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THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS,
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The SPIRIT OF KANSAS aims to be a first class family Journal, devoted to farm and home affairs, and to all industrial, social and moral interests that go to make up the greater part of our Western Life. It will be found useful to those engaged in any of the departments of rural labor. Its miscellany, original and selected, will be such as will interest and instruct. Its editorial page will treat of matters relating to our social, industrial, and political life, wherever and whenever the interests of the great working masses appear involved, and always from a broad, comprehensive, and independent standpoint. We shall endeavor to make a paper representing the great west.

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Kansas an Objective Point in Political History.

BY J. C. HEBBARD.

No. 2.

On July 30, 1854, Charles H. Branscomb, of Massachusetts, reached Kansas with the first company of New England immigrants, who came for the purpose of making a Free State settlement, and, in founding their city—Lawrence—the name came from Amos A. Lawrence, who was a large factor in the Massachusetts Emigrant Aid Society. Thirty years later Mr. Lawrence was a national Prohibitionist. A year later, President Pierce removed Hon. Andrew H. Reeder, the first territorial Governor of Kansas, who, as a Pennsylvania Democrat was transformed into a Republican.

On June 17, 1856, Mr. Branscomb was at the first National Nominating Convention of the Republicans at Philadelphia and was a member of the Committee on permanent organization. That convention nominated John C. Fremont, the son-in-law of Thomas H. Benton, for President, and its Kansas resolution was as follows:

That Kansas should be immediately admitted as a state of the Union, with her present Free Constitution as at once the most effectual way of securing in her citizens the enjoyment of the rights and privileges to which they are entitled, and of ending the civil strife now raging in that Territory.

In 1857, various legislative sessions were held in Kansas; it was the Lecomton Constitutional Convention year; Robert J. Walker and Frederick P. Staton, were pre-eminently known in their official relations of Governor and acting Governor of the Territory and it marked the beginning of the triumph of the Free State Element

On August 2, 1858, the last prop of the Pro-slavery men of Kansas was knocked away from them in the overwhelming rejection of the Lecompton Constitution.

The Territorial Legislature, chosen in 1858, was made up mostly of Free State men, and, among the Representatives from Douglas County was Charles H. Branscomb and Henry J. Canniff.

BIRTH OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IN KANSAS.

The Republicans of Kansas organized their party at Osawatomie on May 18, 1859, and their Convention was addressed by Horace Greely of the New York Tribune, who, thirteen years later became an opposition candidate for President. Messrs. Branscomb, Canniff and D. W. Houston of Anderson County, were among the delegates, who in 1885 are recognized as efficient members of the National Prohibition Party, and on its list of Secretaries were John A. Martin, T. Dwight Thacher and D. W. Wilder.

The Wyandotte Constitution was made in July; it was adopted in October, and under it the first election for state officers was held December 6, 1859.

John A. Martin was Secretary of the Constitutional Convention. Mr. Martin was a deligate to the National Republican Convention at Chicago, of June 13, 1860, and was one of the Secretaries of the Convention. The resolution adotpted relating to Kansas is this:

That Kansas should, of right, be immediatly admitted as a state under the Constitution recently formed and adopted by her people and accepted by the House of Representatives.

Kansas became a state an January 29, 1861, and on February 9, Charles Robinson who had received 60 per cent of the popular vote, was sworn in as Governor.

The percentage of the popular vote of Kansas received by the Kansas Governors from Robinson to Martin is as follows: Thomaa Carney, 64 per cent; Samuel J. Crawford, in 1866, 70 percent; James M. Harvey in 1868 68 percent; Thomas A. Osborn in 1872, 57 percent; George T. Anthony, 57 percent; John P. St. John, in 1880, 58 George W. Glick, Democrat, 45 per cent; John A. Martin, 55 percent.

Governor Martin was a delegate to the National Convention of 1868, 1872 and 1880, and was a member of the National Republican Committee for Kansas, in '68, '72, '76, '80 and '84, until the nominations were made, and he was Secretary of the Committee.

On July 17, 1884, John A. Martin was unanimously nominated for Governor, and on the evening of that day, the National Prohibitionists selected delegates to their National Convention at Pittsburg of July, 23, 1884.

Kansas Republicans were for John C. Fremont for President in 1856; for Willian H. Seward in 1860; for Lincoln in 1864; for Grant in 1868 and in 1872; for Blaine in 1876 and in 1884 and in 1880, the delegates before supporting Garfield were divided between Blaine and Grant.

REPUBLICAN PARTYISM PROMINENT IN KANSAS.

In 1864 Kansas was the banner republican state having given 81.9 per cent of its popular vote to President Lincoln. In 1868 it was surpassed by Massachusetts and Vermont; in 1872 by Maine, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Vermont; in '76 by Vermont; in 1880, by Minnesota, Nebraska, Rhode Island and Vermont; in 1884, by Minnesota and by Vermont.

Since 1820, the only states that have surpassed Kansas in the percentage of its popular vote for President Lincoln, was Georgia for Jackson in 1828 and in 1832, Massachusetts for John Quincy Adams in 1824 and in 1828; New Hampshire for Adams in 1824; North Carolina for Jackson in 1832; Rhode Island for Adams in 1824; Tennesee for Jackson in 1824, 1828 and in 1832.

FROM FREMONT TO BLAINE.

In 1856 the Repubicans carried 11 States and 114 of the 296 electoral votes. Of these eleven, except in the three States of Iowa, New York and Ohio having 62 of the electoral votes, they had a majority of the popular vote.

In 1860 Lincoln carried 18 states and had 180 of the 303 electoral votes. Except as to California, Oregon and and the four electors in New Jersey—13 in all, he had a majority of the popular vote. In 1864 he had 22 states and 212 electoral votes. In 1868, Grani had 22 states and 214 electoral votes; in 1872, he had 29 states and 286 electors. In 1876, Hayes had 21 states and 185 of the 369 electoral votes, though the electoral commission awarded him the 19 electors from the disputed states of Florida, South Carolina and Louisiana. In 1880, Garfield had 20 states and 214 electors of the 369. Except in Indiana which had 15 electoral votes, and one electoral vote in California he had a majority of the popular vote of the states he carried.

In 1884 Blaine had 182 of the 401 electors, and he obtained a plurality of the Massachusetts vote and of Michigan which unitedly had 27 electors. He carried 18 of the 38 states; 16 of them having 155 electors, gave him the majority of their popular vote.

Fremont had nearly 40 percent of the electoral vote in 1856; Lincoln about 60 in 1860; in 1884 Blaine had 45 percent of the whole.

Vermont gave Lincoln 78.9 percent of its popular vote; it gave Freemont 78.1; it gave Blaine 66.5 percent. Minnesota gave Lincoln 63.4; Blaine 58.1 percent; Kansas gave Lincoln 81.7 percent in 1864; it gave Blaine 58.1 percent, 2.3 percent less than Garfield's. Nebraska gave Grant in 72, 70.1 percent; it gave Blaine 57.2; it gave Garfield 62.9 percent. Rhode Island gave Grant in 72 71.9 per cent; Blaine had 57,9 percent. Nevada in 64 gave Lincoln 49.8; Blaine had 56. 3 percent.

Maine gave Grant in 1872, 67.9 per cent; Blaine had 55.4 percent. Pennsylvania gave Grant in 1872, 67.9 per cent; Blaine had 52.7 percent. Iowa gave Lincoln 64.2 percent in 1864; Grant the same percent in 1872; 52.4 Blaine had percent.

California gave Lincoln 56.9 per cent in 64; Blaine had 52 per cent.

New Hampshire gave Lincoln 56.9 percent in 50; Blaine had 51.1 per cent.

Oregon gave Grant 58.8 percent in 72; Blaine had 51 percent.

Ohio gave Lincoln 56.3 percent in 64; Blaine had 50.9 percent.

Wisconsin gave Lincoln 56.6 per cent in '60; Blaine had 50.4 percent.

Illinois gave Grant 56.3 percent in '72; Blaine had 50.1 percent.

Massachusetts gave Lincoln 72.2 percent in '60; Blaine had 48.4 per cent.

Indiana gave Lincoln 53.6 percent in '60; Blaine had 48.2 percent.

Connectcut gave Lincoln 56.6 per cent in '60; Blalne had 48 percent.

New York gave Lincoln 53.7 percent in '60; Blaine 'had 48 percent.

Michigan gave Grant 62.7 percent in '72; Blaine had 47.5 percent.

New Jersey gave Grant 54.3 percent in '72; Blaine had 47.2 percent.

Maryland gave Lincoln 55 percent in '64; Blaine had 46 percent.

Deleware gave Grant 51 percent in '72; Blaine had 43.4 percent.

Virginia gave Grant 50.5 percent in '72; Blaine had 48.9 percent.

Tennesee gave Grant 68.8 percent in '68; Blaine had 47.8 percent.

North Carolina gave Grant 57.5 percent in '72; Blaine had 46.6 percent.

Florida gave Grant 53.5 percent, in '72; Blaine had 46.8 percent.

SENATOR INGALLS LRAPING INTO THE FIERY CONTEST.

The Topeka Commonwealth on the last day of June, counts a deliverance of the "grand old party" from distruction and defeat by reason of its making a Kansas man of Massachusetts birth, the Presidential nominee in the next race.

On Kansas and the Presidency it says:

John James Ingalls, of Kansas, for President of 1888! That is the proposition of Senator Manderson, of Nebraska, made deliberately in a public speech recently before a large and intelligent constistuency in his own state. The nomination was warmly received, the accounts state, by the generous and appreciative Nebraskaians. We have revolved the proposition over in our mind several times and it stikes us still more favorably from every side we view it.

Let the reader pause to consider the fact, that Virginia gave a larger percent of its vote to Blaine than did Massachusetts! The Old Bay State, which gave Fremont and Grant two thirds of its vote and Garfield some ten percent greater vote than it did to Blaine, falling behind Virginia at the last election.

Think of Michigan, where the Republican party was born; in thirty years thereafter fallnig behind in Republican strength the states of Indiana, Connecticut, New York and Tennessee.

Indeed, how are the mighty fallen! Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in Askelon, that the Commonwealth lugubriously admits the following:

The campaign of 1888 will be decided not on the eastern seasehore nor by the murmuring waters of the gulf, nor in Indiana and New York, but by the sturdy ploughmen of Illinois, and Minnesota, the wood choppers of Wisconsin, and the plainsmen of Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska. They be fools who asseverated that the luminous shadow of Prohibition on the perturbed sky of national politics has no further possible distinies in its skeleton hands. It has defeated a great party. It can vanquish the victors. At least this is among the possibillities.

If the Democracy carry Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and possibly Iowa and perhaps Kansas, they will again carry off the Presidency.

The machinery of the state government is so divided that in sixteen of them, there are Governors who supported Blaine and Logan, the electoral vote of which states reached one third of the whole number, and three of whom, Governor Alger, of Michigan, Governor Harrison, of Connecticut and Governor Oglesby, of Illinois are minority Governors.

The Commonwealth closes its Ingalls screed as follows:

Ingalls' nomination would be the brightest and smartest thing the Republican party can do. It would be a recognition of the decrees of fate and round up the destiny of Kansas, for it is written in letters of living light upon the face of the stars that some day, and not many days hence, the sunflower State is to furnish a President to the teeming millions in great land of the American Eagle.

If Kansas is "to furnish a President to the teeming millions in this great land of the American Eagle," the name of that man is NOT John James Ingalls, but contrariwise it is that of John P. St. John.

TO BE CONTINUED.

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Iron Force Pumps, Wind Mill Pumps, Roofing, Guttering, Spouting,
Fence Wire
In fact every thing in the Hardware liue, at Prices lower than ever.
H. I. COOK & CO.
166 Kansas Avenue.

A Big Drive
FOR A GOOD MAN.

WANTED
To Lease, Rent, or Sell
21 Town Lots in Topeka, Kansas, on the side track of the A. T. & S. F. R. R. A part of these lots front on Eighth Avenue, east. All have a front to the side track in good locality for manufacturing purposes of all kinds, or for storage. I will rent or lease one lot or all of them as the party may desire, or sell the same way. Better call and see me at 249 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas
C. DUNN.

I will also rent lease or sell any part or
All of 320 Acres of Land
situated thirteen miles from Topeka, and one fourth of a mile from the U. P. depot at Kingsville, and two and a half miles west of Silver Lake. This farm is all under cultivation, with good buildings and well watered.
Will be sold in 5 or 10 acre lots for gardening purposes, and part on time.
Topeka, Kansas. C. DUNN.

THE CENTRAL MILL.
North Topeka, Kas.
The Central Mill has been recently thoroughly remodeled by J. B. Billard, and is now prepared to supply straight grade Burr Flour, Patent Roller Flour, Meal Graham and Rye Flour of the best quality. All kinds of grain bought and sold,
CUSTOM WORK DONE.
And satisfaction guaranteed. A new Corn Dump.
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—DEALERS IN—
STAPLE & FANCY GROCERIES,
Flour and Produce;
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We keep constantly on hand a line of goods that cannot be surpassed in quality at the pricc of TEN CENTS EACH.

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Bread, pies, cakes, confectionery, and best place in town for a good lunch.
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Dealer in fresh and cured meats, fish, poultry. A trial solicited and satisfaction guaranteed
416 Kansas Avenue North Topeka, Kansas.

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Graining on all kinds of wood. Kalsomining and paper hanging. Glass setting a specialty.
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Manufacturer of furniture and fine cabinet goods. Furniture repaired and chairs reseated.
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G. I. STROUSE Grocer
Dealer in staple and fancy groceries, butter, eggs and produce, Grain and feed on hand
606 Kansas Avenue, Topeka.

THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS.

For the Week Ending July 4 1885.

G. F. KIMBALL. EDITOR.

Entered in the Post Office in Topeka, for transmission as second class matter.

A National Policy.

That the license plank in the Ohio Republican platform indicates the future policy of the party there can be no doubt. The Republicau has never been a prohibition party. The facts are undeniable that locally a much larger field has been brought under prohibition, where the democratic party is in power than where the Republican party is in control. This has been denied, but the fact remains, and is now used by Republicans in the Ohio campaign, notably by the Toledo Blade in its support of the license policy now advocated by the party in the state. The Democratic party is not for prohibition. It is for nothing radical or progressive. From its very nature it could not be. It is conservative and inert.

No reforms ever have sprung and none ever will come from the Democratic party. It is slow to accept them when forced by radical and progressive parties. It is not a moving force. It is not the power that moves a loaded wagon up the hill It is rather the block placed behind the wheel, to keep the wagon in place while a rest is taken. The Republican party has not heretofore spoken so openly. The National platform of 1872 meant the same thing, and even more as interpretted by the whiskey element of the party. and especially by Herman Raster, the author of that plank of the platform. The party has invariably endorsed that platform, while temperance men have been told that this particular plank did not mean anything but was allowed to go in order to satisfy the "Germans". It was indeed an attempt to arrest the Germans revolt of independent Republicans of that campaign. But now it is plain that the license idea is to become a distinct principle of the party. It must be remembered that Mr. Blaine in November, 1883 declared in favor of this policy. This was followed by the refusal of the party in National Convention to not only deny that this was to be the policy, but it refused to declare in favor of submitting the question to the people. There was in all this, not one indication of advance sentiment on the question of prohibition. In the several states there was no more satisfactory evidence of progress within the party. It cannot be denied that even in Kansas the flag was lowered last year, when the party refused to stand by the principle, and disclaimed party responsibility for the Amendment. This yielding was sufficient to secure to the ticket both Prohibition and Anti-Prohibition votes, aided on one side by the extreme views of the Democratic candidate for governor.

The next move by the Republican party is made in Ohio. The result in this state will be of national importance. The campaign now open in Ohio is the first to occur after the defeat of the republican party.

Ohio cast its presidential votes for Blaine, and a failure to maintain its Republican position, especially when a governor and a United States senator are to be elected would be a national catastrophe for the Republican party. It was necessary, therefore, to stake everything on the result of Ohio.

The growth of the prohibiton party indicated by St. John's vote made it apparent that a guerrilla warfare on Prohibition would no longer do. Nor would a neutral policy answer the demand. Either an advance or a retreat must be made. It was decided to advance along the whiskey line and the Ohio platform boldly declares for a liquor revenue and the license system.

That this decision was reached after deliberate consideration, not by politicians of Ohio, but by the Republican leaders of the nation there is abundant evidence. The situation in Ohio is not different from that in New York, Indiana, Michagan, Illinois and other states without the aid of which the Republican party can no longer exist.

The policy that will carry these states must hereafter become the national policy of the Republican party. This is outlined in the Ohio platform which declares for license and revenue in direct antagonism to the principle of prohibition.

That this is to be the future national policy is farther assured by the position so readily taken by the Topeka Capital. It was a serious thing for that paper to suddenly become an advocate of the license system, when it had been so long committed to the very opposite. It could not have been done in the face of the public sentiment of Kansas, without premeditation. Yet the Capital snapped at this Ohio license bait with the most astonishing avidity. It was seized almost before it struck the surface, and has been followed up almost every day since, while bewildered Prohibition Republicans have been asking what it means.

It means that the Republican party managers of this Prohibition state of Kansas have been in communication with the party managers of the nation where the future national policy was outlined. It was then that the Ohio policy was decided upon, and it was there that the party managers agreed to fall into line in support of it.

To the Topeka Capital was presented the alternative of supporting this policy or of being ignored, and the Commonwealth being hereafter considered the only Republican organ in the state.

And the Capital yielded.

It was hoped it would be able to take the Prohibition element of the party along with it. To this end it has been burdened with arguments, irreconcilable and inconsistent in attempting to show that Prohilition may be a good thing in Kansas but would be a very bad thing in Ohio.

Meanwhile there are fifty thousand and more of Prohibition Republicans in Kansas who want national prohibition. All sincere prohibitionists demand it. They are now waiting to see if the party in the other states, and finally in the nation will not accept this issue, and if not they are ready to desert it. This is their present feeling.

But these party managers know that time works wonderful changes, that mankind despises, then endures then embraces. They expect this of Republican Prohibitionists at this time. They argue that ties of party will be stronger than the ties of Prohibition, and that those that rebel now will become the willing slaves of the party once more, as the Capital has become, baring its back to the Rum Power's lash.

Some may yield, but thousands will not, and the party will die.

There is now perfect harmony between the Topeka Capital, late prohibition, and the Junction City Union Resubmission Republican. The Union congratulates the Capital on its change of front, and declares the self evident truth that if Prohibition is good for Kansas it is good for Ohio. On the other hand, if the Capital's idea that license is the best for Ohio, it follows that it would be best for Kansas just as the Resubmissionists claim. The Union logic beats the Capital.

The Whig Convention of 1848 that nominated Gen. Taylor for President, was characterized by Horace Greeley as "the slaughtered house of Whig principles." If the Republican party is the one that has heretofore been the friend of Prohibition, as A. B. Jetmore and other shallow reasoners claim, it would seem that the Ohio convention may be looked upon by Prohibitionists as "the slaughter house of Republican principles.

The State Temperance Union engaged Geo. W. Bain of Kentucky, the eloquent temperance orator to speak in this state, but when they required him to make only non-partisan speech, he begged to be excused. There are no temperance speakers left in the country worth going out to hear, who are not for the Third Party, and thoroughly opposed to both the old partis.

In one month from today the whiskey men of Kentucky will be called upon to pay $5,000,000, back taxes. They are laboring to get a stay until congress meets and if they succeed they will then try to have the tax abated or reduced.

Miss Jenny Newby one of the most brilliant young speakers in the state commences a lecture tour this week in the north eastern part of the state, in the interest of the Prohibition party. She is a grand worker and will draw out crowds of hearers.

Will you get up a club for the Spirit in your place. Ten copies one year $4.00.

The Bismarck Prohibition camp meeting will be held from Aug. 20 to Aug 30.

The Spirit and the Chicago Lever one year for $1.25.

What They Say.

The Mc Pherson Republican that supported Blaine and Logan says:

"The Republican State Convention of Ohio should have favored the submission of a prohibitory amendment. That it did not is an evidence of cowardice unmitigated by any palliating circumstances what ever, and the Republican party of Ohio will find to its cost that dodging does not pay.

The Ness City Amendment says:

"This year is one of the best for us to keep up our organization and now is the time to show we mean to work for the principle of Prohibition and not for office. Let us not look to the "probability" of electing our ticket, but let us place tickets in the field at every opportunity. Let not one county fail to nominate a full ticket this fall, and wherever there is a judicial district in which a Judge is to be elected, see to it that a staunch prohibitionist be placed in the field.

This is the right doctrine. No matter what any oiher party may do the the prohibition party should have its own ticket in every instance.

During the year past the W.C.T.U. of Ohio has been to that state about what the State Temperance Union has been to Kansas a Republican annex. The whiskey plank in the new platform has opened the eyes and torn off the party mask shownig the license face and enemy of Prohibition. The W. C. T. U. have restored Mrs. Woodbridge to the Presidency of the Union, from which she was removed last year, because of her sympathy with the Third Party, and headquaters have been removed to Columbus and a deetrmined campaign will be waged against Foraker.

We make no attack upon individual Prohibition Republicans except those who force themselves into exposed position for personal ends. The rank and file of Prohibition Republicans are true prohibitinists and will desert their party as soon as they see clearly that its purpose is not to secure prohibition but to utilize it to secure votes. The Republican leaders in Kansas have been masquerading with Prohibitionists, and now that the Capital has torn off its mask in obedience to the call of the National managers, the deception practiced will be realized.

Important county elections will be held in this state this fall. Prohibitionists should at once organize, in every county, and in due time nominate their own party tickets, without the least regard to what any other party may do. It is necessary to do this to show organization, and as preliminary to work to be done next year.

The Toledo Blade calls Gail Hamilton a virago and the Globe Democrat tells her the people would like to know why Mr. Blaine played the artful dodger when it came to voting on the Amendment. This is cruelty, equalled only by sticking pins through butterflies.

How much more grandly Miss Rose Elizabeth Cleveland appears defending the cause of prohibition against the sophistries of Dr. Crosby, than does Gail Hamilton railing at St. John and declaring prohibition a failure even in Maine.

When the Prohibitionists get control of affairs in Kansas intoxicating liquors will be sold only by state agents, and then somethiug more than a "personal application" will be needed.

Prohibition is a good thing for Kansas. Fifteen hundred immigrants are coming to the state every day largely owing to the fact that it is a safe place for the boys.

Gail Hamilton is simply James G. Blaine in petticoats. No similar exhibition has been seen in this country since Jeff Davis tried to get off in the same disguise.

It is a source of immense satisfaction to know that Gail Hamilton, the virago, as the Toledo Blade calls her, is not in the shoes of Miss Rose Cleveland.

Even the radical party bound Toledo Blade is forced to call Gail Hamilton "a virago." Who will deny the appropriateness of the term.

Prohibition Republicans will not be lead off into the license camp by the party managers, not even if the Topeka Capital has sold out.

The hard times are felt everywhere and not in Kansas alone. Yet there are those who say the cause is the prohibitory law.

Wine flowed freely at the banquet to the Mexican editors. The Capital editor and Gov. Martin were quite complacent over it.

One year ago the Topeka Journal predicted that the Capital would prove a Benedict Arnold. It looks like it now.

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL.

—Miss Ann M. Sanders, of Custer County, Neb., recently received her commission as Notary Public—the first lady ever appointed in the State.—*Chicago Times.*

—Charles O'Conor enunciated the principle that "a reporter should get all the news he can and give it to the world, but a lawyer should get all the news he can and keep it to himself."—*N. Y. Sun.*

—Henry W. Williams, President of the Massachusetts Bicycle Club, is called the most accomplished road-riding wheelman in the country. He has ridden 13,500 miles, 7,500 of which were done without a fall.—*Boston Journal.*

—There was at least one altogether novel incident in the recent royal visit to Ireland. The honorary degree of Doctor of Music was conferred upon the Princess of Wales by the Duke of Abercorn, as Chancellor of the Royal University.

—A little Indian girl named Lucy-Afraid-of-the-Soldiers is attending the Government Indian School at Hampton, Va. When Lucy grows up she will probably not be so "afraid of the soldiers" as her name would imply.—*Chicago Journal.*

—Alphonse Daudet, the famous French dramatist, journalist and poet, is forty-five years old. Sir Arthur S. Sullivan, the eminent English composer, guilty of "Pinafore" and other comic operas, is just two years younger than Daudet, having been born May 13, 1842.—*Chicago Inter Ocean.*

—Clara Morris is a Canadian. She was born in Montreal thirty-five years ago. Having lost her father, she became a ballet-girl in the Cleveland Academy of Music in that city at fifteen, to support her mother. She rose so rapidly in her profession that at nineteen she was leading lady in one of the Cincinnati theaters. The year following she was engaged at Daly's.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

—Edwin E. Curtis, of Meriden, Conn., left forty thousand dollars to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of that town, "provided the church building shall never be moved further to the west." One of the papers left by Mr. Curtis shows a contract with a Meriden doctor for a regular daily call at one dollar per day, whether he was sick or well. This contract covers the last four years of his life.—*Hartford Post.*

—Dr. John J. Moran attended Edgar Allen Poe in his dying moments. He now writes that the habit of intemperance did, to some extent, cloud the poet's early life, but not his later years. Poe's constitution was such that he could not become a dram drinker, and for four years previous to his death he was perfectly temperate. His death was caused by ill treatment and exposure suffered from a party of Baltimore roughs, who caught him, cooped him up, drugged him and voted him during an exciting election. In attending him during his last illness Dr. Moran says that his patient gave no signs of a debauch. He refused a glass of spirits the day before he died.—*Baltimore American.*

"A LITTLE NONSENSE."

—It takes the French to appreciate Shakespeare. The passage, "Frailty, thy name is woman," is translated, "Mlle. Frailty is the name of the lady."

—The hurling of an egg in the direction of his royal Highness in Cork was plainly an attempt by the Irish to throw off the yolk.—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

—Teacher: "For what purpose was man given his different senses? Why are we given eyes?" Dull boy, at the foot of the class: "To shut 'em when we go to sleep."

—Doctors say drinking too much coffee makes bald heads. Telling the female head of the house that her coffee is "nothing but slops" will also do it.—*Chicago Tribune.*

—Father (with a frown): "Now, Johnny, you're really the worst boy in town; you really are. What shall I do with this cane?" (Johnny dodging): "Go a-walking with it, sir; it's a walking stick."

—The funny man of the New York *Times* is mentioned for a Consulship. For a man who likes to stay at home, writing humorous matter is dangerous business. His friends are almost sure to get him a Consulship in some distant clime.—*Philadelphia Call.*

—Inquisitive boy: "Papa, what is the meaning of 'Tra-la-la' in the song I am learning?" Fond father (perplexed for a moment, but recovering): "It means, my son, the same as 'Fol-de-rol-lol in the other song you have already learned."—*Golden Days.*

—Paragraphs are floating about to the effect that diseases are frequently communicated by kissing. We supposed every one knew that the most dangerous and swift of all diseases was communicated in that way—heart disease.—*Norristown Herald.*

—The proprietor of a menagerie relates that one of his lions once had a thorn taken out of his paw by a French Major in Algeria. The lion afterwards ran over the list of officers belonging to the regiment of his benefactor, and out of gratitude devoured both the Colonel and the Lieutenant-Colonel, whose places were then filled by the good Major.—*Exchange.*

—"These are the times spoken of in the Scriptures, Ichabod," said Hannah Smiley, solemnly, as she picked up the stitches she had dropped. "Wars and rumors of wars, and—" "Same old times, Hannah," replied Ichabod, cheerily. "It's always been so, ever since I was a boy. I don't see anything new in the situation." "Well, you're as blind as an old bat, Ichabod Smiley. Why, England's got the Soudan, and Russia at Penjdeh, and Riel in the Northwest, and—" "Yes, of course, I know all that, but that doesn't signify. Riel may Winnipeg or two, the Mahdi may Souakim one, and the Russians may ravel the fringe out of the Afghan—" Just then the old lady came in with a wet cloth and bathed Ichabod's head, or there is no knowing where he would have brought up.—*Hartford Post.*

OF GENERAL INTEREST.

—The site of the city of Boston was sold in 1635 by John Blackstone for thirty pounds.—*Boston Globe.*

—Mexico is making rapid advances in industr al pursuits. She has eighty-seven mills which run 247,894 spindles and 8,745 power looms.

—Australia lost forty-four million dollars from pleuro-pneumonia, introduced by a single cow that was supposed to have recovered.

—Mr. Robert Bonner puts the probable limit of trotting speed at 2:05. He thinks Maud S. may trot between 2:07 and 2:08.—*N. Y. Post.*

—Some genius proposes to bring out a steam roller-skate. It is difficult to see what roller-skates want of steam. They get ahead of the wearer as it is.—*Boston Transcript.*

—Since the Brooklyn bridge opened, May 25, 1883, no less than 26,455,070 people have crossed. The total number of vehicles that have crossed during the same time is 1,306,655.—*N. Y. Sun.*

—Joe Blossom, a Florida colored man, left his boot heel in an alligator's mouth the other day, and he says a reptile which can't calculate closer than than that ought to go hungry for a month.

—According to some scientists the genuine man lived about three million years ago, and the present generation is composed of a lot of leavings and peelings not worthy of mention in a first reader.—*Detroit Free Press.*

—A country place should charm as much by its beauty as by its fruitfulness; should be the abode of intelligence, comfort, and hospitality, as well as of plenty. The glory and pride of an Englishman is in his country home.—*Nashville American.*

—Colonel J. Armoy Knox, of *Texas Siftings*, lectured in New York in behalf of the Bartholdi pedestal fund. Among other bright remarks he said: "The English have something which passes current for humor and which is not, I assure you, to be laughed at."

—A clock company at Thomaston, Conn., after making up thirty thousand dollars worth of stock, began putting the movements together only to discover that all of them turned their hands or pointers backwards and were, therefore, worthless.—*Hartford Courant.*

—Two Italians recently arraigned in a Brooklyn court gave their names respectively as Michael Bricks and Joe Kelly. It afterward appeared that they thus expected to excite the sympathy of the Judge, who was an Irishman. Their ruse, however, was not successful.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

—A Norristown young man, a patron of the rink, sent to Boston for a copy of a "Roller Guide," advertised by a man in that city. He was considerably disgusted when he received the book and found it was a treatise on printers' rollers and roller composition, and not a guide to fancy roller skating.—*Norristown Herald.*

—In the *Alienist and Neurologist*, Dr. Hughes says that cancer is probably as amenable to treatment as any other diathetic condition, * * * but the hope of conquering it lies in recognizing its neuropathic relations and in early and persistent, vigorous and confident, efforts to improve them. The law of resistance to cancerous invasion is in the conservation of energy.

—In a Boston court Judge Allen administered a severe rebuke to clergymen who marry minors without the consent of their parents, the case in hand being a wife deserted by her husband, and she was but fifteen when the clergyman married them. He said that the laws of marriage should be stringent and well enforced if we would check the fearful tide of divorces.—*N. Y. Sun.*

—Under Mexican law a creditor can have a debtor arrested on the day when the debt falls due. The prisoner is chained to a post five days, guarded by an officer. At the end of the time, if the money is not forthcoming, the man's labor is sold to the Government for forty cents a day for as many days as will be necessary to discharge the obligation. The miserable debtor is sent to the silver mines, where he is chained to a gang of felons and compelled to work underground. He sleeps underground and never sees daylight again until he is restored to freedom.

—At a recent sale in London an historical taper sold for thirty dollars. It was declared to be the identical one carried in penance by Henry II. to the shrine of Thomas a Becket, in Canterbury Cathedral. It was found in the year 1773 in the shrine, and by some means was obtained by Dr. Menish, of Chelmsford, in whose museum it remained for many years, until it passed into the hands of the late owner. Whether it be the identical taper may be a question, but it is remarkable that it should bear the arms of England embossed upon it.—*Chicago Herald.*

—A gentleman writes to the Washington *Star:* "Mr. Francis S. Key, the author of the 'Star-Spangled Banner,' wrote two additional verses to Burn's 'John Anderson, my Jo, John, and not remembering having seen them published, I send them to you. Mr. Key wrote in 1842 that there ought to be another verse:

"John Anderson, my Jo, John,
One day we'll waken there,
Where a brighter morn than ever shone
Our opened eyes shall cheer,
And in fresh youth and beauty
To that blessed land we'll go,
Where we'll live and love forever,
John Anderson, my Jo."

—Governor Warren, of Wyoming, says that woman suffrage has not lowered the character of public officials in that Territory. On the contrary, the women consider much more carefully than men the character of the candidates, and both political parties have found themselves obliged to nominate their best men in order to obtain the support of the women. "As a business man, as a city, county, and Territorial officer, and now as Governor of Wyoming Territory," he adds, "I have seen much of the workings of woman suffrage, but I have yet to hear of the first case of domestic discord growing out of it. Our women nearly all vote, and since, in Wyoming, as elsewhere, the majority of women are good and not bad, the result is good and not

AFTER DOLLARS.

Sharpers Who Fleece the Innocent and Gull the Guilty.

"The slickest piece of work in the way of a fraud conducted through the mails that has come to my attention recently," remarked Chief Inspector Sharp of the Post-office Department, "is what we call the bogus medicine dodge. The ingenious author of this scheme now languishes in jail, but, at the same time, he showed himself to be a man of no mean order of ability. His plan was to send out circulars announcing a great cure for catarrh, which was discovered by himself after many years of study and investigation. He then proceeds to give, without cost, the prescription for this wonderful medicine and enumerates twelve ingredients which enter into its composition. At the end of the circular is a note which states that if the druggist does not happen to have all these ingredients the prescription will be filled and forwarded upon the receipt of three dollars. The person receiving the circular and desirous of trying the remedy takes the prescription to the drug store, but is told by the druggist that he has three of the ingredients, but not the other nine. He looks through his book, but fails to find even their names, and so, of course, he is unable to furnish the desired medicine. The discoverer of the remedy is applied to, and if the three dollars has been furnished a bottle of some mixture is sent on, which, of course, is entirely worthless.

"That is one phase of the case," continued the inspector. "Now the man prepares and causes to be published in some paper in New York city an article about the prominent doctors of New York city, with a portrait of each and a sketch giving some account of the life and services of each. All the men mentioned are bona fide doctors, the leading men in the profession, with the exceptian of a man whose name is, say, Dr. Hart. He is unknown, but the sketch states that he left a practice of twenty-five thousand dollars per year to devote himself to the practice of his specialty—catarrh. The bogus medicine man then procures a large number of copies of this paper, and, marking the picture of Dr. Hart and the sketch, sends copies, together with the circular, broadcast throughout the country. In consequence he receives an immense mail, and large numbers of money orders and registered letters. After the Postmaster General had directed that no more money orders and registered letters should be delivered to Dr. Hart, three thousand dollars accumulated in the Brooklyn post office that had been sent to him. When an attempt was made to find Dr. Hart, of course no such a man could be discovered; but a sign over the door at the advertised number was found, and that was all. A Dr. Lawrence occupied the same rooms, and to him the mail was delivered, and when he was told the letters could not be given to him, as he was not Dr. Hart, he went off and got a power of attorney by which Dr. Hart authorized him to receive the mail. About this time, however, the officers came in and relieved him of further annoyance about his mail matter. This same man was managing some other scheme under the name of Lawrence, while his real name was Connolly. He must have made a great deal of money, as one of the witnesses in the trial testified that he had been offered two thousand dollars to personate Dr. Hart."

"It is a singular thing," observed the Colonel, "how these offers to give something for nothing take with the people, and how rogues fatten upon the credulity of the public. There is another species of fraud, which one would naturally suppose had been given such wide publicity that no one would now be deceived by it. I mean the counterfeit-money dodge, where men propose to forward a large amount of counterfeit money by express or mail on the receipt of a small amount of genuine money to pay for the manufacture. usually all that the victim receives in return is a box filled with sawdust. But a recent operator has devised a new plan. He locates near a small town in a a country district and then sends out his letters. He does not offer to forward the counterfeit money, but invites persons to visit him and inspect his stock and buy what they wish. When the visitor arrives the operator has a large quantity of good bills, which he shows him and allows him to examine. In order, however, to avoid outside interference, the visitor is taken off in the woods, where the business proceeds. The operator produces his money and the visitor examines it and determines how much he will take and what price to be paid. Just as they are about to close the transaction suddenly two men emerge from the bushes, announce themselves as detectives, and proceed to place them under arrest. The detectives do not fail to take all the money from both the men. As they are about to march them off to the town, the operator obtains permission to speak privately with the victim. He asks him how much more money he has than what he was going to use in the transaction, and if he has more, he advises that they had better try and buy off the detectives, for if they don't they will both land in the penitentiary. The victim is ready to pay anything to get out of the grasp of the supposed representatives of the law, and eagerly agrees to contribute to a fund to pay the detectives. The latter, of course, accept the bribe, and, pocketing all the money, disappear. The victim gets away as fast as possible, and goes home and never says a word about his loss. He is too much ashamed.—*Washington Star.*

—At least four thousand persons are under the management and direction of the Commissioner of Pensions. The salary list amounts to over one million dollars annually, exclusive of pension agents and examining surgeons. The mail received averages seven thousand five hundred pieces daily. The mail sent out is much larger.—*Washington Post.*

PUBLISHER'S DEPARTMENT.

John Wand, Prescription Druggist. Windsor Drug Store.

H. J. Canniff, Notary Public. 295 Railroad St. North Topeka.

At the Church of the Good Shepherd, next Sunday evening, "Why will you Swear." A pointed discourse on a subject of general interest.

Millinery at your own price at Mrs. Metcalf's. Over 500 hats to be sold out regardless of cost.

Garfield Park Gates Open Free!

To all to celebrate the 4th of July in their own way. Come one, Come all. Horses and Vehicles, Admission 20 cts. P. W. Taylor.

We are prepared to do the neatest kind of commercial and small job printing and can discount any office in the state in prces.

The Art Amateur for July contains designs for two panels—bird. fruit and flowers—,a dessert plate—roses—and a plaque—geraniums,— besides several for embroidery and repousse work. There is a long and interesting notice of the Paris Salon with two pages of illustration, and a timely article on De Neuville. Other articles of special interest are those on "Mont St. Michael." "Art Life in Rome," "The Hotel Drouot," "Japanese Swords" and "Oriental Musical Instruments." Wall and ceiling decoration, amateur photography, scene painting and frame embroidery are the practical topics receiving particular attention. The illustrations in this number are especially varied and attractive. Price 35 cents. Montague Marks, publisher, 23 Union square, New York.

The July Eclectic is embellished with a beautiful steel engraving of the Neapolitan Girl which is alone worth the price of the number. The opening paper by Mr. Williams, Soudan correspondent of a great London journal, makes a very serious charge against a high military official, that Gordons death was owing entirely to disobedience of orders. Prince Outsky's paper on Prince Bismarck is one of great interest and acumen. Among the other powerful timely articles are those on "Egypt and Soudan," the "Coming War," and the "Advance of Russia toward Central Asia." Special attention may be called to the purely literary articles, among which are "Border Ballads," "The Kalewala," 'Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin,', and "Mr. Swineburne's Poetry." The miscellaneous papers are all bright and readable and the magazine in its entirety a highly entertaining number. As this number begins a new volume it affords an excellent opportunity for the beginning of new sucscriptions.

Published by E. R. Pelton, 25 Bond Street, New York. Terms $5 per year; single numbers, 45 cents: trial subscription for 3 months $1. Eclectic and any $4 Magazine, $8.

Prof. Cook Heard From.

Prof. Cook lately wrote: "Having studied man and his relations fifty years, and having read Dr. E. B. Foote's Plain Home Talk, I say disinterestedly and emphatically that is worth its weight in gold; nay, gold cannot measure its value to humanity. It is such a book as only such a healthy, well-balanced magnificent brain can produce. Dr. Foote is one of the few doctors who, in his writings and practice, seeks to cure, not kill; to save and prolong life, not obstruct, poison or destroy it; to teach people the structure, functions, facts, forces and relations of the human brain and body, teach them the significance of life and how to make it healthy and happy also how to make the most of it.

Its information, instruction and advice in regard to parentage marriage, social and sexual functions and relations; its facts and laws of mental, magnetic and temperamental adaptation in marriage and parentage that children may be healthy, happy and viable, etc., make it more valuable to suffering humaniiy than my poor words can express. What a vast amount of saving information for the people; a large book of 900 pages for only $1.50."

Prof. J. H. Cook

Golden Days continues to be just as good as can be. Filled to the brim every month, it meets a warm welcome in every household that receives it.

Harper's Magazine for July is received. Pandora, Frontispiece. From painting by F. S. Church. Mohammadans in India.—F. Marion Crawford. Eight Illustrations. Midsummer on Mount Desert. Poem.—Frances L. Mace. A Day's "Drive" with Montana Cowboys.—Rufus F. Zogbaum. Three Illustrations. City of Buffalo. Jane Meade Welch. Nineteen Illustrations. Ampersand. An Adirondack Sketch. Henry J. Van Dyke, Jr. Eight Illustrations. His Royal Highness Love Affair. A Story.—E. C. Grenville-Murry. Illustration by Reinhart. A Silk Dress.—R. K. Bowker. Ten Illustrations. Indian Summer. A Novel. Part I.—W. D. Howells. High Days and Holidays. A Poem.—Harriet Prescott Spofford. Aunt Powell's Will.—Robert J. Burdette. East Angels. A Novel. Part VII.—Constance Fenimore Woolson. The Story of the America.—General Benjamin F. Butler. Illustrated Easy Chair. Literary Record. Editor's Drawer.

Godey's Ladys' Book for July is the 66ist appearance of this magazine its illustrations are rich while its reading matter, dressmaking, household and receipt department are replete with entertainment and information. Those desiring to try it may subscribe for the balance of the year for one dollar, full-size out paper pattern each month. H. Haulenbeek. P. O. Box, H. H. Phil.

The July St. Louis Magazine contains portraits of Victor Hugo and Mozart; an interesting Mexican story; articles on John G. Saxe, Charles Egbert Craddock with portrait, and Geo. M. Grummond, by Mattie E. Sperbeck and A. N. De Menil. Price only 15 cents. St. Louis Magazine Co., Publishers, 218 N. Eigth St., St. Louis, Mo.

Will you go to work and get up a club for the Spirit? We depend upon Prohibitionists in every part of the state to give it a wide circulation.

A CHAPTER ON SNAKES.

Ned Buntline Relates His Adventures in the Catskills.

Not in your boots or mine, I hope, good reader, for I don't believe in the beverage that hatches that kind. But as the "season" has opened and snake stories will be told by and to the summer boarders in the country, it is well to know something about Satan in scales. In the cold and lofty regions of the Catskills poisonous serpents are almost unknown. The hard winters are too much for them. The striped or garter snake and the brown water snakes which hibernate early and come out only when the days grow long and warm, both harmless, are the only reptiles seen in those sections.

But in lower altitudes the "rattler" and copperhead, the hissing adder and the horn-tailed snake, the latter scarce but very deadly, are found in certain sections of this State.

Much as I have hunted and fished in almost all the lakes and trout streams, and through the forests of the State, I never saw but one horn-tailed snake, though two were killed on Schoharie Creek a year or so ago.

Last spring I was driving down the east branch of the Delaware, near Margaretville, on a trouting expedition, and on a dug-way near the river I checked my horses as I saw a snake over six feet long dart down the bank and across the road in front of me. It went slow enough for me to get a good view of it. It had a small, vicious-looking head, a rather large body and was striped in regular black and white rings—the latter, I should judge, to be two inches wide. I held my horses in, for I felt no anxiety to see a reptlie like that mixed up among their legs. Its tail came out to a sharp bony point. I knew in an instant that it was the horn-tail, and on describing it to an old citizen in the village learned it had been seen two or three times in the same vicinity. It was soon after killed and was the only one ever heard of in that section. Another was killed on Alder Brook, in Ulster County, the same season. They have deadly poison in the horned tail, which they strike into a victim.

I was fishing one day on the Beaverkill and had just thrown a trout out on the bank that would weigh near a quarter of a pound and started out to pick it up for my basket. Before I reached it a brown water-snake, full four feet long, had that trout crossways in his mouth and was making off with it pretty fast when I drew my revolver and sent a ball through his neck, which destroyed his appetite for raw fish. I did not basket the trout, however.

None of the water snakes of our Northern streams are venomous. The moccassin and cottonmouth of the Southern waters are as deadly as the rattlesnake and in no way as chivalrous. The latter almost invariably give warning of its presence before it strikes. Therefore it is less to be feared than its almost constant companion—the "Pilot" or copperhead. Summer boarders, who choose cool, lofty and anti-malarial sections, if they avoid bad whisky need have no fear of snakes.—*Ned Buntline, in N. Y. World.*

ITALIAN SERVANTS.

Some of Their Peculiar Characteristics—Their Tendency to Make Excuses.

The wickedest part of an Italian character is his love of making excuses. Lies are, I fear, cosmopolite, but for the immediate faculty of dressing up a falsehood with all kinds of imaginary circumstances, I think the Italians are supreme. It is often as much for the sake of pleasing as for the sake of deceiving. I must explain, however, that they jump to conclusions with a rapidity and an unreasonableness which often bears the appearance of willful falsehood when it is not really so. Their mobile natures and vivid imaginations are to blame for this. Then their preceptions are so quick that a look or a gesture betrays to them in what direction your inclination tends when you ask them a question, and their wonderful easiness and pliancy of temper enables them to adapt themselves to their answers to it. There is little or no flunkeyism in Italian servants. They do not like to wear a livery. With them servitude forfeits no rights, but bestows a claim. They are grateful for acts of courtesy and for trifling donations, which their brothers in America would often scorn and forget. But their resentment is as easily excited as their love, and often sponges out the previous good will. Your man servant becomes just as confidential and communicative, after he has been some time in your service, as your maid. Kindness to children is a remarkable trait in Italian men servants. The patience with which they will try to please them and wait on them is wonderful. The understanding, too, between the old child and the younger one is very striking. These men have a susceptibility to impressions and an elasticity of temperament which is most childlike and appreciated by children. I knew no prettier sight, when I was visiting a family in Florence, than to see the tall, stout Ferdinand, with his mustache and black eyes and military air (he served in '48), sitting the whole evening with that golden-haired little boy of his master on his knee, making him laugh with stories of his own childhood.—*Cor. Brooklyn Eagle.*

—In nearly every railroad station in London is a small box on legs, painted crimson, which may be called an automatic post-office. It is divided into two compartments. In the top are apertures admitting a penny, one being for postal cards and the other for envelopes. You drop a penny through the slot and open a little drawer beneath, and, presto, you find a postal card. Drop two penn'es in the right-hand slot, open a corresponding drawer, and you find a stamped envelope, containing a dainty sheet of note paper. These little conveniences are the property of a company.

—Baldheaded men have the heaviest beards as a rule.

LLOYD'S.

Description and History of a Well-Known Institution.

As to the early history of the classification of ships there is no date, but we all know how dull is the famous chapter in the "Iliad," where even Homer was caught napping. In a more or less imperfect form classification of merchant ships must of course have existed contemporaneously with marine insurance, while Gibbon already speaks of nautical insurance as being common with the Romans. Such ships' lists were, it appears, at the end of the Seventeenth Century to be seen by merchants in the different coffee houses of the city, and among these the establishment kept by a certain Edward Lloyd, who seems to have been a man of unusual ability and enterprise, was the most frequented because the best posted up. That the house was well known was shown by the fact that Steele makes it the theme of a "Tatler" paper, that Addison names it in the "Spectator," and that in a poem of the period a character says:

"Now to Lloyd's coffee house, he never fails
To read the letters and attend the sales."

It soon occurred to Lloyd to systematize these lists, and he started on his own account a shipping chronicle—"Lloyd's News," which began in 1696 and was issued three times a week. At first these lists were written and passed from hand to hand, like the news letter of the period, but in 1726 it was printed under the changed title of "Lloyd's List.". Soon after, the principal underwriters and brokers, who had long made the coffee house their meeting place, formed themselves into an association and took up their headquarters near the Royal Exchange, setting up on a permanent footing the great institution which has flourished ever since on the same spot and has made the name of Lloyd a household word all the world over. Some of the earliest lists issues have perished by fire, but that of 1776 is preserved and here we first read the now familiar name A1, which has passed into the common speech, but was at first merely intended to designate a ship of the first class. These lists were issued to subscribers only, and so strict were the rules concerning them that to lend a book or allow a non subscriber to see it entailed forfeiture of membership and at the end of each year every subscriber was obliged to deliver up his old book before a new one was issued to him. At one time, if the book were lost or stolen, the person to whom it belonged was refused another, although willing to pay for it. The subscriptions formed the only source of revenue for the society, which then numbered some hundred and thirty members. Some discontent arising as to the difficult questions of classification, a rival book was issued by a company of ship owners, and for a while the two books ran in antagonism to each other, though from the first Lloyd's took a better position and carried more weight. The elder society also at once appointed surveyors in twenty-four of the chief ports of the United Kingdom and from the beginning showed that earnest desire after equity and liberality that has distinguished their operations throughout their career.—*London Society.*

CO-SIGNS AND TANGENTS.

The Intellectual Pabulum That Exists in Signboards.

To him who, in the love of business and mental growth, holds communion with these visible forms, the signboards speak a varied and fearfully punctuated language. The average sign painter is born with the belief that when he paints "John Smith, Dry Goods and Groceries," on the front of Mr. Smith's store, he must paint it in this guise: "John. Smith. Dry. Goods. and. Groceries," Sometimes, however, he doesn't even put the comma after groceries, but permits it to remain an all comprehensive word, evermore looking out into a limitless eternity of measureless suggestiveness of unfathomable groceries. If the artist be a German-bred painter, he is prone to make his sign startling and thrilling in its very commonplaces—"John! Smith! Dry! Goods! and! Boots! and! Shoes" fading away into the same dreamy, vague, dim and misty, unpunctuated outlook so much affected by his American colleague. If there isn't much room on the signboard the artist reserves most of it for his own name; he paints in nonpareil for his patron and long primer for himself:

"JOHN! JONES. Hardware BENJAMIN G. NORTH, Ptr."

If the merchant, being an economical man, has painted his own sign, he spaces badly and divides on any letter that happens to come handy, and startles the world with

WILLIAM W. WILLIA-
MSON, Well digger and cisterns.

One sign almost invariably "throws" even the regularly ordained sign-writer and his "mens' and boy's boots' and shoe's" a marvelously original in a dozen styles. Suppose you try it yourself and see what the proof reader will do with your effort. But what I was going to say when I began this quite extensive portico to a very small house was that recently I perused two signs that impressed me deeply. One is in St. John, New Brunswick, the gold lettered sign of the firm "Wisdom and Fish." Hasn't it always been said that Fish is brain food? Only in this sign Wisdom comes first. Should it not be Fish and Wisdom? The other I read last week in Chester, Pa. It is over a wagon shop. I think—"Cain and Brother." Now, why couldn't they just as well write it "Cain and Abel?" It might not be correct, but it would be so scriptural.—*Burdette, in Brooklyn Eagle.*

—Without doubt the pumpkin pie was originally evolved in New England; but just where the pumpkin itself was first discovered in a wild state is a disputed point in geographical and historical botany, but perhaps the vine which DeSoto found growing on the gulf coast of Florida was the progenitor of our best pies.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

LAND, LABOR AND DOLLARS.

The Best Farming That Which is Most Profitable.

As long as men farm for profit, that system of farming which will produce the largest crop of dollars per acre, in their respective localities, is the best farming they can do. That the same manner of farming does not produce the same crop of dollars in all places, that, as a rule, there is an important relation between the value of the land in any locality and the system of farming that can be most profitably used there, and that this is governed by laws over which individuals have but limited control, seem evident to me from the following reasons:

It is a well-known fact that the more labor, beyond a certain quantity, expended on a given area of land, the less will be the amount produced on that land, in proportion to the additional labor expended; although under certain conditions this additional labor is profitable, still the labor decreases in productiveness, as the cultivation increases beyond a certain point. Prof. Perry illustrates this as follows:

"If I double the labor upon my turnip field, I may, possibly, for a single year, double my crop of turnips; but if I redouble the expense for the next year, I shall not redouble my crop; for if that were the law of returns in agriculture, if increased effort upon a given area increased the product in the same ratio, an acre were as good for productive purposes as one hundred acres, and one hundred acres were as good as a continent."

This fact is so universally true that it is stated as a law by writers on political economy in this way: "Relatively diminishing returns accompany increasing expenditures upon land." From this it can be seen that while a given area of land is producing as many bushels as possible, the labor employed on this land is not producing as many bushels as it might, if used on more land.

The highest productiveness of agricultural land, and the highest productiveness of agricultural labor are as different as the extremes of heat and cold; either may be profitably used, but various conditions determine which can be most profitably employed in any given locality.

Under certain conditions it pays best to make labor as productive as possible, although by doing so the land is not made as productive as it might be; while under other conditions it pays best to make land as productive as possible, although by doing so the labor is not made as productive as it might be.

The same reason that makes land cheap in any locality makes labor scarce and high, and the price of the products low—that is, limited population. If land is cheap, the interest charge on its value is small, although the rate of interest may be somewhat higher in a new country.

Suppose we are farming in the West, where land is worth fifteen dollars an acre; the interest charge on the value of the land, and the price of our products, will be low, but labor will be scarce and high. It would pay us best to make the expensive labor as productive as possible by taking advantage of the low interest charge; consequently we should use the labor in cultivating a comparatively large amount of land, rather than in increasing the cultivation on a smaller area. These conditions account to a great extent for the large farms and inferior farming seen in the West.

Suppose we are farming in the East, where land is worth one hundred and fifty dollars per acre; the interest charge, and the price of our products, will be high, but labor will be comparatively plentiful and cheap. It would pay us best to increase the productiveness of the expensive land by taking advantage of the cheap labor; consequently we should use the labor in increasing the cultivation of a more limited area, and thus save as much of the high interest charge as possible.

These conditions account to a great extent for the smaller farms and superior cultivation seen in the East. We see the size of the farms gradually decrease and the cultivation increase as we travel from the West to the East. If we go as far as parts of England and France, we see the large farm of the West grow smaller all the way until it is but a highly cultivated garden of a few acres; but all the time the value of the land has been increasing; the small French garden is worth as much as the large American farm, and the difference in the manner of cultivation is as marked as the difference in the value per acre.

The practical application of these facts for farmers and persons interested in farming land, is for them to consider the value of land in their neighborhood before they decide how they will cultivate it, and not think any particular system will pay them, because it pays some one else in another place; it will not, unless the conditions (such as the fertility and adaptability of the soil, shipping facilities, distance from market, size of the market, density of population and the like) are similar in both places. The sum of these conditions is fairly represented by the value of the land in the respective localities, and as land increases in value, the manner of farming should be improved in order to get the full benefit of the improved conditions or increased value of the products, and the decreased cost of labor.—*Cor. Country Gentleman.*

—The reason why the itinerant vendor of fruits and vegetables calls out his goods in such indistinct language is not because he can not speak plainly. He merely wishes to arouse the curiosity of householders. If they knew just what he had to sell, few persons would trouble themselves to go to the door or window; by causing the lady of the house to make herself visible out of motives of curiosity, the chances for selling are largely increased.—*Boston Transcript.*

—Boston will have to look out for its esthetic laurels. Down in Biddeford, Me., people are so high-toned that instead of saying bath-room they speak of "ablutionary studios."—*Burlington Free Press.*

FARM COTTAGES.

Why Farmers Should Provide Pleasant Homes for Their Hired Help.

The custom of boarding and lodging farm laborers in the houses of their employers has always been general in this country, and in the West it is probable that it will long continue. Many farmers who have large estates and employ many men, at least during the summer, do not wish to spare the means to erect cottages to trouble their laborers to keep house. They wish to put all the money they can obtain into stock or farm improvements that will yield an income. They think there is economy in converting the family residence into a boarding house for the men they employ in the fields. It is evident that they do not consult the wishes of their wives and daughters in regard to this matter. The custom of allowing the employes of merchants and mechanics to board in the houses of those for whom they work was long since abandoned in all towns and cities, and it is clearly time that wealthy farmers follow the example of other employers. The lot of a woman who has to do the cooking for a dozen field hands in addition to doing the work for her own family is not to be envied, though her husband is the owner of several sections of improved land.

Farm laborers would be more contented, happy and useful to their employers if they were allowed to live in cottages erected on the estates upon which they work. Men who have families could live with them, while the single men could board with their brother laborers who keep house. They would find congenial society of their own, and have much better means of enjoyment than in the houses of their employers, as it would save much labor and insure privacy. The plan of allowing farm hands to live in cottages by themselves is common in England, and gives excellent satisfaction to all parties. Quite recently great improvements have been made in the construction of farm cottages, and good results have been reported from them. A correspondent of a London paper recently visited the estate of Lord Tollemache, aggregating 32,433 acres, and located chiefly in the County of Cheshire. He states that he found no marked discontent among the tenants and laborers, and attributed the pleasant condition of affairs to the cottage system, of which he gives the following interesting account:

The cottages, with a few exceptions, have been built near the homestead of the farm upon which the laborers work. The men are thus saved the wearisome journeys to and fro which add so greatly to the daily drudgery of most English farm hands. They are able after the day's labor is at an end to attend to their cottage affairs before dark; they are within call in cases of emergency. The farm houses are mostly characterized by picturesque gables of black and white, and the least attractive features of the stock-yard are upon a uniform design kept out of sight. A similar principle is adopted with the cottages—neat, substantial little brick buildings, with pigsty and cow-house in the rear, and a small flower garden in the front. But there is a more important principle than that. To each cottager is allotted three acres of land, sufficient for the maintenance of a cow. One acre must be set apart for haymaking, a quarter of an acre goes for tillage, and the remainder is for pasture. In a few cases a larger piece of grass land supplies pasturage in common for two, three, or more cottages, but as a rule each cottager has his separate allotment of three acres. The advantages of this wise and liberal provision are manifold. The wives and children are furnished with an occupation agreeable in itself, sufficiently remunerative to pay the rent and something more, and serviceably educational for the children. In the quarter of an acre which must be devoted to tillage, potatoes, cabbages, turnips and a bit of grain may be produced—provender all the year round for man and beast. Butter is made every week, generally by the cottager's wife, and this is regularly collected and taken to market by small dealers living upon the estate. These small enterprises in dairying, which is a steady if modest source of income, also enable the people to keep pigs. Many of the cottagers, I found, by good management and superior land, in addition to the milk-giving cow, were able to have a calf about the premises to be reared for sale as a heifer. A cottager's wife pointed out one such animal that had been in her possession for a couple of years, and that was now worth eighteen pounds. Nothing here has to be paid for labor, so that the system is really one of all profit for the cottager. To sum up the position, these fortunate Cheshire agricultural laborers, for a rental of ten pounds or eleven pounds a year have a good cottage, ample pasturage for a cow, necessary outhouses, milk, and vegetables in abundance for the family, a ready market for the butter made by the wife, and liberty to take their own labor to another farm (still retaining the cottage) if the tenant to whom he is formally attached, can not pay the current rate of wages. I use the phrase "formally attached," because it is understood that the cottager's services, if required, must be given to the farmer near whose house the cottages have been built. Under this happy condition of affairs it need searcely be said that these Cheshire estates contribute very little to the inconvenient tide of rural emigration which is ever setting toward the big towns. Occasionally a man—I talked with one or two—tempted by what he hears of high wages, forsakes the soil and tries town life, with the result generally of learning before long how great was the boon which he wilfully cast away. So he comes back again at the first opportunity, and it is a happy day for him when he can escape from the disappointing hurly-burly, and find himself once more with his cottage, his garden, his pasture, his cow, and his pigs.—*Chicago Times.*

—The inventor of barbs on fence wire receives a royalty of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars a year.—*N. Y. Sun.*

POST-OFFICE NOMENCLATURE.

Some of the Queer Names That Are Scattered Through the Country.

The appointment of large numbers of Postmasters in all parts of the country at this time brings to the surface some of the very many queer names that are scattered through the long list of post-offices through the country. There are a good many of them too. There are over fifty thousand post-offices in the country, and a good many of them with very queer names. There are as a rule twenty or thirty named after each Postmaster General. It has been a custom in the Department to name a post-office in nearly every State and Territory after each newly-appointed Postmaster General. There was, as it will be remembered, a great "run" on the name of Hatton. So there was in the cases of the other heads of the Department, though it is asserted that the present Postmaster General will not be in favor of this sort of foolishness with regard to his own name.

There are, however, a very large number of queer names turning up constantly in the very large number of changes being constantly made. Many of them, too, have a very interesting and curious history. It is odd, for instance, to know that the post-office "Hattoff" was named for Postmaster General Hatton. The people applied to had their office named Hatton, but being told that there was already one office of that name in the State they wrote back saying, "Well, call it Hattoff, then," and it was so called. It very often happens that the name comes back quite different from that which they asked. The citizens of Stone County, Missouri, petitioned for an office to be called "Flatwood," but it came back "Blue Eye," Another in Louisiana called for the name of "Lima," but the Department returned the word "Halloo," and so it remains.

Another community in Georgia after proposing several names, all of which were rejected, was christened "Enigma." The minds of men run in different grooves, for one man, consulted for a like purpose, replied, "Call it Corn Cob or Pig Tail," and "Corn Cob" it became. Georgia has an office named "Talking Rock." Some one discovered in the vicinity a large stone upon which had been painted the words, "Turn me over." It required considerable strength to accomplish this, and when it was done the command, "Now turn me back and let me fool some one else," painted on the under side of the stone met the eye. Dry bone or zinc ore, found in Wisconsin, furnished the name for "Dry Bone" office, and "Fossilville" comes from the fossil from ore mined in Pennsylvania. The family of Jolly makes a "Jollytown," and that of Fee a "Fell City," and Grubb the name of "Grubbtown." "Sis," in Pennsylvania, is indebted for its name to a young lady thus familiarly known, who unexpectedly called where several men were struggling to solve the difficult problem of naming the new office, and whose appearance was the suggestion that settled the matter. A commonplace name, if founded on some striking incident, will continue against mere sentimental ones.

A dog found hanging to a tree by a grapevine in one of the Southern States gave name to a stream of water which finds a national as well as a local recognition in the office of "Hanging Dog." "Fish Hook" and "Shoe Hill" gain their names by the winding of the water-courses, and "Spearfish" from the sport of spearing fish. "Tar Heel," in North Carolina, was adopted at the suggestion of a popular young Confederate soldier. It was used by the Union soldiers to designate the Confederates, and accepted by the latter as complimentary. A man's skull lying under a small bluff in Tennessee gave name to the office of "Skull Bone." Kentucky has an office named "Pig." "Blowing Rock," in North Carolina, came from an eminence at the top of which the wind blows with great force. "Shanghai," in Indiana, was named for the taller of the two brothers who settled there about the time Shanghai or Bramah chickens were first introduced into this country. West Virginia has a "Shanghai" also, named at about the same time. "Broken Arrow," in Alabama, comes from an Indian legend that a brave once shot a deer on the banks of a beautiful stream near by, which empties into the Coosa River. The deer, in its death struggles, broke the arrow with which it was pierced, and from this incident tradition says that portion of the country was named Thetika, which in English signifies broken arrow. There are two "Tip-Top" offices. One comes from its topographical position as the highest point on a railway survey in Kentucky, and is, in fact, the highest point between Louisville and New Orleans. Two prospectors in Arizona discovered a mine and took specimens to test in the fire. The specimens came out covered with blisters of silver, and one of the men remarked that it was tip-top ore, to which the other remarked that it was a tip-top mine, and that they had better give it that name, which they did.—*Washington Cor. Cincinnati Times-Star.*

Old Letters.

A few days since, while repairing the house in which Mrs. Black lives, the workmen found between the ceiling and the weather boarding about a bushel of old letters. Inquiry showed that the house had been used as a post-office in the early years of the war, and that these letters had slipped between the ceiling and outer wall. Many of the letters were perfectly preserved, while others were rat-eaten and soiled. Curiosity, of course, led us to break the seals of several of these, but soon we discovered we were trespassing upon sacred ground. Many of them were from girls to their sweathearts in the army; some from mothers and fathers to their sons; some from wives to their husbands, and a few were business letters. Most of the names were familiar to the writer, and many of them were acquaintances and friends of auld lang syne. A majority of the persons, both writers and those to whom they were written, have "passed over the river."—*Quitman (Ga.) Free Press.*

THE SPIRIT OF KANSAS.

TOPEKA, KANSAS.

A CITY LYRIC.

Drifts away the noisy night,
Smoky dawns the morning light;
Down the highway's busy hum
I hear, before I see him come;
Every lurking barre he drags,
While his matins rise—"Old rags!"

Brother mine, thy wailing cry
Here I echo with a sigh;
All thy brother has to wear
When he goes to take the air,
Button gone and pin that jags,
Ever mock my poor "old rags."

E'en the page whereon I write,
Marring all its surface white,
Pure and fair as drifted snow
When December zephyrs blow,
Whispers to the pen that drags,
"I am nothing but 'old rags.'"

And the wealth I hope to get
For this intellectual sweat,
All the crumpled, greasy bills,
Pulped and spread in paper mills,
All the poet's hard-earned swag,
Once was gathered in thy bag.

Rags, the bed on which I lie,
Rags, the shirt I have (to buy;)
Rags, old rags, my note of hand—
(So I'm given to understand);
Curses on thee, hook and bags,
Howling picker of old rags;

[Kills him with a stone ink bottle and steals his bag of rags, which brings more than a seven octave spring poem.]—*Robert J. Burdette, in Brooklyn Eagle.*

FEATHERED WONDERS.

House-Building and Garden-Making Birds.

The Amblyornis—Flying From the Egg—Hatching Aboard Ships and Bombarding a Naturalist—Curious True Stories.

"There," said a naturalist, holding up a diagram and accompanying picture, "is a representation of the work of one of the most remarkable of all the architects of the animal kingdom."

"It looks like a squatter's ranch up at Sixty-first street and the Boulevard," suggested the visitor.

"So it does," responded the other, "but it is a house or hut erected by a bird in one of the islands of the Indian Archipelago. The picture was drawn by a friend of mine who found the house himself. He was traveling through the country with a native escort, and being a naturalist, had his eyes open to everything new. One day, while striking up through a densely wooded country among the mountains, one of the men who had been straggling behind came to him with a story that he had found the house of a race of dwarfs that the natives believed inhabited the gloomy parts of the country. My friend had often heard this story, and, of course, took it for what it was worth; but, as here was confirmation offered, he could not do less than search. Leaving the camp, he started off on a three-mile tramp through the bush, and was well repaid, as the man soon took him to the object pictured in this drawing. It was as perfect a cabin as you could devise, laid out with extreme care, with a garden in front as clean, neat and free from weeds as if a careful gardener had only just gone over it. The garden was, correctly speaking, a meadow, and upon it were spread about flowers and gaily-tinted leaves, together with snail-shells of yellow, pink and other colors. In fact, the owner was evidently a person of taste, and yet, after all, it was only a bird.

"Yes, a bird; the Amblyornis of Beccari, the most remarkable builder among the birds. You know," continued the speaker, "there is a group of birds, represented by the bower bird, that erect dwellings or structures entirely distinct from their nests, where they go simply to indulge in social and æsthetic enjoyment. Well, the Amblyornis is of this class, and as far as its architectural abilities go it is far ahead of the lowest of the human race. The method of building is something like this: A spot in some secluded grove is selected, a tree about eight inches through picked out as the center post, and the building is begun. The bird or birds collect from far and near twigs and branches from a certain plant that has the faculty of living after being pulled; in other words, of not dying. These are all of a length, say three feet or more. About three feet from the ground a band of moss is placed around the center post, and against this the twigs are leaned at an angle of about forty-five degrees, until the pole is surrounded, except on one side, which is left open as a door, and finally we have a perfect hut, in the general shape of the tents made by many of our Western Indians. The twigs are now covered with another plant, an orchid, that grows rapidly, and very shortly the roof so formed is a compact covering, affording complete protection from the weather. Now the birds clear away every stone and twig from the front of the hut, allowing only the grass to grow, and in a short time they have a beautiful miniature meadow that is kept perfectly free from all objectionable matter. The grass thoroughly grown, the little gardener, who bears a close resemblance to our robin, begins to display taste not only as a builder, but as decorator. All sorts of objects purely ornamental are brought and placed upon the grass, and then, when several of the birds meet, they are lifted and carried about, arranged and rearranged in every possible way, the birds evidently having an æsthetic feast. The flowers that form a prominent feature of this decorative craze of course fade, and every morning they are removed and others put in their place, the discarded ones generally being piled in one spot behind the hut. The nest of this bird, where the eggs are deposited and the young reared, is usually placed in the immediate vicinity of the cabin, but is, as I have said, entirely distinct from it.

"If," said the naturalist, "all the wonderful housebuilders could be brought together, they would make a curious display. Here is an egg," taking one from a drawer, "that has a most remarkable history, and I can not illustrate it better than by giving my own experience. I was traveling on a trading schooner along the New Guinea coast, when a native brought out in a canoe one day a dozen of eggs, of which this is one. I don't remember what he called them, but it was some peculiar name. As I had never seen the eggs before, I bought them all for about ten cents, and stowed them away in an open basket that hung in my berth, thinking nothing about it. For the next ten days it was insufferably hot, and we generally slept on deck; but one night, it being rainy, we all went below and were enjoying a game of whist, when we heard something like a crack in the neighborhood of my berth. A moment later my friend and partner, who was looking in that direction, was struck fairly in the mouth by a soft fluffy object that fell upon the table among the cards, and wriggled about, causing all to start back. At first we thought it a bat, but a second glance assured me that it was the young of some bird. While we were examining it another flew across the table and landed in the berth opposite. 'Your eggs are hatching,' exclaimed the skipper. 'That is impossible,' said I; 'birds don't fly out of the shell as a rule.' But do you believe it," continued the naturalist, laughing at the recollection, "such was the case." I rushed for the basket and caught another bird just breaking from the egg, and it was so strong that it struggled from my hand, beating its little wings, that were thoroughly feathered, and would have made its escape had I not securely held it.

"This, then, was the cause of the bombardment, and enabled me to determine the bird. It was the famous maleo, or turtle-bird of the natives, remarkable for the fact that the young are able to fly as soon as they break the shell. When I purchased the eggs they were probably well under way, and the heat of the cabin had completed the hatching process, as shown. This feature of the young, in which they are enabled to fly at birth, is an extremely interesting provision of nature, as the eggs are deserted by the parent, and, were it not that the young can fly away at once, they would fall victims to innumerable dangers. The reason the maleo is called the turtle-bird is explained by its method of depositing its eggs. The birds live in the interior, ten or a dozen miles from the coast, and at the breeding season go down to the shore singly or in pairs, and in the coarse, volcanic sand, dig a hole and deposit an egg day after day. This is done until the entire complement is deposited, when the spot is carefully covered and deserted; the parent never thinking again of the eggs buried perhaps three or four feet beneath the soil surface, exactly after the manner of our turtles. The heat soon hatches them, and the young birds break out and with their powerful wings struggle to the surface, shake off the sand and fly away; from this time finding their own living. A more wonderful case is not known.

"The common brush turkey, or Megapodius, is interesting enough to the ordinary observer, forming an enormous mound, adding to it year after year, and burying in it the eggs; always placing them so that the small end is up, and arranging them in a row or circle. In this mound, covered with earth and leaves, they hatch out like turtle eggs, and in some species follow the mother; in others the latter deserts them almost immediately.

"Birds show a variety of tastes, and their structures are often modeled in a way to insure protection. In the South the eggs of gulls are spotted, and among the bay cedar leaves attract hardly any attention. An African bird has been seen to pluck hair from living animals, with which to line its nest, causing them the greatest annoyance. Another bird builds a nest among the flying moss at the top of a tree so that it is in constant motion, blowing in the wind like a flag. Others build over the water, and some even on its surface, all these with the intention of protecting the coming young."—*N. Y. Post.*

Russian Patriotism.

A letter from St. Petersburg in the *Schlesische Zeitung* states that when Giers and Bunge, the finance minister, had an audience of the Czar at Gatschina, and the Czar talked of issuing an appeal to the Russian people, the latter felt it his duty to caution his imperial master as to the condition of the Russian finances. The Emperor at once rose from his seat, and said with great solemnity: "If the war should break out I hereby promise that I will sacrifice to it the entire property of the house of Romanoff (180,000,000 rubles); and I am certain that my people will not allow my example to stand alone." The writer adds that there can be no doubt that the great land owners, the rich mercantile world, and the wealthy monasteries were fully prepared to make equally great sacrifices for their fatherland. In 1878, when there was the expectation of war with England and Austria, the Moscow merchants and clergy alone agreed to sacrifice the immense sum of 500,000,000 rubles.

Keeping at Arm's Length.

"Your beau seems very bashful," said a Dayton avenue mamma to her daughter.

"Bashful!" echoed the daughter, "bashful's no name for it."

"Why don't you encourage him a little more? Some men have to be taught how to do their courting. He's a good catch."

"Encourage him!" said the daughter, "he can't take the most palpable hint. Why, only last night, when I sat all alone on the sofa, and he, perched up in a chair as far away as he could get, I asked him if he didn't think it strange that a man's arm and a woman's waist seemed always to be the same length, and what do you think he did."

"Just what any sensible man would have done—tried it."

"He asked me if I could find a piece of string so we could measure and see if it was so. Ain't he horrid?"—*St. Paul Herald.*

RANGE RIDING.

Stirring Scenes of the Season in the Montana Cow Camps.

Ever in a cow camp? No? Well, let's go, let's see what kind of a layout the boys have on the round-up. So we straddle our bronchos and speed away, along the Yellowstone or up to the Powder; through the buttes of the bad lands, whose tops are reddened with scoria that looks so much like brick-dust; down into coolies (yawning chasms lined with verdure and vegetation, where the cattle love to loiter), or up to the hilltops where rocks lie in all conceivable shapes. We frequently pass a vein of lignite, and sometimes we see the smoke curling skyward from the side of a butte where the lignite is on fire.

The cowboys pitch their camps in the meadows and valleys, generally selecting places where grass and water are plenty. The round-up camps are moved every morning, the wagons and camp equipage going a few miles forward while most of the boys are searching for stock through the district on each side. Toward noon the lowing herds may be seen moving toward the new branding place, where the calves and the other unbranded stock become acquainted with their owners' marks through the medium of hot branding irons. The knife also comes into play in cutting notches, slots and other marks upon the ears and dewlaps, and in altering the males, but the scorching, heart-harrowing brand is never forgotten.

'Tis noon. We are at the camp. One hundred and fifty stock-growers and cowboys of the Powder River round-up are in sight. Five thousand head of cattle are scattered over the broad green sloping riverside. Since three or four o'clock in the morning all hands have been busy, but the excitement keeps up. No one seems to tire, and the larger the round-up party the better do the boys seem to enjoy the work.

In the camp each outfit selects a spot for its mess wagon a hundred yards or more from any other, so that each lot of horses can have good feed. A drove of about a hundred horses, often more, seldom less, accompanies each outfit. Each bunch of horses is in charge of its "wrangler" (herder). From these bunches the cowboys "cut out" (select) fresh horses twice a day or oftener, and about ten horses can be found to each participant in the "round up."

Ten or twelve outfits, with their wagons and tents, occupy one to two miles along the stream. The large herd that has been driven in from the hills and valleys is held by twenty or twenty-five cowboys, who ride around the cattle, ever on the lookout for a stampede. Cowboys from each outfit cut out their employers' cattle, which are taken, one lot after another, generally, to the branding place, where each calf receives the marks that are borne by the mother it follows. Thence the bunches (small lots of cattle) are driven off to one side and held until the boys are ready to start them to their respective places on the range.

Near the fires, where the branding irons are being heated, a bellowing of distress is heard, and throughout the camp a lowing, a murmuring, an unceasing din goes up while the cowboys whoop and yell, ki-yi, and whistle at the animals as they ride among them, suiting their signal or command to the necessity of the moment. Lariats glisten in the sunlight as they fly through the air to the horns or feet of the animals that are being roped and thrown, and the boys near the fire work quick as glass-blowers, even forgetting their meals until others are on hand to take their places. No less forgetful of their work are the majority of the round-up party.

Space does not permit the complete picturing here of this very interesting scene. The morning call, the falling tents, the "wrangling" of fifteen hundred cow-horses, the camp fires, the cooks, even the peculiar cognomens of the cowboys and their horses, are each sufficient for entertaining sketches.

And now a few words regarding the "mess" of the cow-camp. The cooks and cookees take charge and drive the mess-wagons, with their camp equipage, from place to place during the round-up periods. Almost invariably the cooks are professionals, and the cooking is excellent. With delicious, juicy Montana beef, with bread made from Dakota wheat, and with many of the vegetables and fruits supplied by the "canners,"—all prepared, usually, in a manner to suit the most particular tastes,—the meals, whether spread upon the green grass or upon the tables made by letting down the doors of the mess wagon mess-boxes, are, as a rule, greatly relished by all who try them, and are far more satisfying than the dinners of many a first-class hotel.—*Miles City Cor. Chicago Tribune.*

A Perpetual Dancer.

"Eureka!" yelled a Philadelphia inventor, as he rushed into his wife's room with a "dancing darkey" toy in his hand. "I've got an improvement on this thing and it will make my fortune."

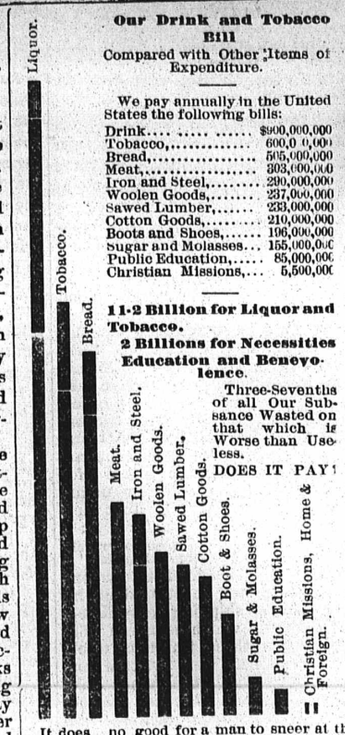
"Don't see much chance for improving that toy; it's good enough now," said his wife, suspiciously. "They are sold everywhere and go by clockwork."

"Yes, I know, I know; and that's where the improvement comes in. Clockwork gets out of order, and besides it costs money. I've got a plan to make the darkey dance up and down like mad and it won't require any clockworks at all."

"Well, that sounds a little like sense," was the rather mollified reply. "How will you do it?"

"Simple as A, B, C. I'll just connect the darkey with the mercury of a thermometer."—*Philadelphia Call.*

—Hu Maxwell, of St. George, W. Va., describes in the *Scientific American* a strip of smooth sea in the Pacific ocean through which he sailed during a gale in 1883, and which the captain ascribed to the presence of oil rising from natural wells at the bottom of the ocean. It was fourteen miles north of Santa Cruz Island.



Our Drink and Tobacco Bill

Compared with Other Items of Expenditure.

We pay annually in the United States the following bills:

Drink	$900,000,000
Tobacco	600,000,000
Bread	505,000,000
Meat	303,000,000
Iron and Steel	290,000,000
Woolen Goods	237,000,000
Sawed Lumber	233,000,000
Cotton Goods	210,000,000
Boots and Shoes	196,000,000
Sugar and Molasses	155,000,000
Public Education	85,000,000
Christian Missions	5,500,000

11-2 Billion for Liquor and Tobacco.

2 Billions for Necessities Education and Benevolence.

Three-Sevenths of all Our Subsance Wasted on that which is Worse than Useless.

DOES IT PAY?

It does no good for a man to sneer at the agitation in regard to the liquor traffic. The subject is altogether too important to be laughed down, ignored, or passed over without any serious attempt to settle it. Aside from the law-defying spirit which it has elicited, aside from all its moral the religious aspects, the question considered purely as one of dollars and cents, in its effects upon the National prosperity and wealth, is one of the most important that can be named.

Directly and indirectly, this country spends in the liquor traffic every year, a sum exceeding half the National debt. The cost of that traffic to the country, direct and indirect, is greater than the profits of all its capital not invested in real estate. It costs every year more than our whole Civil Service, our Army, our Navy, our Congress, including the River and Harbor and Pension bills, our wasteful local debts, besides all the schools in the country; in fact, this Nation pays more for liquor than for every function of every kind of government. How is a question of that size to be put aside with a sneer?

There is certainly spent for drink in this country more than $800,000,000 and the entire sum raised by taxes of all kinds, National, State, county, city, town and school district, is stated on authority of the Census Bureau to be not more than about $700,000,000.

But the cost of the liquor drunk is not by any means the whole cost of the liquor traffic. An official report, prepared with much labor, by the Bureau of Statistics of Massachusetts, under authority from the Legislature, states that 84 per cent. of all the crime and criminal expenses in that State comes directly from the abuse of liquor. There is at least one in twenty of the able-bodied men in this country who is rendered idle by his habits, or incapacitated for work. These persons, at the ordinary wages of workingmen, would earn, if industrious and fairly employed, over $200,000,000 yearly. The proportion of persons in hospitals, who reach them because of excess in drink is very large, but cannot be definitely ascertained.

A traffic that costs in actual payment and in loss of productive labor more than half the National debt every year, is not to be ignored by the economist. It may be assumed that the entire wealth of the country has risen from $30,000,000,000 in 1870, to $50,000,000,000 in 1880, about one-half being in real estate. Probably it does not average profits exceeding 4 per cent. yearly, taking bad investments with good but at that rate, the yearly interest on all personal property of all kinds is only $1,000,000,000, and the direct or indirect cost of the liquor traffic must be greater.—*N. Y. Tribune*

Do You Want to Make Money?

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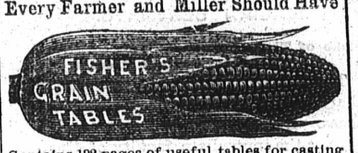

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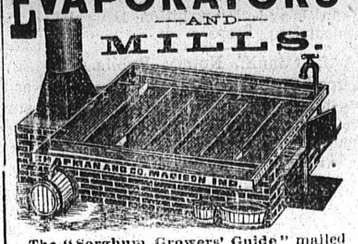

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