residence districts, and before the winter is over a large percentage of the homes in Corsicana will be heated with natural gas instead of coal. The price charged for gas varies according to the number of stoves in a house, the range being from \$1.75 per month per stove to \$2.50 in residences. Where large burners are put in business establishments the present price is \$5 per stove per month, and even at this price, which is considered too high, the gas is cheaper, cleaner and much more satisfactory than coal.

Several establishments are now using the natural gas for illuminating purposes and it gives the greatest satisfaction. In short, the natural gas is a bonanza to this town.

Horribly Mangled.

Houston, Tex., Dec. 18.—George De-beaulieu was horribly mangled under the wheels of a passenger train on the Southern Pacific crossing on Liberty avenue in the fifth ward Thursday night. He was at the crossing as the train came in shortly after 10 o'clock and attempted to walk on to the track in front of the rapidly approaching engine.

The watchman in charge caught him by the coat collar and tried to restrain him, but breaking loose, he leaped on to the track and was crushed beneath the wheels. The entire train passed over a portion of him. Both legs were severed, but the unfortunate young man still lived and was conscious. The police ambulance was called and Dr. Massey was notified.

John Metzgar was arrested at Corsicana recently charged with theft.

Gold for England.

London, Dec. 18.—The Statist says: "The prospects of gold coming from the United States are more hopeful. To induce shipments the Bank of England has raised the price it is willing to pay for eagles to 76s 5/4 per ounce. At the same time it has offered to lend money at only 2 1/2 per cent on the security of gold, the moment it is shipped."

Gold for England.

The sharp advance in exchange Wednesday was due to heavy selling of Americans.

Badly Bruised.

Denison, Tex., Dec. 18.—Sam Benjamin, son of C. L. Benjamin, chief clerk in Master Car Builder Doyle's office at the Katy shops, while repairing a pulley in the car shops Thursday evening slipped from a high step-ladder, striking his head and shoulder. He was badly bruised and shaken up as a result will be laid up for several days.

A Fatal Accident.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 16.—A terrible accident occurred here at 12:30 yesterday, when double-header freight No. 243, Engineers Howe and Hadlock, ran into a hack at the east crossing.

The hack contained Mrs. Lucy Duncan, Mrs. John Krupp, Mrs. Wm. Coalson and some children.

Mrs. Lucy Duncan and Mrs. Krupp were thrown against the engine and instantly killed.

One of the little girls had her foot cut off and the other leg injured and was bruised about the head. She is not expected to live. The other little girl came through the accident with slight injuries.

Mrs. John Krupp is the wife of a prominent Houston man, and together with Miss Schoermann of Houston, was spending the winter on the Duncan ranch. They were caught coming into town to do some shopping.

The accident occurred at a crossing a short distance east of Marfa.

The train struck the hack with great force and smashed it into splinters.

Fort Davis, Tex., Dec. 16.—Word has just reached here of a horrible accident which occurred at Marfa yesterday at noon, in which Mrs. Lucy Duncan of this county and Mrs. Krupp of Houston met a horrible death, while Inez Coalson, a granddaughter of Mrs. Duncan, suffered the loss of one leg.

The three above named drove to Marfa in a hack from the Duncan ranch yesterday morning.

While crossing the Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio track they were struck by a west bound freight train, with the above results.

Mrs. Krupp is the wife of a prominent merchant of Houston and was here on a visit. Mrs. Duncan is a pioneer of this county, and her family is one of the most prominent and best beloved in this section of the state.

A gloom is cast over the entire populace.

Banquet a Success.

Denton, Tex., Dec. 16.—The banquet which Denton camp No. 15, Woodmen of the World, gave Thursday night was a success in every particular, and the 160 guests present spent a very enjoyable evening. The sovereigns and their guests met at their hall at 8 o'clock and went down to the banquet hall at 8:30 in a body. Covers were set for 160 and they were all filled. The programme consisted of musical numbers and addresses. Chancellor Commander J. J. Richardson delivered the address of welcome, and other short speeches delivered by Messrs. R. Lee Ragdale, P. Mounts and C. C. Bell. After the banquet, which was sumptuous, there was more music and the banquet adjourned. The arrangement committee in charge of the affair, Messrs. R. Kelly, Ragdale, Biggstaff, Blanks and Blewett, deserve praise.

Baptists Convened.

Greenville, Tex., Dec. 16.—The Baptists of Hunt county met here Thursday in the church to consider the question of correlation of Burleson college with the confederated colleges of the denomination in Texas. After warm debates yesterday morning the meeting decided by a large majority for correlation and directed the trustees to take steps toward that relation with the other schools.

Horribly Mangled.

The president nominated Ed V. Morton of New York to be secretary of the legation of the United States at Seoul Korea.

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The watchman in charge caught him by the coat collar and tried to restrain him, but breaking loose, he leaped on to the track and was crushed beneath the wheels. The entire train passed over a portion of him. Both legs were severed, but the unfortunate young man still lived and was conscious. The police ambulance was called and Dr. Massey was notified.

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Jury Secured.

Palestine, Tex., Dec. 15.—At Anderson county's bar a jury composed of twelve sturdy, sun-browned farmers of east Texas will pass judgment on the merits of the case of the state of Texas against Ed Cain, wherein he is charged in due legal form to have been the accomplice of Joe Wilkerson et al. in the commission of the famous Henderson county crime last May.

Those who profess to know say that these twelve men form a body as representative as any that ever sat in a jury box in this section of the state. A majority are said to have acquired a comfortable share of this world's goods by the dint of long, hard days of toil in the field's of "old Natchitoches district."

In a case of such importance it is not often that the selection of the prescribed number of eligible men from the venire is accomplished at such ease and dispatch. The first juror was sworn in Wednesday at 5:10 o'clock. The twelfth man took the oath at 3:05 p. m. yesterday. The personnel of the jury is as follows:

Caro Quarles, W. D. Middleton, J. O. Melver, W. L. White, J. R. Gambrell, David F. Douthitt, R. L. Springer, Ed Hudson, S. D. Rhodes, B. Wilson, J. H. Waldston and B. W. Camp. In this list there is not the name of a single citizen of Palestine. Most of the men live in the country north of this place.

Seven jurors were placed in the box yesterday morning and the number remaining necessary were added in the afternoon in one hour and five minutes. The state used three and the defense made requisition for twelve. This work done, the attorneys held a consultation. At its close Mr. Morris made the following announcement:

"Council have agreed upon certain rules to govern this trial, which we request your honor to have enforced. Witnesses are to be placed under the rule. They will be permitted to talk to no one about the testimony they are to give except the attorneys interested. Attorneys are to be allowed to talk to the witnesses at any time and anywhere without the presence of an officer, on first obtaining the consent of the court, with this proviso: That they will pledge themselves not to talk to more than one at a time and not divulge to one witness that which another has told them." The request was granted.

Unimportant work preliminary to the introduction of testimony was begun. At 4 o'clock the jury was excused from further service during the day.

Yesterday morning Mr. Morris announced that he had been informed by the officers that a witness for the state had been evading process. He had a letter, he said, from the sheriff of Kaufman county, in which that official made this assertion and declared that he knew where the man wanted could be found in another county.

After another discussion a fine of \$500 for contempt was entered against a party and an attachment issued to secure his attendance as a witness. In the afternoon fines of \$100 for contempt were entered against Pony Reasonover, a witness for the state, and A. B. Tarkington, a witness for the defendant, and attachments issued, all for the same purpose.

The introduction of testimony will begin this morning.

Arrested at Galveston.

Galveston, Tex., Dec. 14.—Deputy Sheriff Bob Adams arrested C. N. Arnold yesterday on a charge of felonious theft. The arrest was made upon a capias issued from the district court of Fort Worth, which was received by Sheriff Thomas yesterday morning from Sheriff Clarke at Fort Worth. The Fort Worth authorities were notified of the arrest, and they sent a reply that an officer would leave there for Galveston to take Arnold back to that city.

Arrested at Galveston.

John Edwards was probably fatally shot at Ardmore the other night.

Arrested at Galveston.

Dr. J. D. Westervelt died very suddenly at Corpus Christi the other day.

Arrested at Galveston.

Battle With Yaquis. El Paso, Tex., Dec. 14.—Advices from Ortiz, Sonora, report a heavy battle between Mexican soldiers and Yaqui braves on Monday.

Gen. Luis Torres, at the head of a column of 1100 soldiers, formed a half moon around the headquarters of the Yaquis, located about fourteen miles northeast of Chumapaco.

The number of braves was estimated at 400. The Indians occupied a small stretch of mesquite jungle, into which the Mexicans poured an incessant fire for over two hours from a slight elevation a quarter of a mile distant.

The Indians were finally dislodged and melted away before the federals like quail, leaving nine dead in the brush. The number of wounded is reported to have been heavy.

Arrested at Galveston.

The Mexicans had none killed and only three men slightly wounded.

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Pete M. Hall, sheriff of Nolan county, is dead.

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PASTURE AND FARM.

Indian Territory wheat looks well. Less than two acres in strawberries netted a La Porte grower \$1800.

A La Porte man realized \$160 from less than an acre of blackberries.

Carload shipments of oranges are now being made from Phoenix, Ariz.

Alfred Doole of Ballinger has purchased of Thomas Shaw fifty cows at \$16.

The Concho country is said to be in better shape than it has been for years.

The cedar and the holly will soon be used in the annual Christmas adornment.

Cap. Charles Shreiner of Kerrville has sold his wool clip of 600,000 pounds at private sale.

The pork pckery at Palestine has commenced operations and the farmers are taking in their swine.

W. A. Moody of Mineola has a Berkshire hog, not quite 2 years old, that weighs 730 pounds actual weight.

The New York Tree Planting association planted over 1000 trees along streets in that city the past twelve months.

The state penitentiary board has closed the deal for the purchase of a convict farm of over 5000 acres in Brazoria county.

G. D. Tarlton of Hillsboro has purchased the old Union Beef company's pasture in west Texas, of 53,000 acres, paying \$1 per acre.

John R. Blocker of San Antonio made a sale of cattle recently in the Indian Territory, selling 4000 head of 2, 3 and 4-year old steers at from \$20 to \$25.

The Club Land and Cattle company of Henrietta has sold all its yearlings steers at \$20 around, no cut back. This is a new company and this is its first crop of yearlings.

One of the cows in the herd of Red Polled cattle recently brought from Maquoketa, Ia., by J. O. Holt & Son, was milked soon after her arrival at Midland and gave eighteen quarts.

J. C. De Moes of Carlsbad, N. M., has marketed 2700 pounds of Angora Mohair at 22 1/2 cents per pound. This is the second clip this season from 1000 goats and first clip from 700 kids.

E. W. McKenzie of San Angelo will ship 500 head of steers and fat cows from Big Springs on the 20th inst., to the Kansas City market. He will also drive about 1500 steers to Pecos county.

W. J. Cox of El Paso has gone to Chihuahua, Mex., to close a deal for 18,000 head of cattle for Cuba. The cattle are from the Terros



"TURKEY ACTRESS"

A pretty little thing said to me the other day.

"I must look out for a turkey job for Christmas."

"Why, what do you mean?" I queried.

"What haven't you heard of 'turkey actors'?"

"I know plenty of actors who are geese, and a few actresses who are ducks," was the reply.

"Oh, dear, no! Turkey actors are those who only get an engagement for Thanksgiving or Christmas or New Year's."

"And how long can they live on that?"

"Well, it's better than nothing. I engaged for twenty dollars and expenses last Christmas to play *Alida Bloodgood* in 'The Streets of New York.' Oh, what an experience!"

"Come in here," quoth I, "and over a brimming bumper of chocolate or a wild wassail of tea, tell me all."

And as we lunched together she told me this:

"They sent me from a dramatic agency, said the money was sure and almost any dress would do. *Alida* is the daughter of a banker in the play, but they said that is the town where we were to perform in Christmas night they wouldn't keep the difference. However, I had up three changes without speaking a word."

"We were all to meet the manager at the ferry in Jersey City. He didn't



"I WANT GREENBACKS."

appear, out sent a message that he'd see us in the town.

"We all paid our fares—I had forty cents left—and reached the place pretty well disgraced."

"At the hotel they viewed us suspiciously, as we had no trunks, and there we learned that the matinee had been abandoned, no seats having been sold."

"We had a rehearsal instead, and it was six o'clock before I staggered into the hotel, only to learn that we couldn't have any supper unless we paid for it individually."

"I sent word to our manager that I had no money and shouldn't play without my supper."

"This brought him to my door in a hurry." He knocked, and entered with a surprised air.

"Why, my dear," he said, "there's some mistake."

"I think there is," I replied, spiritously. "If I don't have any supper I don't go on."

"Why, that'll be all right, my dear. We'll go out together, and you shall have supper with me."

"And he laid his arm affectionately on my shoulder."

"I gave him a good push, and he fell up against the door. Oh, how angry he was!"

"What are you doing?" he shouted.

"Behaving you in the character of a gentleman," said I, "and you won't eat!"

"He went out and banged the door, but a very nice supper came up to me later. Still I remembered the gleam

of hate in his eyes and was on my guard.

"We had a very good house that night and felt a little encouraged. As I stood looking out of the peephole in the curtain, the property boy brushed against me.

"Beg pardon," he said, hurriedly, "but I've been workin' so hard all night to eat so that I'm as weak as a rat. I've had no supper."

"You shouldn't go without your supper," I said.

"I ain't got the price."

"I gave him half of my forty cents."

"Go out and get a cup of coffee and a sandwich."

"He took the money with a grateful look and disappeared."

"The play went on. So did he, for that matter, for he played two parts, poor little soul!"

"At the end of the third act he knocked at my dressing room door."

"Say, you're Miss Hallett, ain't yer?"

"Yes."

"Well, I got something I want to say to yer on the quiet."

"I finished dressing and came out."

"You certainly was good to me," he said, with a grin, "an' now it's turn about."

"What do you mean?"

"Just this. The boss—the manager, I mean—just sent me up to the hotel to get five dollars changed into pennies an' nickels an' ten cent pieces."

"Well, what has that to do with me?"

"Plenty! He's a-makin' up salaries out front in the office, an' he's laughin' with another feller. He's going to pay you your salary in pennies an' nickels an' dimes."

"I don't believe it."

"Well, you can. I heard him tell the other feller, an' they think it's a great joke. He's down on you for some reason or other. Don't gimme away."

"And so he disappeared again."

"So this was the manager's contemptible revenge."

"Twenty dollars in nickels and pennies!"

"I called the stage manager."

"Don't ring up the curtain, Mr. Clarke," I said, "for I shan't go on until I get my salary."

"Awful my dear what I said," was my rejoinder, as I went back to my dressing room.

"I thought of Patti refusing to put on her slippers until poor old Mapleson had produced \$1,000—how she got two thousand, simply put on one slipper and waited."

"Heaven! Suppose they had paid her in nickels and pennies!"

"The manager came fashin' back."

"What's this, Miss Hallett?"

"I want my salary."

"Salaries will be paid immediately after the performance."

"Mine must be paid now or the performance will not be finished."

"In awkward position he drew a newspaper package from his overcoat pocket. It seemed heavy, and I heard the click of coin."

"Awful lot of silver tonight," he said, as he handed me the parcel.

"I dropped it scornfully."

"I want greenbacks," I said firmly.

"But I haven't—"

"Greenbacks or no performance," I repeated calmly.

"You should have seen his face!"

"You should have seen the property boy contorting himself with delight behind a set house."

With the "smothered curse" of the melodrama the manager picked up the scattered coins and marched away. A twenty-dollar bill came back to me in a few moments and the play ended in orthodox fashion.

"But what do you think of that for goodness?"

"I'm speechless," said I. "Encore the coloring, please! I must steady my nerves!"

No word is ill spoken if it be not ill taken.—Proverb.

CHRISTMAS VERSES.

(For Little Folks.)

If I Were He, and He Was Me,
If I were only Santa Claus,
And Santa Claus was me,
I'd show to him just what a good
Old Santa I'd be.

I'd always bring the kind of toys
And story books for him;
I'd find his stockings every year,
And fill it to the brim.

This year I'd bring a book or so
On how we conquered Spain,
Or how a boy pursued his foe
Across the Klondyke plain.

And boxing gloves—and, say, I guess
A pistol would be fine



If I Were He,
To Klondyke with, and then—oh, yes,
A wheel for ninety-nine.

I'd bring a leather suit and hat—
The kind that cowboys wear.
Of bowie knives and things like that
He'd have a lot to spare.

He'd fill his stockings then with all
The candy it would hold,
And where the packages were small
I'd fill in round with gold.

And when they saw how good I was
How happy folks would be
If I were only Santa Claus
And Santa Claus was me.

Little Sister's Dilemma.
Now, I like things to run with, and
things to swing and pound,
And you like dolls and dishes and
things for sitting round;

And every year there's books for you,
for me a jolly game,
Just how did Santa Claus find out
we didn't want the same?

It isn't till we're sound asleep that
Santa Claus begins,
And wouldn't look very diff'rent with
the blankets to our chins;



I WONDER HOW IT HAPPENS?
There's nothing to explain it on our
stockings when they're fixed.
I wonder how it happens that he never
gets us mixed!

Those Christmas "G. O. D.'s"
He was an active parcel boy.
From house to house he'd range,
And whatsoever your bill might be
He always "had the change."

But cruel, coarse and changeless boys
His efforts did deride,
Until, from utter loneliness,
The little fellow died!

THIS CITY IS A PARADISE ON EARTH

Pelzer, South Carolina, Has No Politics, No Politicians and No Nonproducers.

(Pelzer, S. C. Letter.)

The chances are that if you look for the location of this thriving city on any map of the Palmetto state you happen to have at hand you will not find it. If your official postoffice guide is a little antiquated you will not find it there, either.

Nevertheless, Pelzer has a prosperous population of more than 7,000 persons, and it could doubt be almost in a jiffy if homes were not barred to a large and useful part of every community—men and women who are considered indispensable in all other cities.

It has four large cotton mills that employ about 2,000 operatives, and consume 150,000 bales of cotton each year. In one of these great mills there are 60,000 spindles in one room, all run by electricity. In the working equipment all that is old is discarded; all that is new and progressive eagerly welcomed, no matter what the expense.

Managed by one corporation on thoroughly altruistic principles, hundreds of children who work in these mills earn from 20 to 50 cents a day, and certain portions of the machinery is shut down at stated intervals each working day to allow them to attend school.

Pelzer is not a Delanyized dream of the future. After twelve years of hard work it has even ceased to be an experiment. The city is a concrete fact, now, of progressive people living in harmony and peace without a mayor, without municipal government, without courts, without police and without newspapers.

Such things are not wanted. In fact, persons who subsist by administering and conducting them in other cities are not allowed to live in Pelzer.

The residents of Pelzer do not encourage immigration. They have a good thing, and they mean to keep it. They despise innovations, except as it applies to their home comforts and labor-saving machinery in daily toil. The constitution on which whatever government they have is based may be summed up in one word—Obedience.

Furthermore, you must know that this word obedience applies to only one thing—the will and wishes of Capt. John Smythe. His edict rules the city as absolutely as the famous "by order of the czar" rules the Russians, and the moral persuasion he exercises over the people can be compared only to the deference shown to Oom Paul in the troubled Transvaal. To modernize the meaning of his authority, John Smythe is it in Pelzer. Pronounce it plain Smith, if you persist in calling it Smythe, with the accent of the "y," you are not permitted to live here.

This kingdom-city is within from one to three hours' railway journey from Atlanta, Greenville, Charleston and a number of other prominent southern cities involved in close busi-

"How about doctors?"

"We must have doctors, of course. We have two of them and one dentist. We have four preachers, all picked men, and one photographer."

"You understand, this town aims at an ideal, and we must be careful. The record of every person who wants to live here or who comes here to seek employment is carefully investigated. His antecedents must be good or he cannot come. His conduct here must be good or he cannot stay. He cannot own any real estate. The company leases it to him for a limited period on certain conditions. It is no trouble at all for us to get rid of a disagreeable



person. These nice stores and the handsome residences for the managers were all built and are leased and owned by the company. It controls every foot of land and everything there is on it.

One of the first things to strike a visitor from the north who comes here is the absence of negroes. Not one of them is allowed to live within the city limits. A few of them live just over the line and are given housework to do by some residents of Pelzer. But Capt. Smythe, while not absolutely forbidding this, is doing his utmost to discourage it.

The public library, with free privileges to all residents, is well stocked with up-to-date literature, conveniently catalogued and capably managed.

ness with it; it has a large export trade in special cotton stuffs to China; it is constantly purchasing raw material, everywhere. Yet if you ask a man who thinks he understands the south pretty well, who lives here, and who imagines he knows all that is going on here, where Pelzer is, he will not be able to tell you.

There is no mistaking the hold that Ruler Smythe has on the affections of the people. He is a big-hearted, braveny man, the son of a Presbyterian minister in Charleston, who was very well known throughout the south. Capt. Smythe runs the town. He has assistants, of course, but they are of his own appointment, without the necessity of consultation with aggrieved party leaders, or of confirmation by municipal councils. He makes removals at will. No one questions his slightest act.

"We have no mayor," said a close associate of Capt. Smythe, in response to a question. "No necessity for one. We have no aldermen, no courts, no municipal councils, no police. The residents keep the peace and get along comfortably without any buncombe of that sort. Capt. Smythe is all that is necessary. We have no drunkenness, because we don't permit liquor within the city limits, and drunkenness furnishes more than half the business of a police force."

"What about lawyers?"

"Well, we have no business for them. That is it in a nutshell. A lawyer would starve to death here if he depended on an income from his business. If we allowed one lawyer to come to live here another would want to move in to fight him. That would be the camel's nose under the tent. We have no objection to lawyers living here provided they don't do business here. But lawyers generally like to live where there are courts, don't they? The same thing applies to editors and reporters. They may live in the city if they will promise not to write about it—a thing most of them won't do. They write about it, anyhow, as we are beginning to find out."

town is about evenly divided. Piedmont is higher in the hills than Pelzer, and enjoys a more beautiful prospect of the surrounding country. The soil is more fertile about there. It is famous for the cultivation of beautiful flowers.

At Piedmont the company has a sort of co-operative insurance and savings association. By depositing 10 cents a week a man may insure his family for \$10 and upwards when death occurs.

"Father," Pelzer, after whom the parent city is named, is also interested in Piedmont.

"YOU ARE MY PRISONER."

Innocent People Who Have Been Arrested on Serious Charges.

Every year a large number of peaceable and law-abiding English citizens are arrested and imprisoned for crimes of which they are about as guiltless as the proverbial babe unborn. To be placed in such a position is at all times painful and irritating, but when the offense for which one is wrongly arrested happens to be the grave crime of "wilful murder," the horror of the situation is intensified. Yet cases of mistaken identity are by no means rare in this connection, and whenever a crime of this character is committed, and the criminal manages for a time to elude pursuit, a certain number of innocent people are prey sure to be arrested on suspicion. There is a story told of a judge of the high court who was once arrested on suspicion of having burglarious designs on the house of a friend in Mayfair. The police officer charged him with loitering with felonious intent, and the prisoner's description of himself as one of her majesty's judges was received with a grin of sarcastic derision. At that moment an old offender was brought in who happened to catch sight of his lordship's face, which he had good reason to remember. "You here, my lord!" he exclaimed, with unfeigned astonishment. "Well, this beats cock fighting."

The rogue's unsolicited corroboration of the judge's declaration saved the situation, and his lordship was allowed to depart in peace. A well-known member of the sporting world was removing from his late dwelling to another in the immediate neighborhood. The rest of his goods and chattels had gone before in van-lads, but his silver trophies, prize cups, etc., he packed into a portmanteau, and carried personally. It was late in the evening when he left the house, and the street, which was a long, leafy avenue in Malda-vaie, was quite deserted. He had not gone very far on his way, however, before a policeman stopped him, and demanded to know what he was carrying. It is not every day one is accused of burgling his own property.—London Mail.

SWALLOWED A PIN.

Three Years Ago and It Has Just Come Out of His Finger.

Whitstone Landing Cor, Chicago Inter Ocean: Percy Smith, 25 years old, swallowed a pin three years ago. The other day there came out of the little finger of his right hand at the first joint a pin which he identified as the one then swallowed. He was, on the occasion referred to, three years ago, chatting with several members of the Warlow Athletic Club, of which he is secretary, and was holding the pin in his mouth, as was his habit. Suddenly the pin slipped down his throat and caught there crosswise. His friends took him to Dr. Bleeker, who grappled for the pin with a Bull forceps, but it eluded his grasp, sliding down the oesophagus longitudinally, but fortunately point upward. Smith was a little cautious at first, but as the pin did not annoy him he soon forgot to keep track of it. Several days ago, however, he felt an annoying sensation, as if from a splinter, in his little finger. He probed for it with a needle and to his surprise struck metal. He thereupon squeezed the finger until the hidden object was forced far enough out for him to catch hold of it, whereupon with a jerk, he drew it out and to his surprise he found it to be a discolored pin that had come out point first. Mr. Smith declares that the only pain he has felt for years was when he drew this pin out of his finger. The patient is doing as well as could be expected under the circumstances.

"Hamlet" by Candle Light.

South African papers just received relate that Osmond Tearle had a curious experience while playing "Hamlet" at Durban, Natal, the other night. Suddenly, during Hamlet's "nunnery scene" with Ophelia, the electric lights in the theater went out, and it and the whole town was in darkness. Quick as thought Leonard Rayne, who was playing Polonius, seized a candle and, coming



THE KIND OF PEOPLE THAT CAPT. SMYTHE WILL NOT ALLOW IN PELZER.

A DREADED DUKEDOM.

The way in which European royalty and nobility are fighting shy of the duchy of Saxe-Coburg would lead one to believe that ruling is no longer a popular business. First the duke of Connaught, brother of the reigning duke of Coburg, resigned in favor of his son, Prince Arthur. Now it is announced that Prince Arthur has passed on the honor to the young duke of Albany, who is a son of the late Prince Leopold of England. It is supposed that the youthful duke of Albany will condescend to accept this trifling little gift of a dukedom, for it is said the boy will be taken at once to Germany, where he will be given a German edu-

front, assured the audience that they had nothing to fear, and that he hoped the light would be presently restored. As a matter of fact, it was not until the end of the play that the light which had so suddenly gone out was as suddenly switched on again. Can-dies consequently had to be resorted to for footlights—which quite intensified the "funeral character" of the graveyard scene.—New York Journal.

A Plant Detected by Animals.

The castor oil plant is an universally detested by the whole of the animal world that no bird, beast or creeping thing will touch one. It seems to be a rank poison to all kinds of animals; even a goat will starve before biting off a leaf, and a horse will snuff at it and turn his upper lip as if it had the most detestable odor on the face of the earth. Army worms and the locust pass it by, though they will eat every other green thing in sight, and there is no surer way to drive moles away from a lawn than to plant a few castor beans here and there. Even the tobacco worm will refuse to be fed on its leaves.—Chicago Tribune.

Diplomas for Washerwomen.

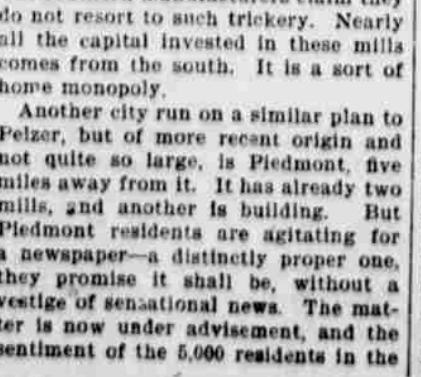
To the institution of orders, medals, and diplomas in France there is no limit. The latest is diplomas for washerwomen. The washerwomen, to be sure, occupy a conspicuous position on the Seine, and have played an important part in the life of Paris, especially in revolutionary periods. They are nearly as formidable as the market women. Either in recognition of their ability or in deference to their influence the government has established this new order, and awarded 200 medals. The important duty of distributing the diplomas to the prize washerwomen is discharged by the ministry of commerce.

Not Much of a Haat.

From the New York Tribune: "There is a family of my acquaintance," said P. Walworth of Baltimore at the Fifth Avenue hotel the other day, "where the

children are all boys. They are very rich, and each of the three sons is in receipt of a liberal allowance, but the manner in which they expend it and certain of their characteristics were as succinctly and tersely described as possible the other day by 'Bob,' the eldest one, in telling the story of a burglary that occurred last summer at their country place. 'Bob' is the eldest, 'Jack' the second and Albert the youngest son. 'Bob' in telling the story said: 'He didn't get very much, as some one of the servants thought he had heard something about 3, and in going to investigate probably scared him off. But when we discovered the next morning that a burglar had visited us we naturally took an account of sock. The only room in the house he had entered were those of my two brothers and myself, and in each of them he had gone through the clothes he had been wearing the day before. Out of my clothes he got 10 cents. From 'Jack' he got nothing, and in going through 'Bert's' jeans he got in debt.'

gation so that he may be fitted to govern his new little European duchy. The reason of the duke of Connaught's refusal of the dukedom both for himself and his son is said to be his reluctance to leaving England, and taking up permanent residence in Germany.



Sever.
"The kind of a drummer we want is a convincing talker who has a large circle of friends."
"You'll not find him."
"Why not?"
"Convincing talkers never have a large circle of friends."
Important to Know This
office boy, sir."
"Well, are you that kind of a boy?"
"Yes, sir."
"Do you mean you are experienced at work or experienced in getting out of it?"

In estimating a population per capita, it is hardly proper to estimate those who have lost their heads.

The Typewriter Invention.
A statistician has proven that the invention of the typewriter has given employment to 500,000 people, but he falls to state how many cases of weak stomachs it has induced. All people of sedentary occupation need Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. It helps nature to bear the strain which ensues from confinement.

Clocks may bring cash, but they run on tick.
The Best Prescription for Chills
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Sands of the sea off harbor the frisky flea.

All except bad ones!

There are hundreds of cough medicines which relieve coughs, all coughs, except bad ones! The medicine which has been curing the worst of bad coughs for 60 years is Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

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"My wife was troubled with a deep-seated cough on her lungs for three years. One day I thought of how Ayer's Cherry Pectoral saved the life of my sister after the doctors had all given her up to die. So I purchased two bottles, and it cured my wife completely. It took only one bottle to cure my sister. So you see that three bottles (one dollar each) saved two lives. We all send you our heartfelt thanks for what you have done for us."—J. H. BROWN, Macon, Ga., Jan. 13, 1899.

Now, for the first time you can get a trial bottle of **Ayer's Cherry Pectoral** for 25 cents. Ask your druggist.

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situated on Galveston Bay, is destined to be the most prosperous city in the Gulf of Mexico. It is the natural seaport for the production of the entire Middle, Northern and Western states and for Houston, the great railroad center of Texas. The U. S. Government has appropriated \$3,000,000 for harbor improvements. Capital is flowing in and men of wealth and influence are making investments. An investment in a town lot in La Porte will net you 500 per cent in 5 years. Write for FREE MAPS, DESCRIPTIVE BOOK and ART ILLUSTRATIONS to AMERICAN LAND COMPANY, 166 Madison St., CHICAGO.

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Preservatives in Meat.
At the meeting of state dairy and food departments held in Chicago recently Mr. Levi Weiss, dairy and food commissioner of Pennsylvania, exhibited meat preservatives which are used to both preserve and color. He said: "The color in this sample is an aniline dye. The preservative is a generally benzoic acid or something of similar nature. We have here another color bar dye that is extensively sold to butchers. This is to be used as an outside color. In purchasing shoulders, bacon, hams, etc., it is generally supposed they have been smoked. That is not the case at all. A solution of this gives the desired color, making a ham have the appearance of being nicely smoked. I think there are very few corned or hickory timber consumed in smoking meats. In Pittsburgh we brought a number of cases against butchers for the use of these preservatives. They are used mostly by butchers. The meat hangs about the shop until it turns dark colored, and is liable to spoil. The butcher then usually runs it through machine and cuts it up. He adds some of this preservative, which brightens it up and makes it have an attractive color, and it will keep indefinitely. There is no danger of its ever losing any meat. There has been a great deal written and said about chemically preserved meats. We had several prosecutions in Pittsburgh, and convictions were obtained in all cases brought. The goods were put up principally in Chicago and bought and sold by retailers in our state. Benzoic acid was the preservative, and the expert evidence given at the trial by physicians and scientists who had made the matter a study was that it was an unfit article for food."

Advantages of Growers' Association.
A communication to the Farmers' Review from the California Raisin Growers' Association says: The great value of associations to farmers and growers of special products, organized for the purpose of properly marketing their crops and maintaining reasonable prices is shown most forcibly in the experience of the raisin growers this year as compared with the prune growers. Through effective association the raisin grower has marketed his crop at full prices, as fast as the raisins could be delivered and packed with positive knowledge that not a car will be carried over into another season, so freely have eastern dealers placed orders for the crop. On the other hand the prune growers, who have an equally desirable product, find it extremely difficult to sell their crop even at prices which are but little more than half the true value of the product, as compared with other fruits. Dealers in buying and handling raisins have perfect confidence in the ability of the raisin growers' association to maintain prices at all hazards, and therefore has no hesitancy in ordering freely. In handling prunes the dealers realize that the growers are without organization and consequently are unable to regulate prices, and if liberal purchases of prunes were made, the price might drop from an eighth to a quarter cent the next day. They are therefore timid about handling prunes at all and buy at as low a price as possible.

Ground Bone Fertilizer.—Ground bones usually furnish an excellent application for grass lands, since they are rich in phosphoric acid and also contain some nitrogen. When applied they should be finely ground and from 100 to 200 pounds used per acre. In some instances larger quantities may be used. They are sown by hand or may be deposited by an implement used in sowing fertilizer. When ground in the fresh form they should be applied in the early spring. When applied in the form of bone ash they may be sown in the fall, as then there is no nitrogen to lose through leaching before growth begins in the spring. When the bones are treated, that is, made into superphosphate, the response in growth will be much quicker than when applied in the untreated form, but it will not be so lasting. Mineral superphosphate may be best applied in the fall, and for the same reason that bone ash may be thus best applied.—Ex.

Tankage Fertilizer.—Tankage from slaughter houses makes an excellent fertilizer for grasses, but it should be applied in the spring rather than the fall, since it is rich in nitrogen, especially when the blood is included in the mixture. The two great essential ingredients in furnishing the materials for plant growth are present in such tankage in a marked degree and mixed in very small amount. Where a nitrogeneous fertilizer is wanted, such tankage is one of the best. When nitrogen is the chief essential wanting in the growth of grasses, it can be supplied in the form of nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia. When these are applied it should be in the spring and not until growth has begun. From 50 to 200 pounds per acre are usually ample, and rather than sow the whole amount at once, it would be better probably to sow half just when growth is beginning and half at a later period, say from four to six weeks after the first application.—Ex.

Fall Work in the Orchard.—After the fruit is all picked and packed and the leaves are off the trees, time should be taken before it gets cold weather to go through the orchards and trim out all dead limbs and such as have been broken or injured during the picking. We do not mean a regular pruning, though if this is done every fall it will not be much work to remove the superfluous branches at the same time. The grapevines should be trimmed and laid down for protection if they need it this month, and bush fruits properly carried away and burned, and if the leaves also are raked up and burned it will help to destroy many injurious insects and their eggs. But if the leaves are put in the hen-house or used as bedding in the stables and go from thence to the manure heap, the fermentation there may burn up the pupae and eggs as surely as fire would do it.—American Cultivator.

One difficulty in breeding extra fine wool sheep is in securing the desired standard in health and hardiness. The demand for first-class rams is said to be good.

They Ate Their Words.
The post graduate student was describing the Patagonian expedition he had an enthralled audience. "And for fine days," he said, "after our boat was lost, we had nothing to eat except our college yell."

His hearers shuddered. A scientific education held many possibilities. "Ah, yes," they sighed, "love will find a way."

But they learned that it wouldn't when they reached the station three minutes before train time and discovered that he had left his tickets and money in his other clothes.

He Kissed Him and Wept.
What will William K. Vanderbilt, Sr., do next? Everybody in the smart set would like to know. Saturday at Newport he hugged and kissed his boy, Harold, down on the New York Yacht Club boat and wept a little over the youngster beside him. He wept because his mother, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, Mr. Vanderbilt took a small and select party out Saturday on the Vaillant to see the race between Vigilant, Defender and Navaho. Laughing and joking, the party came ashore in the afternoon.

On the other side of the boat was a pretty half-breed. Harold Vanderbilt, William K.'s youngest son, was just disembarking from it. Father and son came face to face.

"Hello, pop!" cried the boy, running up to him.

"Hello, Harold!" replied the father. "Who's boat is that?"

"That's mine, pop; I'm learning to sail it."

"For an answer the father seized the boy in his arms and kissed him hungrily for a dozen times. Even the old skipper had to turn his head aside.

"I used to have a boy myself once," he said, "but he was killed in the war. There were tears in his eyes and in Mr. Vanderbilt's, too. The boy, as all Newport knows, lives with his mother now. He is divorced from Mr. Vanderbilt and married to P. Belmont, with whom her children live.

Inspiration on a Sociological Problem.
Margherita Arlina Hamm, the well-known traveler and author, called when in China upon the wife of a rather well-to-do of a great mandarin. Her visit partook of the nature of a festival, so novel was the experience to the Chinese women, whose lives are passed almost entirely within the walls of their yamen. They examined her clothing, and were partly pleased and partly astonished at it. They were shocked by her shoes and especially by the fact that her feet were not confined by bindings.

Finally one of them said, through the interpreter: "You can walk and run just as well as a man?"
"Why, certainly."
"Then you must be as strong as most men."
"Yes, I think I am."
"You wouldn't let a man beat you, not even your husband, would you?"
"Not at all."

The Chinese women paused, laughed and then said: "Now I understand why foreigners never take more than one wife. They are afraid to."

The B. & O. R. R. has just placed an order for 43,500 tons of 85 pound steel rail for delivery in 1900. The contract price is about \$3 per ton or 87 per cent more than the Receiver paid for rail of the same kind. They are charge of the property. Of the total amount just ordered the B. & O. S. W. will get 26,000 tons, the B. & O. S. W. 12,500, the Pittsburgh and Western 4,000, and the Cleveland Terminal and Valley 1,000.

Winter Tours.
Should you desire information regarding California, Arizona, Texas and Mexico, and the long limit, low rate, round-trip tickets, sold to principal points, the various routes, which the tickets can be purchased, or regarding one way first and second-class rates, through sleeping car lines, first-class and tourist, call upon or address W. G. Neimyer, Agent, Western Agent, Southern Pacific Co., 228 Clark St., Chicago; W. H. Connor, Com'l Agent, Chamber Commerce Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio, or W. J. Berg, Trav. Pass. Agt., 220 Elliott St., Buffalo, N. Y.

Puerto Rico.
Three tours of the beautiful island of Puerto Rico are scheduled to leave Chicago December 27, January 28 and February 19. Special Pullman sleepers and dining cars will convey the party to New York, thence on board the splendid new steamships Ponce and San Juan, through and around the island by rail, automobile, carriage and boat. Tickets include all expenses everywhere. These select limited parties will be under the special escort of Mr. Walter Boyd Townsend, under the management of The American Tourist Association, Roux Campbell, general manager, 1423 Marquette Building, Chicago. Itineraries, maps and tickets can be had on application to the agents of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry.

Half Rates to the Old States.—On December 20th, 21st and 22nd you can buy a round trip ticket to the Old States for half of what it would cost you at any other time. You can spend Christmas with your friends and relatives at your old home, and return any time within thirty days. If you buy your tickets via the Cotton Belt Route.

HOLIDAY RATES
Via Texas Midland railroad to all points in the southeast. Through cars via Memphis and New Orleans; tickets will be sold Dec. 20, 21, 22. Also holiday rates to points in Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas and Nebraska; tickets will be sold December 19 and 20. Also holiday rates to all points in Texas; tickets will be sold Dec. 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, 1899, and Jan. 1, 1900. See our Agents, J. E. LEITH, G. F. A., Terrell, Texas.

Now is the Time
In the interest of your own welfare, now is the time to enlighten yourself as to the best place, and to begin providing for your next summer's comfort and pleasure. With this in view, consider the matchless climate, the grandeur of scenery and the numerous resorts of Colorado.

Drop a postal to W. F. Sterley, A. G. F. A. or A. A. Gilson, G. A. P. D. of "The Denver Road" at Fort Worth, Texas, and you will be provided with exhaustive and magnificently illustrated literature without expense.

The loss of fortune only serves to increase the pride of the worthy.

A head of lettuce was raised recently near Alvin weighing two and one-half pounds.

The Indian and Oklahoma Territory wholesale grocers association has been organized.

DRIVING TO THE LEFT

AWKWARD METHODS IN VOGUE IN CANADA.

Still Cling to the Old World Methods—American Driving in That Country Has a Mighty Risky Time of It—A Victim Unhappily Himself.

"Though I knew from experience that keeping to the left was the rule of the road in England," observed a well-known horseman to a Washington Star reporter, "I did not know that rule prevailed in Canada until week before last, when I took a short drive on the outskirts of Toronto. I have been a horseman for many years and know the rules of the road pretty well, but I had considerable difficulty to keep out of trouble there. I assure you. A friend loaned me a nice turnout which had rather a free stepper in the harness. At the first turnout I naturally turned to the right in passing. The man I met was pretty well fixed in the way of a horse, and the first thing I knew we came together in splash-bang style, the result of it being that I lost a wheel and got pitched out into the road. I supposed, of course, that he would turn to the right and he supposed for similar reasons, for he thought from the kind of a horse that I was driving that I knew what I was about, that I would turn to the left. Mutual explanations followed, but I was the loser in the transaction, for I felt obliged to have the mishap fixed at my expense. An American driving in Canada is, as a consequence, in one con'jued worry, for it matters not how clever one is with the reins, it is extremely hard to learn the rule which obtains in this country of keeping to the right. The Canadians have an argument to prove that they are right in the matter and that keeping to the left is much safer in the way of preventing collisions on the road, but I could not understand it, and three days later I had a similar trouble happen in Quebec, though in that case it was the other team that got the worst of it. Still it was just as annoying to me, though not as expensive. It is the same thing with foot passengers and bicycles, and the American wheelmen have a hard time in consequence of it; collisions being frequent and in some instances very right about it, but, just the same, no American can ever get it in his head thoroughly that they are. The Canadians drive from the right side of the team, as we do, and the whip socket is on the right, but all the rest of it is to the left."

DO NOT NEGLECT REPOSE.
Indifference to It the Cause of Much Ill-Health.
I know half a dozen women who are systematic in their diet, who make their taste conform to their comfort, to one who practices anything that approaches systematic sleep. Infraction of dietetic laws is punished swiftly and in fashion that admits of no question as to the reason for the punishment. If that was true of the brain, the laws of sleep, more women would give attention to healthful sleeping. It is unquestionable that our indifference to the need of systematic repose is responsible for the loss of a vast amount of precious strength. Lengthy, sound and undisturbed sleep is indispensable to good health and good temper; persistent wakefulness, on the contrary, leads quickly and inevitably to serious disturbances of the brain and nerves, and sooner or later to a general demoralization of the mental and physical forces. Children who are permitted to sit up late, night after night, over their studies, thus establishing a most pernicious habit, invariably find themselves, in later life, unable to sleep during the early hours of the night, and long before middle age is reached are fast in the grip of the fend insomnia. The old-fashioned practice of going to bed before dark and getting up before daylight, still in vogue in the country, is no more to be emulated than the opposite extreme. Women are at their best in the middle hours, not in the early morning. The desire for early rising is rather a symptom of weakness or of advancing age than of physical and intellectual vigor, for the wearied body or mind demands repose, and if denied it will suffer. After all, the boy who resents hustling out of bed at unearthy hours because "it is better for him," is fulfilling the law of sleeping better than his parent, who does not feel his need of plenty of sleep.

Marks the Supposed Boer Spy.
Natan Marks, the supposed Boer spy, who is confined at Ladysmith, and whose immunity from punishment President Kruger demands on penalty of the execution of six British officers, is a nephew of Samuel Marks of Pretoria, the concessionaire of the Hatery distillery, and one of President Kruger's confidential advisers.

The commercial interests of the elder Marks in Natal are such that his nephew makes frequent trips to that colony; and it is supposed that because of this fact, he was employed by the Transvaal government to report upon the condition and arrangement of the British forces. The influence of Samuel Marks with President Kruger is so great that the threat to execute six of the English officers is doubtless made at his request. It is not considered likely that business interests would be pressing enough to induce Natan Marks to venture into Natal while war was actually in progress.

The loss of fortune only serves to increase the pride of the worthy.

A head of lettuce was raised recently near Alvin weighing two and one-half pounds.

The Indian and Oklahoma Territory wholesale grocers association has been organized.

A TIDAL BORE.

The Famous Wave at the Head of the Bay of Fundy and How to See It.

The Bay of Fundy is known to the world chiefly on account of its tides, which rise to an immense height, seventy feet having been recorded. As these tides reach the head of the bay and are forced up the Pettedodiac river, the conditions are such as to form the front into an almost perpendicular wall of water termed a "bore." This formation is a grand and exciting spectacle, and interest in the phenomena is increasing. Large numbers of American tourists, scientific men and others visit the locality to admire its effects and study its causes.

About nineteen miles from the mouth of the Pettedodiac, a point commonly known as the "bend," the river takes a turn almost at right angles to its previous course. Immediately above the bend and on the line of the Intercolonial railway is situated Moncton. The run of the rising tide first breaks into a bore at Stony Creek, eight miles below Moncton. At first it is scarcely noticeable, but it gradually grows until at the bend it almost reaches its maximum height. The wharves of Moncton are thus the most popular positions from which to view this interesting phenomenon, says Self-Culture. The average interval from the arrival of one bore to the arrival of the next is about twelve hours and twenty-five minutes, so that the average retardation from day to day is about fifty minutes. But "his boreishness" is erratic, and the daily retardation may be anywhere from forty minutes to an hour. The best time to see the bore is during the full moon of August, September or October, and if the visitor would see this natural wonder in its most beautiful aspect, let him choose a bright moonlight night, rather than the daytime. Under such favorable circumstances a crowd of four or five hundred people, one day last fall, witnessed the arrival of the bore. The schedule time for its arrival, given by the local newspapers, was 9:20 o'clock. At 9:12 the expectant crowd on Moncton's wharves heard a noise easily distinguishable as the rush of distant waters. This grew louder as the bore approached and rounded the bend, and at 9:22, two minutes later than the schedule time, there appeared in full view of the spectators an almost perpendicular wall of water, five or six feet in height, rushing madly against the swift current of the stream. In some places along the head of the bore the water, beaten into a foam by its own violence, sparkled in the moonlight, while along the shore the mud ploughed from the bank made the water almost black. The contrast was beautiful.

METHODS OF ENAMELING.

Those in Use at the Manufactories at Limoges.

The Rev. S. Barnes-Gould, in the Magazine of Art, refers to the different methods of enameling. "The principle is the same in all cases as in cloisonne; in both cases the enamel is let into sockets, the difference being that in the latter case the sockets are fashioned above the surface of the plate, in the former they are dug out of it. When enamel had to be set like precious stones, it could be treated only in the fashion of jewelry, an occasional ornament, but when it could be run into any hollow, then it was used profusely in adorning every sort of vessel and piece of metal furniture, wherever the graving tool could be employed. It formed fringes, borders, belts, to the drapery of metal statues; it was employed armorially; it enriched crosses and tombs, chalices and shrines alike. A fine example from the Hotel de Cluny will show how much more flexible enamel had become—or, rather, how much more ease and freedom were now experienced in its manipulation. The example is of copper gilt, a foot in height. It represents the Eternal Father in repose, in a somewhat archaic style. The right hand is raised in benediction, the left holds the gospels. Of the figure only the eyes are enamel, but the whole surface of the background is covered with enamel. As some of the vitreous matter has fallen out in places, especially in the circle above the nimbus and in a portion of the nimbus, the method of procedure is very clearly illustrated by this fine specimen. It also shows a very usual kind of ornamentation to be seen, one that is reproduced repeatedly, and consists of rosettes or quatrefoils of various colors. In these champleve enamels both transparent and opaque colors were employed, but an opportunity for development in the use of transparent enamels at once presented itself."

Not So Fresh as the First Editor.

"What should a lady do when she wants to sneeze in church?" was the query recently addressed to the editor of a local paper. He was very busy and excited; the printers were waiting for copy, and the proprietor had threatened to supersede him if he did not bounce the circulation up a thousand a week. In his anxiety he missed the point of the inquiry, and answered it thus: "It depends upon why the lady wants to sneeze in church. If the young lady is pretty, and wants to attract the attention of some eligible young man, the sneezes should be gentle and distinctive; almost anything will produce the irritation of the facial organ necessary to effect the purpose. But if the lady is old, occupies her own pew and wishes to show off her new bonnet, then a violent sneeze—or a succession of sneezes—is necessary, and we should advise upsetting an ounce or two of cayenne pepper in the pew." There is a fresh editor on that journal now.—Stray Stories.

Reservation.
"While it is true," replied the Pale Face, "that I made a compact with you, it was with a mental reservation."
Here the unlettered Red Man manifested bewilderment.
"Is that the next reservation I shall be compelled to live on?" he asked anxiously, his quavering voice betokening the depth of his emotion.
Ah, such is destiny, to say nothing of the growing scarcity of pine timber.

He who is selfish will sooner or later come to grief.



ACTS GENTLY ON THE KIDNEYS, LIVER AND BOWELS
CLEANSES THE SYSTEM
DISPELS EFFECTUALLY COLDS, HEADACHES, OVERCOMES & FEVERS HABITUAL CONSTIPATION TO GET PERMANENTLY ITS BENEFICIAL EFFECTS.

BUY THE GENUINE—MAN'D BY CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. SALT LAKE, UTAH. FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

Carbodate of Iodine Pocket Inhaler
A guaranteed cure for Croup and Consumption. All Druggists. Sole, W. H. SMITH & CO., Buffalo, N. Y. Prop'r.

PENSIONS Get your Pension DOUBLE QUICK
Write CAPT. O'FARRELL, Pension Agent, 1428 New York Avenue, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mystified.
"Mamma, my birthday comes this year on Monday, doesn't it?"
"Yes, dear."
"And last year it was on Sunday, wasn't it?"
"Did it come on Saturday the year before last?"
"Yes, dear."
"Mamma, how many days in the week was I born on?"
Do not render a verdict before hearing the evidence.

Our New Catalogue
JUST OUT. MAILED FREE. WRITE FOR IT
256 pages. 3000 engravings. Watches, Diamonds, Jewelry, Silver Novelties, China, Cut Glass, Music Boxes, Umbrellas, Etc.
XMAS GIFTS
20c to \$1,000.
The World's Greatest Jewelry Establishment.
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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS
Via Santa Fe Route
TO POINTS IN Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, AND TO CERTAIN POINTS IN Kentucky, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Colorado and Mexico.
Tickets on sale Dec. 20, 21, 22, 1899, limited for return 30 days from date of issue.
Rate ONE FARE for the Round Trip.
Call on Santa Fe Agents for rates and routes.
W. S. KEENAN.

FARM IN WESTERN CANADA FREE
WHEAT which brings the highest price in the markets of the world; thousands of cattle are fattened for market without being fed grain, and without a day's shelter. Send for information and secure a free home in Western Canada. Write the Superintendent of Immigration, Ottawa or address the undersigned, who will mail you all laws, pamphlets, etc., free of cost. Capt. E. Barrett, Houston, Texas.

The man who smokes Old Virginia Cheroots has a satisfied, "glad I have got it" expression on his face from the time he lights one. He knows he will not be disappointed. No matter where he buys one—Maine or Texas, Florida or California—he knows they will be just the same as those he gets at home—clean—well made—burn even—taste good—satisfying! Two hundred million Old Virginia Cheroots smoked this year. Ask your own dealer. Price, 3 for 5 cents.

SAVE YOUR STAR TINS
"Star" tin tags (showing small stars printed on under side of tag), "Horse Shoe," "J. T.," "Good Luck," "Cross Bow," and "Drummond" Natural Leaf Tin Tags are of equal value in securing presents mentioned below, and may be assorted. Every man, woman and child can find something on the list that they would like to have, and can have

- FREE!**
- | | | | |
|--|----|---|----|
| 1 Match Box..... | 25 | 25 Clock, 8-day, Calendar, Thermometer, 500 | 25 |
| 2 Knife, one blade, good steel..... | 25 | 25 Apron, leather, no better made, 500 | 50 |
| 3 Rubber, one blade, good steel..... | 25 | 25 Apron, imitation, double-lined, 500 | 50 |
| 4 Child's set, Rubber, 5 pieces..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, double-lined, 500 | 50 |
| 5 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 6 Pair of Rubber Foot Pumps..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 7 Bag, 1 lb. brown ground, fine English..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 8 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 9 Tooth Paste, 4 tubes..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 10 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 11 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 12 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 13 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 14 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 15 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 16 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 17 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 18 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 19 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |
| 20 Soap, 4 bars, 1 lb. each..... | 25 | 25 Apron, cotton, 500 | 50 |

SPECIAL NOTICE! Plain "Star" Tin Tags that have no small stars printed on under side of tag, are not good for presents, and will be paid for only in the case of twenty cents presents. If received by us on or before March 1st, 1900.

BREAK IN MIND THAT A DIM'S WORTH OF STAR PLUG TOBACCO
will last longer and afford more pleasure than a dim's worth of any other brand. MAKE THE TEST! Send tags to **CONTINENTAL TOBACCO CO., St. Louis, Mo.**

Queen City Business College
The greatest opportunity of your life is now before you. Scholarships in business or shorthand from \$20 to \$100 for next 30 days. Expert accounts in faculty of wide office experience. Heavily reputation in the north. Refund money on failure of certificate. The only business school in the world to be opened in the month of August. Write to **MISS M. J. HILL, President**, 700 N. 1st St., St. Louis, Mo.

Hills Business College
Endorsed by merchants and bankers as the only Great Business University of high grade and wide reputation in the north. Students faculty with office experience. Heavily reputation in the north. Refund money on failure of certificate. The only business school in the world to be opened in the month of August. Write to **MISS M. J. HILL, President**, 700 N. 1st St., St. Louis, Mo.

"La Oreal" HAIR RESTORED
Is a perfect hair dressing and restorer.
VAN VLEET-MANSFIELD DRUG CO., BOSTON, MASS.



BAKER Still Has Some CHOICE X-mas Goods, Come Quick, and Get Something Nice Before They Are All Gone!



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.

Published Saturday, Dec. 23 1899.

LOCAL DOTS.

—Merry Christmas to all.
—Baker has lots of pretty things.
—Mr. Roy Burnett of Benjamin was here on business Monday.
—Baker's Christmas goods are all at.
—Buggy whips 15c and up at Riddel's.
—Mr. J. G. Owens left this morning on his return home to Woodward.
—I am still in the grocery business. Everything nice and fresh.
T. G. CARNEY.
—See Baker for card and board games.
—Mr. J. C. Bohanan left Wednesday on a visit to Falls county.
—Geo. Makeig says his tools are always sharp and he knows how to use them.
—For a good, honest hand made saddle see Riddel.
—Miss Emma Keen of Jones county is visiting the family of Mr. C. A. Norris.
—A few choice shaving sets at Baker's.
—New crop Louisiana molasses, fresh and good, just received at Fields & Bro's.
—Miss Carrie Wilfong of Albany will visit relatives here during the holidays.
—Glove and handkerchief sets at Baker's.
—Mr. J. E. Fitzgerald went over to look after his Stonewall ranch this week.
—The prettiest Dress Calicoes in town, only 5 cents a yard at S. L. Robertson's.
—Ladies, that beautiful cuff and collar box is at Baker's.
—Cast your eyes over the new Star Store ad and see what they are offering.
—Everything in Groceries, fresh and best quality and at lowest prices at S. L. Robertson's.
—Mr. T. L. Marr and wife of Stonewall county were visiting and trading in Haskell this week.
—"If my girl would only buy me one of those cuff and collar boxes at Baker's."
—The FREE PRESS presents its readers with a handsome Christmas page this week.
—New Year is coming and if you want to get there, buy you a Dewey whip at C. C. Riddel's.
—If you owe me please don't wait for me to dun you, I need the money and need it now.
S. L. ROBERTSON.
—Miss Ethel Mason is expected up from Albany to-day to spend Christmas with friends here.
—The newest ideas, the best selections, and the most appropriate and desirable presents at Baker's.
—Mrs. Dr. Gilbert's mother is to be here in a few days to spend a few weeks with her.
—If I cannot cut prices so as to suit the times you need not try the other fellows.
T. G. CARNEY.
—Mr. Clay Haskew and wife of Rayner were visiting and trading in Haskell Thursday and Friday.
—If you want to get the most goods for the least money, take your cash around to R. H. McKee & Co's.
—We got out a business circular yesterday for Messrs F. G. Alexander & Co. in which they offer their customers a Christmas treat in the way of extraordinary bargains during to-day and Monday.
—A winner for sure: If you want to make your best girl, or even your wife happy, buy her a nice present from Baker.
—Mr. Jerold Hills will come in from Albany today, where he is attending the Reynolds Presbyterian Academy, to spend Xmas holidays with the home folks.
—Mr. C. A. Norris went to Abilene this week to meet his daughter, Miss Tanie, who has been teaching in Kent county. They came in Thursday and Mr. Norris said that when he left Abilene Wednesday morning there was three inches of snow on the ground.

—Any quantity of suitable gifts for old and young at Baker's.
—Miss Allie Frost will arrive home this evening from Georgetown to spend the Xmas holidays.
—We are indebted to Mr. M. S. Shook for a nice cash contribution on subscription this week.
—Glance through our local columns and see what S. L. Robertson has in stock, then call and see his goods and learn the prices.
—Mr. Walter Tandy returned Monday from St. Louis, where he sold several cars of beef steers.
—Bring all your hides to the City Meat Market. We will give you the highest cash price for them.
MCCRARY & ELLIS.
—Mr. T. C. Owens of Jones county was here this week buying mules for the British government, for use in South Africa.
—You need no other invitation to Baker's, than his inviting display of holiday goods.
—Mr. W. F. Rupe returned Tuesday from Clairmont bringing his daughter Miss Belle to spend Xmas at home.
—Mr. B. T. Lanier delivered this week a large lot of fruit trees and other nursery stock sold by him during the summer.
—We want cotton seed, corn, oats, sorghum, millet, threshed Kafir corn, fire wood, etc. on subscription account. If you haven't the money this will enable you to settle.
—Mr. S. W. Scott left Thursday for Fort Worth to look after an appealed case in the supreme court of the 2nd district.
—Your best girl and all the other girls are always pleased to see you, young man, after Geo. Makeig has fixed you up with a stylish hair cut, shave or shampoo.
—We learned that a Mr. Hodge and family moved into the county this week and rented the Norris place four miles east of town.
—Baker is no slinger, but he can "do up" more bargains than any other man handling holiday goods.
—The postoffice department has granted a postoffice at Stamford and N. Levitt has been appointed postmaster. It is expected to have the office in operation by January 1st.
—For good goods and bottom prices in tinware, queensware, glassware, furniture, washing machines and housefurnishing goods generally go to McCollum & Wilbourn Co's.
—Mr. R. W. Smith and family who have been residing here for some time left this morning for Woodward, O. T., where they expect to make their home.
—Go to T. G. Carney for your Christmas candies, apples, nuts, etc.
—Messrs Bert Brockman, Will Donohoo and Mert Maloney, who have been working on the Hudson ranch near Esteline, came in Thursday to take Christmas with the home folks.
—New stock of clothing: Gent's Undershirts and Overshirts; Ladies underwear; Arctic and Rubber shoes for men, boys, women and misses; men's and boys' Hats, Caps and Gloves. Also a full line of Shoes, Boots and Blankets, all fresh, new stock and selling at lowest prices at S. L. Robertson's.
—If you want lumber see the ad of Messrs Brazleton & Johnson in this paper. They have just opened a yard at Luders this side of the Clear Fork on the T. C. extension and are bidding for Haskell county trade.
—Mr. G. M. Clayton and family arrived here this week from Vernon and are occupying Judge Jones' residence. Mr. Clayton was here a month or so ago and bought a fine tract of 1080 acres of land on which he will establish a farm and ranch.
—If you have to buy a heating stove this fall, you ought to get one of those Wilson Improved Air-tight heaters for sale by McCollum & Wilbourn Co. The makers guarantee that you will get more comfort, more heat and more satisfaction, at less expense, from this stove than from any other stove made.
—This firm also have on hand a full line of Bridge, Beach & Co's standard cook stoves and box and ornamental or parlor heaters.
—Now is the best time to plant shade trees so that they will start a root growth during the winter that will be able to sustain the top growth in the spring. The thoroughly wet condition of the soil makes this the most favorable year that we have had for some time for starting trees. Plant some, they will improve the appearance of your place very greatly. Bois de Arc or orange orange and the native elm, hackberry and china are recommended for planting in western Texas by good authorities.

—Go to W. H. Parsons' jewelry store for good clocks.
—We hear that there have been two or three little fisticuffs in town this week. Shake hands boys and don't do so any more. It's naughty and not nice.
—We are told that Mr. Ferd Hallsell of the Circle ranch in King county is now moving about 4000 cattle from his King county ranch to the pastures leased by him in this county a few weeks ago.
—Four boxes of concentrated lye at T. G. Carney's for 25 cents.
—The FREE PRESS was sorry to hear of Prof. J. B. Jones' ill luck in seriously hurting one of his legs, probably breaking the small bone, in a tussel with some of his school boys. We understand he is on crutches, but still able to goon with his school.
—From lack of a proper place Haskell will be without a Christmas tree this time. We understand that the people of the Presbyterian, Methodist and Christian churches will substitute a "snow house," which will be at the Christian church, and that the Baptist people think of having a "fish pond" at their church.
—We respectfully ask all parties indebted to us to come forward and make settlement by Jan. 1st. Please do not wait for us to dun you.
Respectfully,
W. W. FIELDS & BRO.
—We got the dates wrong last week in stating that the teacher's institute was postponed till the 22 and 23 of this month. We have since learned that the postponement was to the 29 and 30th so as to bring it within the holiday vacation. Teachers are referred to Judge Jones' notice in this paper.
—The ceiling of Mr. Burwell Cox's residence caught on fire Tuesday from the stovepipe flue which had become clogged with soot. Mrs. Cox was at home alone at the time and discovered the fire and extinguished it before it had made any headway.
—This should admonish all to examine and clean out their flues thoroughly before building hot fires.
—Late Monday evening Mr. Jas. Pratt drove up to Judge Sanders' residence in his wagon and, what was unusual, a young lady occupied the seat with him, who proved to be Miss Rosa Kelley. Alighting and entering the house, Jim produced an official looking document and informed the judge that they wanted to get married. The judge took in the situation, lined them and proceeded to unite them in hymenial bonds. The couple then proceeded to Mr. S. W. Scott's and spent the night, then left for the west to grow up with the country.
—Bedad Jim, and it's good luck we wish to ye.
—On Friday afternoon at 5 o'clock Mrs. Charles Kirby passed from this life to the one beyond the dividing line between mortality and immortality and, as her friends and relatives have a right to believe from her long and devoted life, going to a home of brightness and joy where there is no sickness and pain. She had nearly completed the span of three score and ten years as had she lived till Christmas she would have been 70 years old. The immediate cause of her death was a cancer which developed on the left side of her neck four or five months ago and rapidly ate its way to vital parts. She leaves a husband and several sons and daughters, now all grown and married, to mourn for the companion and mother whose care and solicitude was their guide and comfort for so many years.

If it's a STOVE

You Want

We can supply you. Besides a full line of box heaters, we have the "ECONOMY"

which is an AIR TIGHT WOOD HEATER guaranteed to heat as well as the ordinary stove with half the quantity of fuel, thus saving its cost in one or two seasons. It takes small floor space, no ashes leak on carpet, no danger of fire falling out, burns chips, chunks or solid wood equally well. The price is low and we want you to come and see this stove.

We also have an excellent line of Cook stoves, but will talk about them later.

Yours &c.
SHERRILL BROS. & Co.

LUMBER!

We beg to call your attention to the fact that we are opening a new FIRST-CLASS LUMBER YARD at Luders

(The new town on west side of Clear Fork on the extension of the Texas Central Railroad.)

We will carry a complete stock of Rough and Dressed Lumber, Shingles, Sash, Doors, Blinds, Mouldings and in fact every thing carried by a first-class lumber yard, and, we hope by fair and honest dealing to merit and secure your patronage.

Call and see us—we want to meet you.

We hope to be able to begin unloading lumber at Luders by Wednesday, Dec. 20, or as soon as the track is laid to the town site.

Yours truly,

Brazleton & Johnson.

THE QUESTION OF A FLOURING MILL

Does Haskell Want One?

We were shown a letter a few days ago by Mr. S. W. Scott from a party offering to establish a flouring mill at Haskell on terms that seemed to us very reasonable and liberal. Not a dollar of bonus was asked, the proposition being substantially that, if the people of Haskell county would take stock and furnish the money to erect a suitable building and purchase an engine, say in all \$3500 to \$4000, he would put in a complete outfit of machinery worth about \$6000 and having a capacity of 100 barrels a day, making a plant worth about \$10,000 when completed. It was stated that the machinery has been used one season, but is uninjured and in first-class condition.

If the machinery is modern and will turn out the best grades of flour, it occurs to us that this proposition is as good as our people could ask.

The question then is, do you believe that there is a field here for the profitable operation of a flouring mill, if so, do you want one and are you able and willing to carry part of the investment?

If these questions are answered in the affirmative, then, with prompt action, the mill can be put in operation in time to grind the next crop of wheat. The first step, however, should be to have the machinery examined by competent and reliable persons to see that it is the right kind.

In considering an enterprise of this kind it should be borne in mind that there are various benefits to accrue from it to the community besides the mere or direct profit to the stockholders.

We shall not at this time express an opinion as to the feasibility of the scheme, as it will be a matter for each one to form his opinion upon after due consideration of the matter in all its bearings, but we think, and will suggest, that our business men and the leading farmers of the county should get together and discuss the matter fully and arrive at some definite conclusion at as early a date as possible.

J. B. Baker guarantees every bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and will refund the money to any one who is not satisfied after using two-thirds of the contents. This is the best remedy in the world for la grippe, coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough and is pleasant and safe to take. It prevents any tendency of a cold to result in pneumonia.

Notice of Stockholders' Meeting.

Notice is hereby given that the regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Haskell National Bank will be held on Tuesday, January 16th, 1900, between the hours of 9 a. m., and 4 p. m., at the office of said bank in the town of Haskell, Texas, for the purpose of electing a board of directors for the ensuing year, and for transacting such other business as may properly come before such meeting. J. L. JONES, Cash. Haskell, Tex. Dec. 16, 1899.

Honor Roll of Wild Horse School.

Dec. 19, 1899.

Editor FREE PRESS

Below you will find names of pupils who have been present every day of school. Will you please to give them space in your paper.

John Chaney,
King Chaney,
George Bennett,
Boon Peeler,
Allen Rose,
Oscar Rose,
Mack Smith,
David Thomas,
Newton Thurwhanger,
Willie Robey,
Angie Vernon.

Total attendance for the month 89.6 per cent of total enrollment.

Respectfully,

MISS E. ROBINSON, Teacher.

My son has been troubled for years with chronic diarrhoea. Some time ago I persuaded him to take some of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. After using two bottles of the 25-cent size he was cured. I give this testimonial, hoping some one similarly afflicted may read it and be benefited. —Thomas C. Bower, Glencoe, O. For sale by J. B. Baker druggist. 52

Important Notice.

The time of year is here to pay up and I must ask each and every one that owes me either by note or account to come in and settle at once. Don't wait for me to ask you for it.

Respectfully,

A. P. McLEMORE.

It is rumored that another injunction suit is soon to be brought against the Texas railroad commission.

The administration it seems has decided upon pursuing drastic measures in the Philippines. It is reported that General Otis has been instructed to treat the Filipinos as brigands. If this policy is carried out to its full extent it means that the military authorities may kill or imprison Filipinos taken prisoners as common criminals.

It may be right for a great and powerful nation to run over a helpless people in that way—and it may not be right.

How it tickles the Dallas News when some of its little echoes say that it is pushing the material interests of the state to the exclusion of politics. The News winks one eye and with a bland smile says "Ah, certainly, that's right sonny, let's keep right along on that line and we'll make Texas great," then it goes right along discussing politicians and politics in a way to bring its readers to see as it sees—or pretends to see and the little echo feels all puffed up, feels like it is a partner with the big News, and it lets politics practically alone, for fear the News will rebuke it, and the News has things its own way so far as it is concerned.

It is not here pretended that the News is not doing some good work in furtherance of the material interest of the state and the people, but it is not keeping to its pretense and letting politics alone by a long shot.

We are offering Unusually Low Prices

OUR MAMMOTH STOCK

of dry goods, clothing, boots, shoes, hats, etc., during the month of December. Those who fail to look through our stock before buying will miss some of the

Richest Bargains Ever Offered

Star Store customers can always compare bills bought with their neighbors who bought elsewhere and show a saving of 10 to 20 per cent.

A word to the wise is sufficient.

N. B.—We pay the highest market price for cotton.

THE STAR STORE,
Abilene, Texas.



F. G. ALEXANDER & Co.

Thanking their many friends and customers for the liberal patronage extended their firm during the year are pleased to extend to them a cordial greeting and their best wishes for a

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

AND

PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.



R. J. REED

Furniture

A well selected stock to choose from.

Great Bargains in 2nd hand Goods.

Get our prices before you buy.

South side of Railroad,

ABILENE, TEXAS.



CANS OF
B. T. BABBITT'S PURE POTASH
IS EQUAL TO
3 of any Other BRAND.

3 Cans of any Other Brands, 25 cts.
2 Cans of B. T. Babbitt's PURE POTASH, 20 cts.

SAVES THE CONSUMER,

INSIST ON HAVING

B. T. BABBITT'S
Pure Potash or Lye

As a cure for rheumatism Chamberlain's Pain Balm is gaining a wide reputation. D. B. Johnston of Richmond, Ind., has been troubled with it since 1862. In speaking of it he says: "I never found any thing that would relieve me until I used Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It acts like magic with me. My foot was swollen and painful very much, but one good application of Pain Balm relieved me. For sale by J. B. Baker druggist. 52