

The Haskell Free Press.

Vol. 13.

Haskell, Haskell County, Texas, Saturday, April 23, 1898.

No. 17.

Professional Cards.

A. C. FOSTER. S. W. SCOTT
FOSTER & SCOTT.
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law.

Civil practice exclusively, with special attention to land litigation.
Practice in all the courts and transact a general land agency business. Have complete abstract of Haskell county land titles.
Notary in Office.

H. G. McCONNELL,
Attorney at Law,
HASKELL, TEXAS.

OSCAR MARTIN,
Attorney at Law,
HASKELL, TEXAS.

E. E. GILBERT,
Physician & Surgeon.
Office at McLemore's Drug store.

J. E. LINDSEY,
Physician & Surgeon,
Office at A. P. McLemore's Drug store.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

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

—On account of the Epworth League conference at Galveston, Apr. 19 to 22, we will sell round trip tickets from Seymour to Galveston and return at \$6.80. Selling dates Apr. 18 and 19. Final limit to return Apr. 23, 1898. L. P. DAVIDSON, Agt.

Notice.

President McKinley has been pushing war preparations lately with all the means and energy at the command of the administration, among other things large quantities of provisions were ordered for provisioning the warships—speaking of provisions should remind Haskell county people that they can save money by buying their groceries at the low prices now prevailing at D. W. COURTWRIGHT & Co's.

Haskell Hardware Store

Wire, Plows, Stocks, Buggies, Harrows, Lumber, Wagons, Hardware, Cultivators, Plow Gear, Steel Shapes, Double Shovels.

PRICES MODERATE. TREATMENT HONORABLE.

SHERRILL BROS. & CO.

Free tuition. We give one or more free scholarships in every county in the U. S. Write us. Will accept notes for tuition or can deposit money in bank until tuition is secured. Car fare paid. No vacation. Satisfactory references. Open for book orders. Cheap books. Send for Address J. F. DRAGONSON, Free of charge. DRAGONSON'S PRACTICAL COLLEGE, Business. Bookkeeping, Short-hand, Typing, etc. The most thorough, practical and progressive schools of the kind in the world, and the best in the South. Taught by teachers, merchants, ministers and others. Four weeks in bookkeeping with an equal to twelve weeks by the old plan. J. F. DRAGONSON, President, is author of DRAGONSON'S NEW SYSTEM of Bookkeeping. "Double Entry Made Easy." Home study. We have prepared for home study books on bookkeeping, penmanship and shorthand. Write for price list "Home Study." DRAGONSON'S PRACTICAL COLLEGE, 112 N. W. 1st St., Minneapolis, Minn. (Mention this paper when writing.)

THE DIE IS CAST.

Congress Acts on the Cuban Question.

Following the submission last week of the presidents message to congress the house passed resolutions authorizing armed intervention by the president in Cuba to bring about peace and the establishment of a stable and permanent government by the Cuban people and authorizing him to use the army and navy of the United States to the full extent necessary to do this.

The democrats and a strong minority of republicans wanted the resolutions to go further and declare the independence of the Cubans and recognize their present government, but Czar Reed and the administration whipped the republican minority into line and the independence clause was cut out.

The resolutions as adopted were sent to the senate for concurrent action, but the majority of the senate was for Cuban independence and rejected the house resolutions and, after a debate of two or three days, passed resolutions embodying a declaration to that effect. The senate resolutions were in turn sent to the house for concurrent action but were rejected by that body.

Conference committees were then appointed by both bodies to meet and bring about a compromise between them.

Two reports were made by the committees to the respective bodies without effect, each standing firm for the resolutions as adopted by it. It looked as if the matter was coming to a deadlock between them and stand indefinitely, but prompt action was deemed imperative and on the third conference a compromise was reached by the house agreeing to allow the words "are and" in first clause to remain and the senate agreeing to the elimination of the latter part of the same clause, reading, "and that the government of the United States hereby recognizes the republic of Cuba as the true and lawful government of that island."

The resolutions reading as follows were then at 1:15 a. m. adopted by both houses:

RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas, the abhorrent conditions which have existed for more than three years in the island of Cuba, so near our borders, have shocked the moral sense of the people of the United States, have been a disgrace to Christian civilization, culminating as they have in the destruction of a United States battleship with 266 of its officers and crew, while on a friendly visit to the harbor of Havana and longer be endured, as set forth by the president of the United States in his message to congress on April 11, 1898 upon which the action of Congress was invited; therefore,

Resolved by the senate and the house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled:

1. That the people of the island of Cuba are, and of right ought to be free and independent.

2. That it is the duty of the United States to demand, and the government of the United States does hereby demand, that the government of Spain at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters.

3. That the president of the United States be, and he is hereby directed and empowered, to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States and to call into the active service of the United States the militia of the several states to such extent as may be necessary to carry these resolutions into effect.

4. That the United States hereby disclaim any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over said island, except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination when that is accomplished, to leave the government and control of the island to its people.

If these resolutions are carried out in accordance with the intention of congress in conferring the power on the president and in harmony with the desire of the people of this country the freedom and independence of the Cubans will perhaps be secured



War! War!

We hereby declare war on all competition whether at home or at the railroad, and we are fully armed and equipped for the campaign. We are armed with low prices and equipped with a big lot of good merchandise, which constitute an invincible combination.

Our Dry Goods Department

Covers many of the standard and leading brands in the staple goods, such as CALICOES, DOMESTICS, SHIRTINGS, SHEETINGS, CHECKS, GINGHAMS, COTTON FLANNELS, JEANS, ETC.

IN LADIES DRESS GOODS

We have all the latest fabrics in the most stylish Designs Colors, Tones and Tints produced by weaver's and deyer's art for clothing the ladies according to the latest dictates of fashion. These goods are too varied to permit of enumeration here, we content ourselves with extending to you a cordial invitation to come and see them and let us tell you the prices.

OUR NOTION AND LADIES FURNISHING DEPARTMENT covers everything usually wanted by a lady in these lines.



Millinery Department

This is fully up to date, far surpassing our previous efforts in this line. Our milliner, Mrs. Martin, spent four weeks in a wholesale millinery and trimming house posting herself on the latest ideas in these lines and, meantime, selecting the best and most stylish goods for our present stock as they came in from New York, the recognized headquarters for millinery goods and styles. An examination of these goods is all we ask of the ladies—they will buy fast enough after seeing them.

Our Line of Gentlemen's Clothing

tops any stock yet shown in Haskell in variety and quality of material as well as in style and finish of complete suits. Gentlemen are invited to call and look these goods over, learn our prices and then dress up in the best of style cheaper than they ever did before.



Our Boot and Shoe Department

is equally up to date in all the latest styles, shapes and colors. Besides the regular line there are various

STYLES { Sandals, Opera Slippers, Newport Ties, Oxford Ties, Etc. COLORS { Tan, Chocolate, Oxblood, Purple, Green.

Variegated shades with silk plush tops and plaid silk hose to match. They are the latest wrinkle.

GROCERY DEPARTMENT:

We have improved this department a good deal and shall endeavor to keep it fully stocked up with choice staple and fancy family groceries, so that you can't do better than by coming to see us when you want something to eat.

We are also carrying a select stock of

CUTLERY, GLASSWARE, QUEENSWARE, STONEWARE, TINWARE, ETC.

AS STATED ABOVE,

it is war—war on high prices. Come and catch the bargains as we hack them down is what we ask of you.

Yours, in the middle-of-the-road for business

CARNEY & MOKEE.

as effectually as if Cuban independence had been declared in advance, for the common understanding is that Spain shall leave the island, bag and baggage, while the United States forces maintain peace and order during the time the Cubans are organizing a government and getting it into successful operation. Wednesday's papers following the passage of the joint resolutions at 1:15 a. m. Tuesday, stated that the president was preparing his ultimatum to Spain based on the resolutions. The exact terms of the ultimatum will probably not be made known, for diplomatic reasons, until Spain's reply is received. However, a member of the cabinet who had been in consultation with the president in determining its terms is reported as saying: "The ultimatum has been agreed upon in substance. I think you are safe in saying that Spain will be given 48 hours to submit her reply. The president will demand that Spain shall evacuate the island. The demand for this will be flat-footed and absolute and not tentative or half way reply will satisfy the president. Nor will any compromise that contemplates the withdrawal of Spain's troops and the subsequent re-establishment of Spanish control over the island be accepted. If Spain refuses to evacuate Cuba prompt measures will be adopted to put in force the congressional resolutions. Most likely Cuba will be blockaded at once. There are an adequate number of war vessels in the vicinity to make this effective. Adequate equipment and supplies will be sent to Gomez, who will harass the Spanish forces on the rear and they will soon be brought to terms."

THE BEST WHY

to get back the health that is gradually slipping away, is to use Parker's Ginger Tonic in time. Read what Mrs. H. Bozert, Brooklyn, N. Y. writes: "For a long time I was troubled with pains in my chest, back and limbs, and with distress in my stomach. I could eat nothing but toast in tea without great suffering and my doctors could not help me. I was so weak and in such pain I had to take my bed, where I spent days and nights of misery. When I tried Parker's Ginger Tonic it proved a grateful restorative and from its use I soon found I could eat and enjoy any food. I continued to gain as I used it, and now, after taking only a few bottles I feel entirely well."

BEAUTIFUL HAIR

with its youthful color, is what Parker's Hair Balm greatly excels in producing.

—Elsewhere in this issue of the FREE PRESS will be found a call signed by several farmers which, we think, should challenge the attention and receive the hearty support of every farmer in Haskell county. It is for a meeting to organize a Farmers Institute. The FREE PRESS is firmly of the opinion that the farmers of this organization of very great benefit to themselves. No one knows so much but what they may learn from the experience of others, and we believe the exchange of experiences as to what are the best crops, the methods of planting, cultivating, etc., will be particularly beneficial in a new country like this.

—600 pairs of ladies', misses' and children's slippers and sandals at bargain prices, 30 to 50 per cent under regular prices. Don't miss this chance.

F. G. ALEXANDER & Co.

The die is cast. Spain has been requested to get out of Cuba. She replies that she won't do it. Uncle Sam says she shall go. Sight 'em straight boys, remember the Maine, —and plug it to 'em.

The Sure La Grippe Cure

There is no use suffering from this dreadful malady if you will only get the right remedy. You are having pain all through your body, your liver is out of order, have no appetite, no life or ambition, have a bad cold, in fact are completely used up. Electric Bitters are the only remedy that will give you prompt and sure relief. They act directly on your Liver, Stomach and Kidneys, tone up the whole system and make you feel like a new being. They are guaranteed to cure or price refunded. For sale at A. P. McLemore's drug store, only 50c per bottle.



Parker's Ginger Tonic.

The best medicine known are combined in Parker's Ginger Tonic, into a medicine of such varied and effective powers, as to cure the greatest Blood Purifier and Kidney Corrector and the Best Health and Strength Restorer Ever Used. It cures Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, and all diseases of the Stomach, Bowels, Lungs, Liver, Urinary Organs, and all Female Complaints. And is the Best and Surest Cough Cure Ever Used. If you are wasting away with Consumption or any disease, use the Tonic today it will surely help you. Remember This Tonic is the best Family Medicine ever made, and is far superior to others. Presence of Ginger, and other Tonic. Any dealer in drugs can supply you with all the Tonic you wish without signature of Blasco & Co., Chemists, Long Island City, N. Y.

SKIN DISEASES

Piles, Eczema, Tetter, Burns, Chapped Skin, Blisters, Scalds, Chills, Head Aches, Dizziness, Eruptions and all Skin Troubles cured by Greave's Ointment, the best skin remedy in the world. 50c. Ask your Druggist for it.

50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

PATENTS

ANYONE sending a sketch and describing it quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is new. We issue Patents in all countries. Patents taken through our office. No fee until secured. Special notice, without charge, in the Scientific American.

A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms: \$3 a year, four months, \$1. Sold by all newsdealers. MUNN & Co., 361 Broadway, New York. Branch Office, 255 F St., Washington, D. C.

Young People.

FREE: \$20.00 IN GOLD, Bicycles, Diamond Rings, or a Scholarship in College or a Practical Business Course. Write for particulars. A scholarship in any of these institutions, or a college or literary school in the U. S., can be secured by doing a little work at home for the Young People's Advocate, an illustrated semi-monthly journal. It is elevating in character, moral in tone, and especially interesting and profitable to young people, but read with interest and profit by people of all ages. Stories and other interesting matter well illustrated. Sample copies sent free. Agents wanted. Address Young People's Advocate Pub. Co., Nashville, Tenn. (Mention this paper.)

THE GREATEST BOOK OF THE AGE!

Should be in Every Home and Library.

The People's Bible History

Written by Right Hon. William Westcott, D.D., Dean of Exeter, and Right Hon. Charles Johnson, D.D., Dean of Salisbury. The People's Bible History is a complete and accurate history of the Bible, from the beginning of the world to the present time. It is written in a simple and interesting style, and is suitable for reading by all classes of people. It is a valuable addition to every home and library. Price, 25c. Sold by all booksellers and by the publishers, Messrs. Wm. B. Eerdmans, Grand Rapids, Mich.

BLOOD POISONING.

A Nurse's Experience.

There are thousands of people suffering from blood poisoning who have almost forgotten themselves in buying medicines which they have obtained no help from. There are thousands of others who first of all have tried Dr. Ayer's Sarsaparilla and found perfect relief. One of these, Mrs. A. P. Taylor, of Englewood, Mass., relates the following experience:

"About two years ago, I nursed a lady who was suffering (and finally died) from blood poisoning. I must have contracted the disease from her, for shortly after her death, I had four large sores on my neck, break out on my person. I doctored for a long time, but with external application of all the various blood medicines; but, in vain. At last, I purchased six bottles of Dr. Ayer's Sarsaparilla, thinking I would give it a thorough trial. Before the first bottle was taken, I noticed a decided improvement in my general health. My appetite was quickened, and I felt better and stronger than I had for some time. While using the second bottle, I noticed that the sores had begun to look healthier and to heal. Before the six bottles had been taken, the sores were healed, and my skin seemed as natural, and my health better than it has been for years. I have had no return of the disease. I have since used a bottle of Dr. Ayer's Sarsaparilla than three of any other kind."

This is but one example of the remedial value of Dr. Ayer's Sarsaparilla in all forms of blood disease. There is no other blood medicine that cures so promptly, so surely, and so thoroughly. After nearly half a century of test and trial, it is the standard medicine for all diseases of the blood, such as, eczema, psoriasis, rheumatism, scrofula, and every other blood disease is curable by Dr. Ayer's Sarsaparilla. The success of this remedy has caused many imitations to be put on the market. Beware of cheap imitations. The universal testimony is that "one bottle of Dr. Ayer's Sarsaparilla is worth three of any other kind." If you are interested in knowing more about this remedy, get Dr. Ayer's Sarsaparilla story of cure for blood poisoning. It is sent free on request by the C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass. Write for it.

KEPT IN THE FAMILY.

REAL ESTATE VENTURES OF PARENTS AND CHILDREN.

Each Went His Own Gait, and Each Member of the Band Seemed Accomplished in the Art of Living on Would-Be Purchasers.

From the Chicago Daily News: As we were waiting at Palmer's Junction, which was simply a rough shed for passengers and freight, with a sod house forty rods away, a young man came out of the latter place, approached us, and said to the colonel: "If you want any city lots in this town, to-day is the time to buy. I'll give you your pick of 1,000 lots for \$10."

"Where is the town?" asked the colonel, as he looked around.

"It's all staked out right enough, but it's got to have time to grow. The lots which are \$10 to-day will be \$50 next week."

He talked and argued for some time, but no one cared to invest. When he realized that his mission was useless, he said:

"Well, I'd like you to promise me not to stop at Cyclone City, ten miles down the line."

"What is there?" asked the colonel.

"Just the same as here, only that the dad's boom-town. He's got sixty acres of land out in city lots and will lie to you faster than a hot air balloon. He's the biggest liar in all the state, and it's my duty to warn you sign him."

The colonel promised not to stop; the young man looked pleased, and continued:

"An old man beyond dad's town is Sylvan Dell. That's his boom-town, and if you stop there, she'll swindle you out of every cent you've got. She's got sixty acres of land all staked out in city lots, but she ain't worth a dollar apiece. It's right on the prairie, with no dell to it, and she'll never give you any settlers there except wolves. Just take my advice and keep clear of 'em. She'd beat a blind man under his last cent."

He was told that there was no likelihood of his stopping at Sylvan Dell, and he grew more excited as he said: "Seven miles beyond that is Goldenville. That's my sister Sal's boom-town. She's got forty acres of land all staked out, and the way she does it is to folks is a caution. She's a talker and she'll talk that if you get off the train you'll be gone. Dad will beat you and man will swindle you, but Sal won't leave you money 'nuff to buy a cigar. She's my sister, but it's my duty to tell the truth."

"Have you any more relatives in the real estate business around here?" asked the colonel.

"Yes, sir; and was just going to tell you about my brother Jim. He's at Empire City, four miles beyond Sal's town. He's got fifty acres of land all staked out, and he kin lie for three straight weeks and never get husky. If he can't persuade you to buy by lying and deceiving, he'll shoot ye dead and rob yer corpse."

"This seems to be a family affair."

"That's what it is, sir—a family affair. Dad was so plucky mean—and man was such a liar—and Sal was so dogged."

"But about yourself?" interrupted the colonel.

"Well, sir," replied the young man, as he scratched the back of his head and scaped his toes along the planks, "I had and mam and Sal and Jim kin say agin me is that I stole this land from the state and hev sold the lots three or four times over, and that I'm trying to steal four more counties and set up a state for myself!"

THE CAUSE OF DYSPEPSIA.

From the Republic, Scranton, Pa.: The primary cause of dyspepsia is lack of vitality, the absence of nerve force, the loss of the life-sustaining elements of the blood, and the consequent inability of the stomach when the source of nutriment fails. When the stomach is robbed of the nourishment demanded by nature, assimilation ceases, and the waste products of the entire system respond to the disorder.

A practical illustration of the symptoms of dyspepsia is furnished by the case of Joseph T. Vandyske, 440 Hickory St., Scranton, Pa.

In telling his story, Mr. Vandyske says: "Five years ago, I was afflicted with a trouble of the stomach, which was very aggravating. I had no appetite, and I could not enjoy myself at any time, and, especially, I had no sleep. I was so nervous and so restless that I could not sleep in the morning. I did not know what the ailment was, and I was getting worse and worse and I was in constant misery."

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THE TWENTY-THIRD CENTURY.

The 20th century will begin Jan. 1st, 1901, and end with 2000. People did not reckon time from A. D. 1, but waited until about the 50th year of the Christian era. People who begin to take Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, immediately after the outbreak of dyspepsia or kidney trouble, will date their cure from then.

When a man falls in love, he isn't worth anything until he is married.

Mrs. Winslow's Office System

Well behaved people are always imposed upon.

Star Tobacco is the leading brand of the world, because it is the best.

A fat man doesn't care to be told that he is smart, or good looking.

FIBROID TUMOR CONQUERED.

Expelled by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound—Strong Statement from Mrs. B. A. Lombard.

One of the greatest triumphs of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is the conquering of woman's dread enemy, Fibroid Tumor.

The growth of these tumors is so slow that frequently their presence is not suspected until they are far advanced.

So-called "wandering pains" may come from its early stages, or the presence of danger may be made manifest by excessive menstruation accompanied by unusual pain extending from the ovaries down the groin and thighs.

If you have mysterious pains, if there are indications of inflammation or displacement, don't wait for time to confirm your fears and go through the horrors of a hospital operation; secure Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound right away and begin its use.

Mrs. Pinkham, of Lynn, Mass., will give you her advice free of all charge if you will write her about yourself. Your letter will be seen by women only, and you need have no hesitation about being perfectly frank.

Read what Mrs. B. A. Lombard, Box 71, Westfield, Mass., says:

"I have reason to think that I would not believe now if I had not been for Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It cured me of a fibroid tumor in my womb. Doctors could do nothing for me, and they could not care me at the hospital. I will tell you about it. I had been in my usual health, but had worried quite hard. When my monthly period came on I flowed very badly. The doctor gave me medicine, but it did me no good. He said the flow must be stopped if possible, and he must find the cause of my trouble. Upon examination he found there was a fibroid tumor in my womb, and gave me treatment without any benefit whatever. About that time a lady called on me and recommended Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, said she owed her life to it. I said I would try it, and did. Soon after the flow became more natural and regular. I still continued taking the Compound for some time. Then the doctor made an examination again, and found everything all right. The tumor had passed away, and that dull ache was gone."



TOWER'S FISH BRAND SLICKER

WILL KEEP YOU DRY.

Don't be fooled with a makeshift or rubber coat. If you want a coat that will keep you dry in any weather, get Tower's Fish Brand Slicker. It is not for sale in your own town, write for catalogue to A. J. TOWER, Boston, Mass.

HE PAYS

THE FRIGHT, BEST SCALES, LEAST MONEY. JONES OF BINGHAMTON, N.Y.

TEXAS LADIES

Don't Lie. *What's the Name?*

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Ice Blazes in Kansas.

When Doniphan lake, in Kansas, is covered with ice the boys and girls can make a blaze at any time by making a hole in the ice and holding a lighted match to it. Instantly a jet of flame will issue from the hole in the air and will burn brightly for some minutes. This is because large quantities of natural gas bubble up from the bed of the lake and are held under the surface of the ice. In some parts of the lake the gas supply is so great that it prevents ice from forming except in the coldest weather. It is not an uncommon practice for skaters on the lake to make a small hole in the ice, light the gas and warm their fingers at the blaze, which in exceptional cases will continue to flicker for hours.

Educate Your Bowels With Cascarets.

Candy Cathartic, cure constipation forever. 10c. 25c. If C. C. Co. druggists refund money.

If a man has money, it is a sign that he is mighty careful with it.

Headache Quickly Cured.

Dr. Davis' Anti-Headache never fails, 25c

The men who made money on wheat are so smart.

A Missionary Medicine.

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FAVORS INTERVENTION.

PRESIDENT ASKS CONGRESS FOR PLENARY POWER.

He Says That the Destruction of the Maine is Ample Justification for Intervention.

Washington, April 12.—An informal meeting of a majority of the members of the cabinet was held shortly after 10 o'clock. Together they went over the situation and outlook again very thoroughly and talked over the most recent action of the Spanish government. No new developments in the matter were brought up. Nothing occurred to change the Spanish-Cuban situation in any important particular.

The president's message was sent to congress on Monday, along with consular reports. The information that Spain had proclaimed a cessation of hostilities on the island did not have any effect of materially changing the president's message as originally prepared, except that it furnished important evidence in support of his contention that discretionary power in some measure should be given to the president in the use of force to compel peace.

As soon as congress met the president sent in his message and it was read in both houses. The following is a synopsis of the message:

"Obedient to the precept of our constitution which commands the president to give from time to time to congress information of the state of the union, and to recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient, it becomes my duty now to address your body with regard to a grave crisis that has arisen in the relations of the United States and Spain by reason of warfare that for more than three years has raged in the neighboring island of Cuba. I do so because of the intimate connection of the Cuban question with the state of our own union, and the grave relations of the course which is now incumbent upon our nation to adopt, must needs bear to the traditional policy of our government if it is to accord with the precepts laid down by the founders of the government and religiously observed by succeeding administrations, to the present day.

"The present revolution is but the successor of other similar insurrections which have occurred in Cuba against the domination of Spain, extending over a period of nearly half a century, each of which during its progress has subjected the United States to great effort and expense in enforcing its neutrality laws, caused enormous losses to American trade and commerce, caused irritation, annoyance and disturbance among our citizens, and by the exercise of cruel, barbarous and uncivilized practices of warfare shocked the sensibilities and offended the human sympathies of our people."

The president then detailed at length the events in Cuba since the revolution began in February, 1895. "Since then," he said, "our trade has suffered; capital invested by our citizens has been largely lost and the temper and forbearance of our people had been sorely tried as to beget perilous unrest among our own citizens, which inevitably found its expression from time to time in the national legislature. The efforts and failures of this and previous administrations to secure peace through the intervention of this government in any way that might tend to an honorable adjustment of the contest between Spain and her revolted colony of Cuba on a basis of some effective scheme of self government for Cuba under the flag and sovereignty of Spain is told of." The policy of devastation and concentration of pacifics inaugurated by Captain General Weyler with its terrible results was touched on and means taken by this government to allay the suffering of the reconquered provinces recounted. The president then, after mentioning the change of administration in Spain resulting from the assassination of Prime Minister Canovas, said:

"The overtures of this government, made through its new envoy, General Woodford, and looking to an immediate and an effective amelioration of the condition of the island, although not accepted to the extent of admitted mediation in any shape, were met by assurances of home rule in an advanced phase would be forthwith offered Cuba without waiting for war to end, and that more humane methods should thenceforth prevail in the conduct of hostilities."

Continuing, the message read: "The war in Cuba is of such a nature that short of subjugation or extermination final military victory for either side seems practicable. The alternative lines in physical exhaustion of one or the other party or perhaps both. Prospects of such protraction and conclusion of the present strife is a contingency hardly to be contemplated with equanimity by the civilized world, and least of all by the United States, affected and injured as we are, deeply and intimately by its existence.

With this in mind, the president said he submitted on March 27, propositions to the Spanish government looking to an armistice until October 1 for negotiations of peace with the good offices of the president.

"The reply of the Spanish cabinet was received on the night of the 31st ultimo, offering as a means to bring about peace in Cuba to confide the preparations thereof to the insular department, inasmuch as the concurrence of that body would be necessary to reach a final result, it being, however, understood the powers reserved by the constitution to the central government were not lessened or diminished. As the Cuban government does not meet until May 4 next, the Spanish government would not object for its part to accept at once suspension of hostilities, if asked for by the insurgents, from general-in-chief, to whom it would pertain, in such case, to determine the

ration and conditions of the armistice. "With this last overture in the direction of immediate peace and its disconcerting receipt by Spain, the executive was brought to end his efforts."

"In my annual message of December last I said:

"Of untried measures there remains the recognition of insurgents as belligerents; the recommendation of the independence of Cuba; neutral intervention."

"To end the war by imposing rational compromise between the contestants and intervention in favor of one or the other party, I speak not of forcible annexation, for that cannot be thought of. That by our code of morality would be criminal aggression.

"Thereupon I reviewed these alternatives in the light of President Grant's measured words, uttered in 1875, when after several years sanguinary, destructive and cruel barbarities in Cuba, he reached the conclusion of recognition of independence for Cuba impracticable and indefensible, and that recognition of belligerents was not warranted by facts according to test of public law. I commented especially upon the latter aspect of the question, pointing out the inconvenience and positive danger of the recognition of belligerence which, while adding to the already onerous burdens of neutrality within our own jurisdiction, could not in any way extend our influence or effective offices in the territory of hostilities. Nothing since has occurred to change my views in this regard. I recognize as fully now as then that the issuance of a proclamation of neutrality, by which process the so-called recognition of belligerence published could, of itself, and unattended by other action, accomplish nothing toward the one end for which we labor, the instant pacification of Cuba and the cessation of misery that afflicts the island."

Turning to the question of recognizing the independence of the present insurgent government of Cuba the president took as precedent President Jackson's message to congress, Dec. 21, 1836, on the subject of the recognition of the independence of Texas.

President McKinley continued:

"In the contest between Spain and the revolted colonies we stood aloof and waited not only until the ability of the new states to protect themselves was fully established, but until the danger of their being again subjugated had entirely passed away. Then, and not until then, were they recognized. Such was our course in regard to Mexico herself.

"It is true that with regard to Texas the civil authority of Mexico had been expelled, its invading army defeated, the chief of the republic himself captured and all present power to control the newly organized government of Texas annihilated within its confines. But on the other hand there was, in appearance at least, an immense disparity of physical force on the side of Texas. The Mexican republic, under another executive, was rallying his forces under a new leader, and menacing fresh invasion to recover its lost domain.

"Upon the issue of this threatened invasion, the independence of Texas may be considered as suspended, and there is nothing peculiar in the situation of the United States and Texas, our acknowledgment of its independence at such a crisis could scarcely be regarded as consistent with that prudent reserve with which we have hitherto held ourselves bound to treat all similar questions.

The message added:

"Spain's decree for the suspension of hostilities are submitted to congress for a just and careful attention with the observation that if the measure attains successful results, then our aspirations as a peace loving people will be realized. If it fails it will only be another justification for our contemplated action."

The Maine incident figures prominently in the message. The president argues that the wrecking of the Maine in Havana harbor shows Spain is not able to guarantee security to foreign vessels. Spain has disavowed any connection with that disaster, and has offered to submit to arbitration all differences that may arise from that affair.

The president said that from any standpoint of expediency does he think it would be wise or prudent for this government to recognize at the present time the independence of the so-called Cuban republic. Such recognition he said, was not necessary to appease the United States to intervene and pacify the island. On this subject the president said:

"To commit this country now to the recognition of any particular government in Cuba might subject us to embarrassing conditions of international obligation toward the organization so recognized. In case of intervention our conduct would be subject to approval or disapproval of such government; we would be required to submit to its direction and to assume to it all relations of friendly ally. When it shall appear hereafter that there is within the island a government capable of performing duties and discharging functions of a separate nation and having as a matter of fact, proper forms and attributes of such nationality, such government can be properly and readily recognized.

"The ground for such intervention may be briefly summarized as follows:

"First, in the cause of humanity and to put an end to the barbarities, bloodshed, starvation and horrible miseries now existing there, and which parties to the conflict are either unable or unwilling to stop or mitigate. It is no answer to say this is all in another country, belonging to another nation, and is therefore none of our business. It is, specially our duty, for it is right at our doors.

"Second, we owe it to our citizens in Cuba to afford them that protection and an indemnity for life and property which no government there can or will afford, and to that end to determine

the conditions that deprive them of local protection.

"Third, the right to intervene may be justified by very serious injury to commerce, trade and business interests of our people and by the wanton destruction of property and devastation of the island.

"Fourth, and what is of the utmost importance, the present conditions of affairs in Cuba is a constant menace to our peace, and entails upon this government an enormous expense.

"These elements of danger and disorder already pointed out have been strikingly illustrated by the tragic event which has deeply and justly moved the American people."

"I have already transmitted to congress the report of the naval board of inquiry on the destruction of the battleship Maine in the harbor of Havana during the night of Feb. 15. The destruction of that noble vessel filled the national heart with inexpressible horror.

"The naval court of inquiry, which, it is needless to say, commands the unqualified confidence of the government, is unanimous in its conclusion that the destruction of the Maine was caused by an exterior explosion, that of a submarine mine. It did not assume to place the responsibility. That remains to be fixed.

"In any event the destruction of the Maine, by whatever exterior cause, is potent and impressive proof of the state of things in Cuba that are intolerable. That condition thus shown to be such that the Spanish government cannot assure safety and security to vessels of the American navy in the harbor of Havana on a mission of peace and rightfully there.

"Spain had asked this government to submit the Maine question to arbitration for settlement," but president McKinley declared he had made no reply to this message.

In closing, the message read:

"The long trial has proved that the object for which Spain has waged war cannot be attained. The fire of insurrection may flame or may smoulder with varying seasons, but it has not been, and it is plain that it cannot be extinguished by the present methods. The only hope of relief and repose from conditions which cannot be longer endured, is the enforced pacification in Cuba. In the name of humanity; in the name of civilization, in behalf of endangered American interests which give us the right and duty to speak and act, the war in Cuba must stop.

"In view of these facts and these considerations, I ask congress to authorize and empower the president to take measures to secure full termination of hostilities between the government of Spain and the people of Cuba and to secure in the island the establishment of a stable government capable of obtaining order and observing its international obligations, insuring peace and tranquility, and securing to its citizens as well as our own, and to use the naval and military forces of the United States, as may be necessary for these purposes, and in the interest of humanity, to aid in preserving the lives of the starving people of the island. I recommend that he distribute of foods and supplies be continued, and that an appropriation out of the public treasury supplement the charity of our citizens.

"The situation is now with congress. It is a solemn responsibility. I have exhausted every effort to relieve the intolerable condition of affairs which is at our doors. I am prepared to execute every obligation imposed on me by the constitution and law. I await your attention.

"Yesterday and since the preparation of the foregoing message official information was received by me that the latest decree of the queen regent of Spain directs General Blanco, in order to prepare and facilitate peace, to proclaim suspension of hostilities, details of which have not been communicated to me. This fact, with every other consideration will, I am sure, have your just and careful attention in solemn deliberations upon which you are about to enter. If this measure attains a successful result, then our aspirations as a Christian, peace loving people will be realized. If it fails it will be the only other justification for our contemplated action."

Mr. Lyons—Occasionally it is, the way it is right now it is considerable of a drawback, but for several winters past we have experienced very little difficulty in that regard.

Q.—I would like to ask this question: Mr. Lyons, in his remarks, rather depreciating the use of the hand separator. Wouldn't the use of hand separators in furnishing cream to the creameries obviate some of the difficulty of bad roads? You would not have to carry so much stuff to the creamery.

Mr. Lyons—In Southern Illinois the farmers will come to town any day, and the creameries are not far apart. I cannot see where the advantages come in.

Q.—What is your objection to the hand separator?

Mr. Lyons—The objection would have to drive around and collect the cream.

Q.—What is the objection from the farmer's standpoint?

Mr. Lyons—One of the great objections would be the expense of collecting the milk. The farmer's expense in hauling the milk is not to be compared with the creamery's expense in going after it. The creamery man has to pay two or three dollars for a team and driver, when many times the farmer's teams are idle and can do it much cheaper than the creamery man. The expense comes out of the farmer in the end, and I claim the present plan would be more successful.

Q.—How about in the summer?

Mr. Lyons—In our experience the milk for many of the creameries in Southern Illinois is brought in by the young people, children, and old people that are not very serviceable on the farm, and thus it is done with very little expense. Suppose half a dozen farmers club together in a locality. Of

DAIRY AND POULTRY.

INTERESTING CHAPTERS FOR OUR RURAL READERS.

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

A Profitable Flock.

At no time in the more than twenty-five years that I have been writing for the agricultural papers has there been as much interest shown in and so many questions asked about the care and management of poultry as now, says a writer in Home and Farm. I believe that one reason for this is that during the years of low prices for the crops the farmers who kept poultry are expected to feel that they are getting a good thing out of it. They paid the grocery bills easily and that a hundred or more dollars could be made from poultry easier than from any other product of the farm. One reason why so many farmers fail to appreciate the profit from poultry is that no account is kept with the hens and no credits given, and the average farmer could not give an intelligent guess as to what it costs to keep a hen a year or tell whether she paid for her feed or not. On many farms the poultry is neither fed nor watered, but is expected to forage and steal from hogs and other stock what they can, and they get no care except from the farmer's wife, who already has more duties than it is possible for her to attend to properly.

For several years past I have taken all the care of my poultry, and I have fed them as regularly as I do my work teams, and have seen that they had plenty of pure, fresh water to drink. I feed them winter and summer and change two or three times a day in summer and that they have had grit and a dust bath accessible at all times. The result has been that I have had eggs in abundance. In 1897 I kept 120 Plymouth Rock hens and thirty-three laying Pekin ducks. We raised nearly 200 ducks and 150 chickens. I cannot give the exact cost of feed, for we fed two kinds of pigs from the same kind of litter and bran that the poultry was fed from, but I estimate that we fed our poultry about 500 bushels of corn and about two tons of bran and \$10 worth of special food, such as bone meal, meat meal and oil meal, and in addition large quantities of lettuce and cabbage, which cost but little, as we can grow 150 pounds of lettuce to the square rod, and we only feed the unmerchantable cabbage after marketing the salable heads. It is a liberal estimate that our feed cost \$50. Corn selling at 17 cents a bushel and bran at \$5.50 per ton. Our sales for the year from the poultry were \$286.46, but about \$120 of this was from eggs for hatching, which were packed carefully and sent by express, and this source of profit would not be available to farmers generally. One hundred dollars worth of eggs were sold at market prices to the grocery, and these were sold at from 7 cents per dozen to 20 cents, but not many at either of these extreme prices, but the average was not far from 10 cents a dozen, and we sold \$63.78 worth of poultry, mostly ducks. It will be seen that we sold \$163.78 worth of poultry products at ordinary prices, and if the eggs sold for hatching had been sold in the market instead of for hatching our sales would have been just about \$180, instead of \$286. And in showing that poultry is profitable this smaller sum is the fair one to consider. The reader will probably conclude that the feed should be deducted from this, leaving \$100 as net profit.

Dairying in Southern Illinois.

(Condensed from Farmers' Review Bi-monthly Report of Illinois State Fairmen's Convention.)

L. A. Spies spoke on feeding of dairy cows in southern Illinois. In part he said: The feeding of dairy cows in different localities is influenced most by the kind of feed that grows best in those localities. Southern Illinois has long been noted for its crops of corn.

We have our cows come in fresh in the fall of the year, as we then get our dairy products when they will bring the most money. We have long since quit buying other people's mistakes, and raise our own cows. We train them to be hearty eaters, and develop a sound constitution. I would not dairy without silage, as this makes it possible to have succulent feed all the year round, the very thing necessary for a large flow of milk.

Mr. W. K. Lyons also contributed an interesting paper, which led to the following discussion:

Q.—I would like to ask if the bad condition of the roads for quite a portion of the year isn't quite a drawback to dairying in this section?

Mr. Lyons—Occasionally it is, the way it is right now it is considerable of a drawback, but for several winters past we have experienced very little difficulty in that regard.

Q.—I would like to ask this question: Mr. Lyons, in his remarks, rather depreciating the use of the hand separator. Wouldn't the use of hand separators in furnishing cream to the creameries obviate some of the difficulty of bad roads? You would not have to carry so much stuff to the creamery.

Mr. Lyons—In Southern Illinois the farmers will come to town any day, and the creameries are not far apart. I cannot see where the advantages come in.

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Q.—How about in the summer?

Mr. Lyons—In our experience the milk for many of the creameries in Southern Illinois is brought in by the young people, children, and old people that are not very serviceable on the farm, and thus it is done with very little expense. Suppose half a dozen farmers club together in a locality. Of

course the one that comes in less half a day, but how often does that happen? Only once a week, and he must come to town for supplies occasionally. Of course where farmers are within a mile of the creamery it takes only a small portion of time.

Q.—You do not mean to say that the milk is delivered only once a week?

Mr. Lyons—I mean that where half a dozen farmers club together one needs to come only once a week.

Q.—I am not interested in this matter at all; but it strikes me very forcibly that I can see a great objection to it. It is utterly impossible for a man to operate fifty machines as well as he can one. If this gentleman has fifty or seventy-five patrons the use of hand separators would thus necessitate fifty or seventy-five machines instead of one. The difference in the expense is great.

Mr. Lyons—The idea of the hand separator is that the farmer has one himself.

Q.—That doesn't change the matter. He has to make the investment and keep it in order. In your creamery you operate one or two machines. In the other case you have seventy-five. No two farmers will operate the same machine alike, one will operate it right and one wrong.

Dairying for the Arid Regions.

From the Canadian line to the coast line of the Gulf of Mexico is a broad strip of territory that has afforded a more or less uncertain support to the people that inhabit it. Before the advent of the white man this section of country was the feeding ground of millions of buffaloes, which emigrated from section to section as the feed failed. This should have indicated the use to which the land should be put by its new owners. But for a long time the whites tried to raise grain on these old pastures. That the land was rich is not to be disputed, but the water for the crops came not at all or came at the wrong time of year in most cases. Sometimes, however, it came at the right time, resulting in most abundant harvests of high quality grain. At last the farmers in that region have awakened to the fact that the cow is the best friend of that part of the country and the best support on which the inhabitants can lean. This will continue to be the case until the time comes that the region in question can be properly irrigated, when it will again be used for the growing of grain, orchards and vegetables. Till that time we may expect to see dairying the most reliable branch of farming possible to the great semi-arid strip.

Correspondents of the Farmer's Review report that the facilities for that industry are unbounded. Much of the land in such a character that plowing is a positive injury. The correspondent in Ellis county, Kansas, says that he has been plowing his land for twenty years, and believes that it has resulted in great injury. He has known years when the entire plowed soil blew away to the depth of the plowing. A tenant of his has since followed the plan of drilling in the seed in the unplowed stubble and gets better results than had been possible by plowing. In harvesting, only the header is used, the stubble being thus left almost as high as the grain had been. This protects the soil from the work of the winds.

This is another indication that the land should be used for dairy purposes, wherever railroad facilities are sufficient to make a market possible. The blowing away of the soil will be prevented by the grasses of the permanent pasture. In this case the number of permanent pasture grasses would necessarily be small. Alfalfa would in some cases be the only one that would stand through all the varying conditions of the year. With a roof that reaches sometimes 25 feet into the soil for moisture it will be able to stand the most severe drought. This plant is already being very extensively grown over much of this region. It is the forerunner of the dairy cow. The cloudless skies of the semi-arid strip are agreeable to the development of the plant. Kaffir corn also stands as a prominent factor in the dairy development of this section. It will grow where Indian corn will fail, as has been demonstrated in preceding years.

The windmill stands as a third factor in the list. Many farmers are using it to irrigate a few acres each, for the growing of vegetables, even when they have no reservoirs. Some that have reservoirs have been able to irrigate as many as 20 acres. An irrigated land will sustain a greater number of pasturing stock than most any other land. It is readily seen that there are great possibilities before the small dairyman in the far west.

Chicks Feathering.

There is a great difference in the breeds as to the time of the chicks feathering out. Some of the non-setting breeds feather out very quickly and therefore need more attention in the matter of food. This precocity is not desirable, but we must admit that it can not be helped. As the feather takes not carbohydrates, but proteins, for its formation, it is evident that we should give more of this kind of feed to the chicks at the time they are beginning to feather.

The breeds that do not feather out quickly are supposed to stand the process better, for it is the opinion among poultrymen that a chick that feathers slowly is more certain to be raised than the one that feathers out rapidly. This is due to the fact that the process is very weakening, and the chick falls an easy prey to lice and germs of disease.

The Mares—Probably few farmers can well change their stock of mares at once, but those that have any at all fit for breeding should breed them to sire of families in which the quality of transmitting the strains that make them valuable is well established. The mares that are raised from such breeding will be a big improvement on their dams, and should themselves be bred to a sire of the same class as that to which the dam was bred. It is better to have only three or four good mares just enough to do the work of the farm, and breed them in this way, than to have a score producing colts by a half-bred stallion who transmits nothing with certainty other than shabby appearance and a general usefulness for any good purpose.—E.

"WORST IN TWENTY."

HE Portia was plunging along at her m x m m speed of ten knots an hour. The sea beneath and the sky above were both of an oily blackness, and the waves that lifted and pitched the staunch little steamer about seemed but the reflection of the rolling clouds that scurried across the threatening sky under the lash of Boreas.

"Looks like a bad night, captain," Tom ventured.

Tom was a favored passenger. He had shown himself humbly anxious to learn the art of navigation, and evidenced a keen appreciation of such crumbs of nautical knowledge as the officers cared to part with in exchange for Tom's excellent cigars; besides which, he was a good listener. He eagerly drank in their tales of the sea, and generously applauded all of the ancient mariners' jests, old as Father Neptune, with which the captain regaled us. So the officers made him a bon camarade, and the captain patronized him. All of which accounts for Tom's presence on the bridge, where he ostentatiously posed, to be alternately envied and ridiculed by the rest of us less favored passengers.

"Be quiet, nonsense!" the captain replied, loudly enough for some of us to hear "ordinary March weather!"

"If that's the case," Tom replied, "I can only pray never to see a real storm."

"Storm, lad!" cried the captain; "wait till ye see the white-caps lashin' broadsides over the decks, and the boats carried off to leeward—then ye can talk of a storm at sea."

Tom heard us snickering over the snub, and braced himself for the occasion.

"I suppose you've seen some fearful ones, captain," he hazarded, deferentially.

"Oh, nothin' so er—well, ye," the captain replied, a good-natured twinkle lighting his eyes. "Come to think on't, I did see one—a terrible storm, I assure ye."

"Do tell me about it, captain."

We, who were huddled on the hurricane deck, crowded up close to the rail of the bridge, in silent expectation.

"Well, there isn't so much to tell—savin' that that was the only time as I every got very seasick. Oh, we needn't remark upon it; the best of us come so once in a while, and I think I got enough of it then to last a man a lifetime."

"It was a good many years ago. I was only a purser then, a-studyin' navigation. We'd touched for the day at Halifax to unload and take in cargo.

HUNG TO MY BERTH.

I'd put in a pretty hard day on the wharf, and the evening I spent at the "Squadron," samplin' a bottle of port or two, with maybe some Scotch, for good measure.

"We was to sail at break o' day; and about an hour afore it I helped our steward to get aboard, onarsntly reached my own cabin and turned in without much ceremony, but with most of my other clothes on.

"I reckon I'd slept as sweet as a babe for maybe an hour or upwards, when the chug of the drivers woke me. I calkulated as how the sea was gettin' its back up pretty high, but I'd no idee what a storm was on till I see we was rollin' ports under.

"My porthole had been left open and the water slushed in every rolf; it tumbled out and fetched up agin' the upper deck, with one leg out of the porthole, which I mention just to show how she rolled. Of course, the next lurch she gave to port put my bunk below, where the shore should ha' been, and quite nat'rally landed me in it.

"When she fetched back, I tried it agin'; but with no more luck than the trough, but they couldn't roll a sarcumstance to the way that steamer flung about, a-tryin' to keep above water. She acted just like a woman possessed, and the water kept floodin' in at the port, till all of my cabin was just awash.

"I hung to my berth for dear life's sake, a-watchin' my kit a-slushin' about, and then I begun to get seasick. 'Begin, did I say? There was no beginnin'; it jist quite overwhelmed me, and I gave right up—well, most everything. Give up tryin' to close the port, give up my four-dollar lunch ashore, not to mention the wine, but give up all but my hope of dyin'."

"By'm'by I heard a pound at my door, but I hadn't the spirit to answer; and after another poundin' or two, our second mate broke the door in.

"What in—?" ses he.

"Is she fillin'?" ses I.

"Tain't yer fault if she isn't," ses he, a-slammin' my port and closin' it.

"Why in thunder'd you open it?" ses he, a-turnin' on me furious, and then he sees the plight I was in and I thought he'd bust laughin'.

"Nothin' to laugh at in such a storm," ses I, as mad as if scarpin' a maulmatt.

"Storm," ses he. "Where be it? We ain't stirred a foot from Tobin's wharf, and won't till the fog blows out," ses he.

"But the cabin's afloat from the sea," ses I.

"Seas be blowed," ses he, with a grin; "we's jist been scrubbin' the decks down."

SHE MARRIED A V. E.

Ancient Rite Performed by a Bereaved Chinese Bride-Elect.

Miss Hsu, the daughter of a wealthy Chinese nobleman of high military and official rank, figured in a strange and weird ceremony a few months ago, the story of which has just come from the flowery kingdom. It was the result of a young girl's romantic and enduring affection for the memory of her lover, who died suddenly three days before the date set for their marriage. He was the son of the vice chancellor of the Peking Imperial academy, a very famous educational institution, where the only prince received of noble blood.

It was inconceivable, as the state of widowhood, but her father demurred. Somebody suggested another bridegroom might be forthcoming, and, as may readily be missed, at this stage of the proceedings the maiden was in despair. A wise teacher of the Confucian philosophy was consulted, and he recalled to mind the ancient ceremony of marrying to a flower vase. It was a rite of great antiquity, legend attributing its origin to an empress who ruled before the Christian era. So it was decided that the maiden might "marry the red vase." It was necessary, however, to procure the imperial sanction. This the great wealth of Hsu obtained, and the wedding was solemnized. In the procession the vase was carried under a silken canopy on a palanquin borne by youths of noble birth, while the bride followed in another palanquin guarded by twelve virgins and twelve maids. A military guard and a civic escort made up the parade. Many bushels of the small coin known as "cash," about 1,900 of which equal an American dollar, were thrown to the throng of people watching the procession. A banquet was served to the commoners in the public square, the theaters were thrown open and the crackers were discharged necessarily for three days. After the ceremony the bride was escorted to the home of the parents of her betrothed and the vase set up in her boudoir. She will remain all the rest of her life in the palace of the vice chancellor, who is now regarded in the light of her father-in-law. Her bridegroom, the vase, is a specimen of great value and antiquity. Indeed, it is said to excel in delicacy of ornamentation anything of its kind in the flowery kingdom. It is about five feet in height, made of the finest porcelaine, of a deep peacock-blue, and inlaid with gold, spun glass and mother of pearl. It took a skilled artist fifteen years to finish it. All this reads very much like a fairy tale, but the facts of the case, gathered from press dispatches sent to San Francisco, are authenticated by an attaché of the Chinese legation at Washington.

The Trembling Pillar at Rheims.

The famous trembling pillar at Rheims, in France, presents a curious problem to architects. The Church of Saint Nicaise is surrounded with pillars constructed to prevent straining of the walls. At the entrance of the church is a bell tower. On one of the bells in this tower the phenomenon of the trembling pillar depends. When this bell is rung or even touched, the top of this pillar sways. It goes and returns about seven inches on each side, although the base of the pillar is immovable, and the stones are so firmly cemented that it seems like a solid piece of stone. An authority, who states that no satisfactory solution of this peculiarity has been given, writes: "What is very singular is that though the four bells are about the same distances from the trembling pillar, only one of them has any effect upon it. The others may be rung singly or altogether without moving it." In 1775 a little window was made in the roof opposite the pillar. A board was placed on the top of the pillar, and on it were put two glasses of water. Then the bell was rung. Immediately the pillar began to sway, and on the fifth stroke of the bell the two glasses were thrown off. The ringing of this bell has no effect on the pillars below, the phenomenal shaking of the tower, nor on any of the others. But formerly it was the first pillar which swayed, then it became immovable, and some years ago the one next to it became the eccentric one.

Japanese Women.

Naturally there are no figures more perfect than those of the Japanese young women. The children, up to the age of fourteen, or as long as they have the free use of their limbs, are models of symmetry. About that time they begin to fasten long garments about their hips, the effect of which is to impede their gait and give them an awkward shuffle. In course of time it does worse, and interrupts the development of the legs and thighs. Among the laboring class an additional misshaping is accomplished by the practice of carrying burdens from an early age upon the back, for the support of which broad straps are passed over the shoulders and crossed in front, pressing directly on the breasts. When a Japanese girl reaches the age of sixteen without having undergone either of the processes of deformity, she is a wonder to the eye, and remains so until twenty-five, or possibly a little later; then she ceases to charm for a certain period in any way, excepting by her manner, and that is generally preserved to the last. But as she grows old she has a chance of becoming quite delightful again. There is nothing nicer than a dignified and white-haired old Japanese lady. She is always happy, for she is always much respected and cherished by her juniors, and at a certain age the natural high breeding of the race appears in her to attain its crystallization.

Natural Gas in England.

A natural gas well has been bored in Sussex county, England. It was driven driven for water. The odor of gas was noticed during the sinking operations by the workmen, but no attention was paid to it until the gas lighted. It has burned for a long time. It is a decided novelty in England.

Tobacco Consumed in France.

Last year the French consumed over 20,000 tons of tobacco.



We blame our errors on fate, but take credit for our successes ourselves.

All man's best deeds and all his worst can be attributed to the influence of woman.

No wonder the stars are so bright when the astronomers are continually scouring the heavens.

Weyler intimates that if he were near our president he would destroy him. The man has done so little butchering lately that he is wild for blood.

Commodore Letter of Chicago is ready to send a large fleet eastward whenever the warlike enthusiasm of the country brings the price of wheat up to the proper figure.

Many thoughtful persons are beginning to believe that 1898 is yet destined to prove an epochal year in the matter of history-making wars.

That reminds me of a story," said one of a group of men, looking around furtively, "as there are no ladies present."

In the western hemisphere the slaughter of birds has been tremendous, and in this country it has almost annihilated some varieties, and the effect is felt by farmers in some states in the increase of injurious insects.

Lovers of orchestral music in New York find it rather difficult to raise the necessary \$125,000 for a five years' guarantee fund for a permanent orchestra in that city.

An English trade journal thus reports concerning the wheat prospects in continental Europe.

No city in the United States surpasses Philadelphia in the average intelligence and honesty of its citizens.

From a statement made by a Chicago paper, and widely copied, it appears that during the last four years the annual average of murders committed in the United States has exceeded ten thousand.

Nowhere in the south is such contempt shown for the negro as was exhibited for the negro who succeeded in being elected to the office of councilman in Boston.

Mexico doesn't sympathize with Spain in the latter's trouble with the United States, although Spain is Mexico's mother country.

THE SPANISH INQUIRY.

The Report on the Maine Explosion to be Published.

London, April 18.—A Madrid correspondent says:

The situation is identical with that of yesterday, the ministers preserving a waiting attitude. They believe that on Wednesday or Thursday the two houses of congress will have definitely agreed as to their line of action and that the course of events will then depend on President McKinley.

In official circles it is said the Cuban rebels are waiting for the outcome of affairs in the United States before deciding on a line of conduct.

All internal questions are rapidly becoming merged in the external crisis. Many senators and deputies are believed to believe in political circles that the debates in the two chambers will be very brief and that no party of any shade of opinion will refuse to grant the government the fullest financial assistance in case of an international conflict.

The Spanish report on the Maine explosion will be published to-day or to-morrow. It is said to be very technical, but to prove that the disaster originated from an interior cause.

Stringent orders have been issued to the provincial governors to suppress any disturbances of an anti-American character.

Nothing is officially known here yet of the appointment by the Cuban colonial government of any commission to negotiate with the insurgents.

Quiet at Washington.

Washington, April 18.—Yesterday was exceptionally quiet in official circles and on the surface at least there were no new developments in the Spanish situation.

Finished Coaling.

Fort Monroe, Va., April 18.—Commodore Schley's ships had a very quiet Sunday. There was nothing doing on the flagship, the Columbia or the Minneapolis.

Relief Association.

Philadelphia, Pa., April 18.—In response to a call from Rev. Henry C. McCook, pastor of the Tabernacle Presbyterian church, a congregational meeting was held after the regular church services last night and steps were taken toward forming a relief association in view of difficulties between this country and Spain.

Destroyed by Fire.

St. Louis, Mo., April 18.—A fire which broke out Saturday afternoon totally destroyed the grand stand and offices at the league grounds.

Sudden Death.

Guthrie, Ok., April 18.—As Harry O'Brien a contractor on the Sapulpa extension of the Frisco railway attempted to cut open a can of blasting powder by striking it with a pick Saturday it exploded, followed immediately by the explosion of seven cans that had just been opened, burning and lacerating him so badly he died in a few moments.

Will Be Taken to Cuba.

NOT SCARED.

Spain Will Not Yield to Any Pressure of Any Kind.

Washington, April 15.—At last the Spanish minister, Senor Polo, has made final preparations for his departure from Washington, but no actual step in that direction will be taken until specific instructions are received from Madrid.

The Spanish minister had a comparatively quiet Sunday. He said no word had been received here as to the reported negotiation with Gen. Gomez toward his surrender, although there is no disposition to discredit the report.

While recent exchanges of notes was in progress, some of the embassy offices here were open nightly until 3 a. m., receiving and sending cipher dispatches in connection with the effort of the powers to get together.

The Spanish minister received a number of dispatches from Madrid, but they developed no new phases of the question and did not bear out the reports that Spain would seek the good offices of the United States in case the house resolutions became a law.

War Fever Raging.

London, April 18.—A Madrid correspondent says:

Throughout its recent negotiations with the United States with reference to Cuba the Spanish government has never taken a firmer stand than at yesterday's council.

The war fever has been raging many hours. One newspaper alone thinks peace fairly possible.

Great timbers were blown a hundred feet in the air and many of the upper stories of neighboring property were crushed and pierced by the great beams.

No News Given Out.

Washington, April 15.—Gradually the lines are tightening around the news centers of the navy department.

The Loss Will Reach a Quarter of a Million Dollars.

Boston, Mass., April 15.—The roof of the grain elevator at Hoosiac tunnel docks, Charlestown, was blown completely off by a dust explosion at 4 o'clock yesterday morning.

The Attack Deported.

Madrid, April 18.—The Imparcial referring to the attack upon the American consulate at Malaga, deplores the outrage as necessarily calling for apologies and warns the Malagueños against provoking a war, which Spain would avoid if possible.

Arrangements Completed.

Topeka, Kan., April 15.—The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway has completed arrangements for moving east several companies of United States troops which have been stationed at forts in Arizona.

New Librarian.

Guthrie, Ok., April 15.—Gov. Barnes has appointed George H. Dodson, territorial librarian to succeed Edgar W. Jones, resigned.

Great Interest in London.

London, April 15.—There is great interest here in government and commercial circles over the possibility of privateering in the event of war with the United States and Spain.

EVERY CONCESSION.

Has Been Made by Spain in Favor of Peace.

Madrid, April 15.—A correspondent here has had a long interview with Senor Silveira, the conservative leader.

Spain has granted Cuba an autonomous government, full and ample, for home rule, which would be found to be a satisfactory solution of the long existing differences between whether the most ardent homeruleers demand more than Spain has freely granted to Cuba.

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FARM AND STOCK ITEMS.

Kaffir corn will cut a large figure among the crops raised in Childress county this year.

There are nothing but encouraging reports from the wheat crops in the country contiguous to Sherman.

Five cars of stock were recently shipped from Bosque county over the Cotton Belt to Roswell, N. M. They were transferred to the Texas & Pacific at Fort Worth.

Oats and wheat around Vernon are as promising as they have ever been in the history of that section.

All the stock thus far passing through the yards at Fort Worth has shown up in better condition than was anticipated when the movement began.

Some of the stockmen in the Clarendon country are again reporting black leg among their herds.

T. Thompson of Gonzales shipped 1800 head of cattle in three special trains sent here by the San Antonio & Arkansas Pass railway for the Indian Territory pastures.

Sheep shearing about San Angelo has now begun in earnest. Four men alone in that district are now shearing over 15,000 heads.

Since the freeze on the 22d of March the second planting of corn is marching up nicely at Carrollton, Dallas county.

Small fruits in the shape of berries are said to be all right in Donley county, although the big frost made a clean sweep of peaches and plums.

C. J. Miner of Miami brought in from the east recently sixteen registered Hereford bulls.

The cattle in Roberts county are needing grass and water in some sections and are not now in as favorable condition as they were a month since.

How to Strengthen Baskets.

To strengthen basket chairs and clothes baskets they should be soaked in cold water for several hours and then dried in the sun once every six months.

Easy to Tell.

On being asked what letter comes after A we Beth replied quicker: "The one that stings mamma."

New Use for Lawyers.

Etlevant, the anarchist who recently murdered a Paris policeman and wounded two others, has found out a use for lawyers.

Mumors of Stump Speaking.

Spring Medicine

The Necessity and the Remedy

A Safeguard of Health, a Saver of Time and Money.

Health and success may depend upon your taking a good Spring Medicine now. Just at the time when the system needs unusual supplies of energy and vitality to adjust itself to the conditions of this trying season, it is weakened and debilitated, because poorly nourished by impure and over-saturated blood.

It is found in Hood's Sarsaparilla because this great medicine has power to purify, strengthen and vitalize the blood.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is America's Greatest Medicine. Prepared by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Fighting for the Flag.

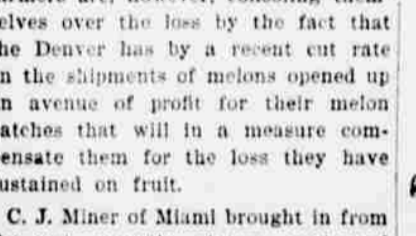
"I'd go to the war in a minute," said the little red-headed man as they sat on the dry goods box in front of the cross-rails store.

A FAMILY MEDICINE.

A SPECIFIC FOR ALL CATARRHAL AFFECTIONS.

An Ideal Spring Remedy—It Cleanses, It Invigorates, It Eradicates Climatic Diseases—It Expurgates From the System All Impurities.

Mrs. F. A. Dixon, assistant editor of the Kansas City, Mo. Spring of Myrtle, had catarrh. Being a woman actively engaged in business it was very annoying.



she experienced great relief. Her husband praises Per-ru-na very highly and says he considers it a good investment to keep it in his home.

Per-ru-na enjoys a national reputation as a catarrh remedy. It is the only systemic catarrh remedy yet devised. A thorough course of Per-ru-na eradicates catarrh from the system.

It will pay to carefully read the descriptive advertisement of Alabastine appearing in this paper, explaining the difference between those goods and Alabastine. Consumers should bear in mind that Alabastine is unlike all the various kalsomines sold on the market under different names.

When a woman chases a man, it makes him think he is a daisy.

Take Constipation Forever.

Don't Tobacco Spit and Smoke Your Life Away.

To Sorethroats and Wives.

One of the navy customs is the Saturday night toast that is drunk by the wardroom officers.

The Sweets and Wives toast is deemed as necessary as the food itself.

Comings amongst the reckless folly of life afloat, the silence, even oppressive indeed, the occasion is, as it were, a brief service of communion with home.

Yea, the words are simple, "Sweets and wives," it runs—"may our wives always be our sweethearts, and our sweethearts soon be our wives."

TEXAS NEWS ITEMS.

A negro named John Harris was shot and instantly killed near Naples, Norfork county, recently.

Oscar Hogwood, dealer in paints at Temple, filed a chattel mortgage for the benefit of creditors. Total indebtedness about \$2600.

A house belonging to H. J. Watkins was destroyed by fire recently at Nevada. The building and contents entire loss. No insurance.

Pablo Gonzales was shot and killed near Rio Grande City recently while resisting arrest by three of W. W. Sherley's deputy sheriffs.

A heavy force is at work at McKinney laying the sewerage main from the square to a point one-half mile northeast of the courthouse.

John Webb, a confederate veteran at Paris, will raise a company of cavalry to protect the Texas frontier in case of war with Spain. He has offered his services to Adj. Gen. Mabry.

W. J. Ingram & Co., of Bowie, gave a chattel mortgage recently to B. P. Hatcher, trustee, for the benefit of preferred creditors. The parties preferred are: Andrus & Wilhite, \$200; Spear & Spear, \$400; Smith-McLeod Dry Goods Co., \$500; Mrs. S. A. Ingram, \$3200; C. N. Hardin, \$100; J. V. Rogers, \$40.

W. P. Thomas, grocery dealer, filed a deed of trust several days since, naming R. H. Reynolds trustee. The preferred home creditors are to be paid in full as they appear on the list: Masonic lodge, rent, \$30; Richardson, Watkins & Miller, attorneys, \$75; Mrs. M. E. Carr \$130; J. T. LaRue \$15; Forest National bank \$25; Will Day \$15; R. H. Reynolds \$50; Striman & Green \$5.

Sad news was received to Kennedy recently of the accidental shooting of Miss Lela Butler by her sister. They were handling a small target gun, not knowing it was loaded, when by some accident it exploded, the ball entering the forehead, penetrating the brain and mortally wounding her. The accident occurred at their ranch home, five miles from town. Miss Lela is still alive, but unconscious.

City Marshal George Franz of La-Grange was found dead in his bed several days since by his brother-in-law and a night watchman. As he had not been seen all during the day, they got suspicious and started a search. They found a box of morphine powders on his person, a bottle of whisky and an empty glass on the table near the bed. Justice Ledbetter held an inquest, rendering a verdict that the deceased came to his death by an overdose of morphine administered by his own hand.

The charters of the following corporations were filed at Austin recently: Oak Cliff conservatory of Oak Cliff, Dallas county, capital stock \$10,000. Purpose, the conducting of a conservatory of music, art and oratory. Incorporators: M. Thomas Edgerton, W. L. Diamond and John W. Roach. The Austin Poultry and Pet Stock association of Austin, Capital stock \$500. Purpose, promoting the breeding of pure bred poultry and thoroughbred pet stock, by maintaining public fairs and exhibitions of stock, poultry, pet stock and farm products. Incorporators: E. W. Herndon, William H. Saige and C. S. Brigrance.

The following counties paid interest due on bonds held by the school fund at Austin several days ago: Burleson, \$270; Bell, \$3900; Bandera, \$810; Bexar, \$780; Blanco, \$420; Bosque, \$240; Guadalupe, \$900; Jackson, \$480; Lampasas, \$1590; Maverick, \$258; Panoia, \$301.14; Runnels, \$2130; Tom Green, \$1020; Coke, \$1485; Zavala, \$664.80; Nueces, \$2208; Hamilton, \$330; Red River, \$2100; Nolan, \$400; Kendall, \$180; Jones, \$270; Victoria, \$3600; Walker, \$570; Live Oak, \$955; Denton, \$1250; Donley, \$1440; Jack, \$500; Presidio, \$722.13; Erath, \$2190; Wharton, \$1890; Hartley, \$140; Wood, \$360; Raino, \$536.12; Smith, \$4218; Kent, \$600; Wilson, \$260; Seely, \$816.60; Shackelford, \$2780; Throckmorton, \$1080; San Patricio, \$318; Limestone, \$2400.

Frank Balcar, doing business at Sebastia, Burleson county, filed a deed of trust for the benefit of creditors, with preferred creditors. A. G. Barnhill is trustee. Total liabilities about \$1400. Assets not known.

The Commercial Lumber company of Gilmer is extending its track a mile in the direction of Marshall, which leaves a gap between the Gilmer and Marshall ends of the railway of about six miles. When completed, it will give Gilmer two railroads.

The public school building at Commerce was destroyed by fire recently. Origin unknown. Building insured for \$2000. Furniture \$300, half Hartford, half London and Liverpool and Globe. Will build \$40,000 brick soon.

A loss was sustained by fire recently in Blossom, Fannin county, by J. M. Brown on barn and contents. Origin of fire unknown. Loss about \$350. Insurance \$100 on the building in the Phoenix Insurance company, of Hartford, Conn.

Barney McConnell in the employ of O'Connor & Smeot as leadman of the pile driver, fell from the wharf at Bolivar Point several days ago and was drowned. The body has not been recovered.

Several days since the general store of D. T. Winters & Co., at Big Foot, a small village in Frio county, was with contents burned. Loss estimated at \$10,000, insurance \$3000 on stock only. The fire is believed to be the work of incendiaries.

REFUSES TO RESIGN.

PREACHER AT ODDS WITH A MILLIONAIRE.

Wants to Preach the Word as It is and Run Foul of a Wealthy Pillar of His Church—Pastor Oakes' Bold Stand for the Truth.



OR years past at one time Dr. Oakes, a millionaire, has a practically dictated the course of events in the Second Reformed church at Kings-ton, N. Y. There have been numerous quarrels, but Mr. Boice has nearly always come out on top. Just at present he has the fight of his life on hand, his opponent being Dr. Chandler A. Oakes, the pastor. Dr. Oakes was at one time Dr. Oakes' assistant in the Brooklyn tabernacle, where he distinguished himself by the mastery handling of the finances. Immediately after accepting a call to the Kings-ton church he made it manifest that his methods were likely to revolutionize the quiet, easy-going congregation to which he had been called. Coming from an active, bustling church, he liked rather startling methods, but being an indefatigable worker, a brilliant preacher and an able lecturer he attained considerable popularity and always preached to a crowded congregation. While the majority call was on in New York recently Dr. Oakes made no secret of his belief that Henry



PASTOR OAKES.

George was the man who should be selected. Not only that, he declared his belief in the single tax theory, at the same time expressing other radical ideas. All this gave a terrible shock to his blue-blooded, conservative flock, dissensions were in time stirred up and eventually a considerable portion of the members, headed by Millionaire Boice, called upon him to resign. To their amazement Dr. Oakes said he preferred to stay. Then charges were preferred against him and the trial is now on, it being alleged that the church is in process of financial and religious decline as a result of the pastor's conduct. It is hinted that the antagonism of Mr. Boice is traceable in great measure to the fact that he wants the reverend gentleman's place for Rev. Frank B. Zeley, who married Miss Boice some time ago.

When the trial began the opposition learned that Dr. Oakes had studied law for years and was practically ready for admission to the bar when he decided to enter the church. So far he has had decidedly the better of it and there are indications that the opposition is weakening. The doctor confidently expects to win his case, and it is intimated that should he prove the victor he will resign.

THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY.

The congressional library building was opened for visitors twenty-four days in February. The total number of visitors was 46,598. The lowest number on any one day was on the 1st of March, the number being 559; the greatest number was 4,582, on the 22d. The average daily number was 1,941. The daily readings of the blind have become one of the most interesting features connected with the library. The room devoted to this purpose is crowded every day by blind people who come to listen to the readings from instructive and entertaining books. Every day a different person reads something, making his or her own selection, and the auditors have a variety of subjects presented to them. Such an interest is being manifested in these readings that volunteers have been selected for every day up to May 6. The reading is entirely voluntary on the part of the residents of the city. Yesterday "Grace Greenwood" read a selection, Miss Merrick the reader today, and the Rev. B. N. Seymour will read tomorrow. Miss Thaddeus L. Smith is reading the "Choir Invisible," and gives two or three chapters at a time.—Washington Evening Star.

Black Coffee a Preventive of Malaria. "The best remedy in the world for an impending attack of malaria or chills and fever is strong black coffee," said the drummer with the quill in his mouth, as he walked up to the cashier's desk and paid for lunch for two. "Early the other morning I awoke with the usual accompaniment of the ague. I had hot flashes. Following them came a sensation similar to having cold feet dancing a minute on one's back in the winter time. "Well, I'm several hundred miles from home, out of reach of my wife, of course, and I was in a dilemma. Getting the ague, when you haven't a sympathetic spouse or a loving old mother near to douse your feet in mustard baths and rub your chest with camphor is not the pleasant thing in the world. So what did I do but adopt the suggestion of a fellow who said he'd had the ague dozens of times and drank coffee. I swallowed five big brown cups of the stuff, and when I awoke today I felt like a king. It had effected a cure."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Keep Women Out of Lodges. Some secret societies, it is said, to keep from initiating women disguised as men, look at every candidate's feet. If they are cold enough to freeze ice cream the applicant is respectfully, but firmly, left on the outside.

POSTOFFICE CATS.

One of Them Who Was Appropriately Dignified.

The postoffice cat is a very important member of the federal corps of clerks. In all general postoffices there are several cats and they every one believe in civil-service reforms. Sixty dollars a year is deemed a fair appropriation for New York's postoffice cats' maintenance, says a writer in the Boston Herald. How the cats feel about it is another matter, but as a usual thing such small game as rats and mice, which infest every public building, and their daily allowance of fresh milk keep them in fine fettle. Our own postoffice has a very distinguished black feline known to the clerks in every department, and respected and admired from one end of the building to the other. Not many weeks ago I observed a big cat in a gray fur coat, with dazzling white waistcoat and gray leggings, sitting on the steps of one of the entrances to the postoffice. Hundreds of men were rushing back and forth, slamming the doors and paying no heed to Mr. Cat in the corner. All the commotion of a city in the vicinity did not disturb him in the least. There was retrospection in his half-closed eyes, but he did not deign to give an extra twirl to his tail when his glance met a stranger's gaze, so intent was he on keeping still. No creature is more nervous than the cat, yet this one might have come out of a toy shop for all the hustle and bustle affected him. I shall never know if he had an appointment with the black cat within, whether he was waiting for luncheon to be ready. The worst thing about a cat who has cut his wisdom teeth is he won't be communicative. A kitten always gives itself dead away at the first advance.

SCHEME FOR CHARITY.

A Plan to Reach the Masses in Small Giving.

One of the most serious problems that confront the promoters of charitable enterprises is the question as to the best method by which to reach the contributing public, the men and women who would gladly give a small amount but who know of no method by which it can be done easily and quickly, says the Philadelphia Press. Most charitable enterprises depend largely on circulars, reports and newspapers to bring them to the notice of the men who can afford to give generously. Solicitors are sent around to ask contributions, appeals are made from the pulpit, entertainments are held for the benefit of institutions, and yet those who have made charity a study do not feel that they have reached the masses. Austria has taken one step which seems to be a step forward in this direction. The government has issued what it calls charity post cards, for the use of persons who want to make small contributions to any charity. These cards are treated much the same as postal orders are treated in this country. If a man desires to give 10 kreutzers to a charitable institution he buys a 10-kreutzer post card, affixes a stamp and addresses it to its destination. The recipient takes the card to a postoffice and it is there cashed for its full amount. It is believed that this simple system has encouraged many hesitating patrons and a sentiment in its favor seems to be growing among the charitably disposed in this country.

HE INVENTED DYNAMITE.

That the inventor of dynamite should be honored as a lover of peace sounds strange, but a monument has just been erected at Hamburg to Alfred Nobel by his friend, Max A. Philipp. The monument, which was designed by Hugo Reinhold of Berlin, represents the final triumph of the humane enlightening idea of peace over the rough impulses of the world. It was Nobel's greatest sorrow that the dynamite



THE MONUMENT.

which he invented and devoted to works of utility was so commonly applied to the cruel purposes of war and anarchy.

Herbert Spencer.

Herbert Spencer makes the following interesting statement in a letter to the London Times: "During the first twelve years of my literary life every one of my books failed to pay for its paper, print and advertisements, and for many years after failed to pay my small living expenses—every one of them made me the poorer. Nevertheless, the 40,000,000 of people constituting the nation demanded of the impoverished brain-worker five gratis copies of each. There is only one simile occurring to me which at all represents the fact, and that is but a feeble way—Dives asking alms of Lazarus!"

"Microbe Hunting Fad."

The "microbe-hunting fad" is going too far in Indianapolis, according to the Journal of that city. "Sterilizing slates pencils" to prevent contagions is declared "utter folly," since school children will play together and so "catch" whatever there may be to catch, and if all the paraphernalia of the school-room were put in a sterilizing oven daily some enterprising microbes may be in the playground. Truly, unless they are eventually to have a separate room and a teacher for each child it is well to call a halt in the beginning to the microbe-hunting fad.

FARM AND GARDEN.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO AGRICULTURISTS.

Some Up-to-Date Hints About Cultivation of the Soil and Yields Thereof—Horticulture, Viticulture and Floriculture.

More About Weeders.

W. C. Latta, Agricultural, Purdue University, Indiana:—We have used a weeder four years in corn culture. Our plan has been to use the weeder the first and second cultivations and follow with the ordinary one-horse harrow after that. It has been used for other purposes, I believe, at this station, but this is the extent of its use in this department. I will give below the results of corn produced with different culture implements, including the weeder and harrow, that you may judge of the relative merits of the work of the weeder. The average for the past four years is as follows:

Cultivator 49.83
Corn plow 39.66
Weeder and harrow 51.12

The first two or three times the plots were cultivated with the weeder and subsequently with a one-horse harrow. * * * The weeder does excellent work if used after every rain on land that is not too firm a composition.

The following discussion took place at an Illinois institute:

Q.—Which is the most effective, the one-horse weeder or the two-horse?

A.—The two-horse, where you have a good deal of land. The one-horse machine covers eight feet, the two-horse fourteen feet. For an orchard about eight feet is big enough, but if you are going to use it in corn and want to cultivate forty acres you had better have two horses.

Q.—Is it practicable to put it into corn?

A.—Yes, that is what it was made for originally, corn and potatoes. I cultivate my strawberries with it.

Q.—It will dig them right out, won't it?

A.—No. It is too light a machine for that.

Q.—What will it do if the ground is balky?

A.—You can't use it at all then. It is like any other machine. It has its place. You cannot get a cultivator that will answer every purpose.

Q.—I would like to know how that can be by the side of a corn stalk and take the weeds and leave the corn?

A.—If you do it just right you can take even a garden rake and scratch right into your corn. The weeder turns back, they do not slide in ahead of the wheels, but turn back. I have used it there, but you have to have a plan that is well rooted you cannot take it out. In order to get the benefit of that machine you have got to use it before the weeds get much of a start.

Training Grape Vines.

E. G. Lodegan, Department of Agriculture Report: Another system of post training differs radically from the one started last week. Instead of being spurred or branched near the surface of the soil the stem is carried upward in a spiral to the top of the post, and the short arms, of which there are generally two or more, are formed at the summit. The canes are cut back to the desired number of buds, and the shoots grow freely downward. This system, which is followed in some parts of western Michigan, really should be included in the third class, but as it is commonly known as a variety of the post system it is here considered with the others.

Leaving these simple systems, in which the method of training presents no complicated features, a much more complex group will be considered. The shoots are still trained upward, but their position is, theoretically, determined with almost mathematical precision.

The Horizontal Arm Spur, or Fuller, System.—This system presents the above features in a particularly formal manner, and when the details of this method are carefully mastered the other methods present no special difficulties. It is not so fully discussed on account of its wide use (for, as a matter of fact, the horizontal arm spur system is little in favor among vineyardists) but rather because it offers an opportunity to show in an almost ideal manner most of the points which arise in connection with nearly all the other systems in this as well as in the other two groups. Its principal merit, therefore, lies in its value for illustrative purposes.

When a grapevine is first set in a vineyard it may be one or two years old. Former being preferable in the majority of cases. The cane is cut back to two buds, and during the first season its shoots are allowed to be prone upon the surface of the soil.

Assuming that all the pruning is done a short time before the arrival of the growing season, at the beginning of the second year the newly-set vine will have a well-established root system and two canes of varying length. The weaker of these canes should now be removed entirely and the other should be cut back, so that it remains about 18 inches in length. If cut in this manner the cane is sufficiently long to reach to the lowest wire when the trellis is made. By some, however, the cane is cut back again to two buds, as in the previous year. This causes the stem to branch near the surface of the ground, instead of at the lowest wire. Either method may be followed to advantage, although single stems reader cultivation more easy. This cane, whatever its length, is to form the stem of the vine, and as there are to be two arms, only two of the strongest shoots need be retained after the growths are sufficiently advanced for the comparative vigor to be seen. It is better that all the other shoots be then removed, so that the two that are to remain may become the stronger. But if the unnecessary growths are not removed until the following spring no material injury will be done to the vine.

Artichokes.

That artichokes are valuable is unnecessary to prove, the experience of generations has demonstrated the fact. Like all crops, whether or not it is to be cultivated depends on the incidental circumstances by which the farmer is affected. If a man is devoting his entire time to bee-keeping or to flower growing of course he will not find artichokes profitable. But to the farmer who is raising hogs the artichoke may prove of great value. Artichokes need only common soil, and even do well on poor soil. They will stand more neglect than most crops and yet yield an annual crop. This makes them particularly valuable to farmers that have many hogs, much land and few hired men. In such cases the harvesting is done by the hogs themselves, thus saving the expense of labor. When they are thus fed, being rooted out by the sowing there will usually be enough tubers left in the ground to seed the whole area for the next year.

Although artichokes will grow on poor land they do best on land that is rich, light and that has an open exposure. The plant is very hardy and will endure the cold of any part of the United States. Plow deep and harrow the ground. Probably it is better to plant the seed in hills, as the plants spread rapidly. Prepare the ground as for potatoes, planting the seed in a similar manner, the hills being about three feet apart. About three bushels of seed will be required to the acre, and the manner of cutting potatoes for planting will apply to the artichokes. Small ones are often planted whole. A potato planter may be used. They should be planted as early in the spring as the land is open for work.

Blossoming usually takes place in August and from that time on till the end of the season the tubers are increasing in size and hardening. The stalks will have withered by the time the frost comes and the tubers are then ready to be dug. They can be dug the same as potatoes and stored the same way, but if possible, it will be found advantageous to allow the vines to begin operations as soon as the crop is ripe.

As to seed there are many kinds recommended by the seedmen, among the most valuable of which are the French artichokes.

About Strawberries. The New York station recommends as fertilizer for the strawberry for nitrogen, 150 to 200 pounds nitrate of soda, applied during the growing season, or 125 to 250 pounds of sulphate of ammonia, or 250 to 500 pounds dried blood. For phosphoric acid, 100 to 150 pounds of bone meal, or 375 to 750 pounds dissolved bone, or 475 to 900 pounds dissolved rock. For potash, 140 to 280 pounds muriate, or same of sulphate, or 550 to 1,100 pounds kainit, or 1,400 to 2,800 pounds wood ashes.

In setting the plants, the crown should be on a level with the soil, no higher and no lower. The roots should not be allowed to run down. Dip them in water as soon as they begin to get dry. Trim the roots back at least one-third, and spread them fan-shaped when setting, filling in gradually and firm well. Some prefer the hill culture for small gardens, setting the plants in rows three feet apart, and one foot apart in the row, and not allowing them to blossom.

This makes fine large plants, but those who grow for market think it requires too much time to keep off the runners. They like better the narrow or wide-matted ones, the rows being three to four feet apart and the plants fifteen to eighteen inches apart, and the runners being allowed to fill the space between. If the row is left at one foot wide it is termed the narrow row and at two feet wide a wide row. Runners must be cut to keep them within bounds, and they will probably need to have the runners thinned out in many places. Some varieties have the fruit so small after the first crop that they are scarcely worth retaining after they have borne once. Others make a second crop, and may be allowed to fruit for two or three seasons. In this case, after the crop has been picked, mow off the tops of the plants and burn them, to destroy weeds, insects, rust and the old mulch on the ground. The mulch may be coarse manure, cheap hay, straw, pine needles or pine boughs, or leaves, if there is some-thing to hold them in place. Avoid using a mulch likely to contain weed seeds, and put it on when the ground is frozen so hard as to bear up the horse and wagon. One row in four should consist of plants having perfect or staminate blossoms.

Live Stock in the United States. The government report on the amount of live stock in the country '09. It makes the hogs 39,750,000, a decrease of \$49,000; the milch cows, 15,840,000, a decrease for the year of 100,841; the oxen and other cattle, 29,264,000, a decrease of 1,244,000, and the sheep, 37,656,000, an increase of 588,000.

The hog supply is the smallest since 1881, when there were 36,227,603 reported, and 7,000,000 less than the yearly average for the sixteen years since then. Not only that, but the number of hogs reported is 1,715,000 head less than the average for twenty-three years previous to this year. The number of cattle is 9,000,000 less than six years ago. The number of cattle, hogs, and sheep reported by the government for a number of years past is as follows:

Jan. 1. Cattle. Hogs. Sheep.
1878.. 39,528,490 32,262,500 35,740,500
1879.. 33,234,599 34,766,209 38,123,800
1880.. 32,258,006 34,032,100 40,765,900
1881.. 33,308,385 36,227,603 43,576,899
1882.. 35,891,870 44,122,200 45,016,224
1883.. 41,171,762 43,270,086 49,237,291
1884.. 42,547,307 44,200,993 50,625,628
1885.. 43,771,299 44,142,230 50,860,243
1886.. 45,771,630 46,092,043 58,322,351
1887.. 48,033,833 44,612,836 64,750,314
1888.. 49,234,777 44,346,525 65,544,755
1889.. 50,331,042 50,301,582 62,559,079
1890.. 54,801,907 51,802,780 64,336,072
1891.. 52,955,230 50,628,108 63,431,136
1892.. 52,067,590 52,998,019 64,935,365
1893.. 52,378,283 66,094,307 67,273,557
1894.. 53,095,568 65,308,498 68,048,017
1895.. 50,888,845 64,105,716 62,294,084
1896.. 48,232,140 62,428,759 62,828,793
1897.. 46,450,135 60,600,278 57,572,200
1898.. 46,104,000 39,750,000 37,466,000

Milk Food for Calves.—How many persons know that a cow bird flies, says one, feeds its young on anything but fish food. There is only one bird that I know of that does not feed its young on insect food, even our own sparrow, which has the power to partly digest grain in their crops and give it to their young. The young calf must have food that its delicate stomach can digest, and it isn't ground feed; it is fresh in a sense, because it is milk. He has not a good digestive stomach at that age.—Jonathan Perlman.

One hundred quarts of milk weigh about 215 pounds.

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

SOME GOOD STORIES FOR OUR JUNIOR READERS.

Pins and Needles, a Love Story—The New Neighbors, a Juvenile Sketch—All About Kestrels—The Pretty Butterfly's Eyes.

The Tone of Voice.

It is not so much what you say, As the manner in which you say it; It is not so much the language you use, As the tones in which you convey it.

"Come here," I sharply said, And the baby covered and wept; "Come here," I cooed, and he looked and smiled, And straight to my lap he crept.

The words may be mild and fair, And the tones may pierce like a dart; The words may be soft as a summer's day, And the tones may break the heart.

For words but come from the mind, And grow by study and art; But the tones leap forth from the inner self, And reveal the state of the heart.

Whether you know it or not, Whether you mean or care, Gentleness, kindness, love and hate, Envy and anger are there.

Then would you quarrels avoid And in peace and love rejoice, Keep anger not only out of your words, But keep it out of your voice. —Youth's Companion.

Pins and Needles, a Love Story.

Emery Hill was located in Elsie's workbasket, and was inhabited by needles of all kinds and sizes. I know these needles never went to sleep. How do I know that? Because they never shut their eyes, and how could they go to sleep without shutting their eyes? And I know, too, that all I am going to tell you about them happened in the night. It did not happen in the daytime, so of course it must have happened at night—some moonlight night, when the needles looked very bewitching in their steel-gray costumes, and when their golden eyes sparkled as they told the Cambric Needle of their adventures during the day.

It was always the Cambric Needle in whom they confided, for she was the only one who was not proud of what she could do, and who would listen kindly to their long stories. She had reason to be proud, too, for she could hem more beautifully than any of the others, and do it very rapidly. The Basting Needle, however, would not grant this. She felt that rapidly was her specialty. She was a nineteenth century affair, and knew how to do effective work without wasting any time over it. The ladylike Cambric Needle would not dispute the question whether, even granting that her stitches were more showy; but in spite of that she clung to her own way of working, and was thorough and patient in all that she did.

The Shoe Needle felt that she was superior to every one else because of her strength, for she could be pushed right through leather and not break. None of the others were equal to that!

The Zephyr Needle felt that strength was not the thing to be proud of, for she had a large eye and was able to do artistic work. She also felt her bluntness to be another trait that helped her prove her superiority. But the other Zephyr Needles disputed this, for they felt they were a point ahead of her because of their sharpness.

The Darning Needle was proud of her usefulness; no wasting of time over fancy work for her! Number Eight could do at least eight different kinds of sewing. How the Cambric Needle did wish she had been called Number Eight, for then perhaps she could have done more than one kind; and she thought quite sadly that if a Pin ever should come again to visit Emery Hill he would never look at her, she was so small and had so little ability.

Now it happened that this very evening a Pin did arrive at the Hill, a fine thing to hold them in place. Avoid using a mulch likely to contain weed seeds, and put it on when the ground is frozen so hard as to bear up the horse and wagon. One row in four should consist of plants having perfect or staminate blossoms.

"Of course he will admire strength more than anything else, he is so big himself," murmured the Shoe Needle. "Not at all," whispered the Darning Needle. "Usefulness will appeal to him most, for he is evidently bright."

"You are both wrong," whispered the Basting Needle, quite audibly, "for any Pin with such a well-developed head must be able to appreciate my aspirations and advanced ideas."

"Dear me," thought the sweet little Cambric Needle. "I do hope he'll not overlook Number Eight, for she is gifted."

And so it was very exciting, and grew more so as it became evident that the Brass Pin was growing more and more devoted to the Cambric Needle.

"He has taken her to walk in the moonlight three times," said one needle. "And I heard him say, 'Will you marry me?'" said another. And sure enough it was the Cambric Needle he married, and they lived happily on top of Emery Hill ever afterward, and were noted for their polished manners.

"Well, said the Zephyr Needle, who was noted for her blunt remarks, "she was certainly better tempered than any of the rest of us, and perhaps that was the reason he admired her most.—M. H. Flinn.

New Neighbors.

"I see they are building a two-story house in our back yard," said papa. "O papa, that won't be nice!" said Marjorie. "People will look right into our windows!"

"Yes," said papa; one of the builders was sitting on my window-sill this morning; but when he saw me he flew away."

"Oh, you mean a bird!" cried Nan Nan. "A pair of the prettiest little yellow-birds you ever saw," said papa.

"But what made you call their nest a two-story house?" asked Tom. "Because it is one," answered papa. "You see, there is a great, selfish, cowardly bird, who is too lazy to build a nest for herself or to take care of her own children; so when she spied the nest of yellow-birds had made, she was mean enough to leave her great egg in it for her tiny neighbors to take care of."

"I would have smashed it, if I had been in their place!" cried Tom. "They were not strong enough to break it, not to roll it out of the nest," said papa, "and they did not like to

build a new one in another place; so what did they do? They just put it in a new floor right over the cowbird's egg and built the walls of their house a little higher. So they have left that egg in their cellar, where it will never bother them."

"Wasn't that smart!" said Nan Nan. "Let's go and watch them."

The children visited the yellow-birds every day; and they examined the nest after the young birds had flown away. Sure enough, safely stowed away in the cellar, as papa called it, was the cowbird's

J. E. POOLE, Editor and Proprietor.

Advertising rates made known on application

Terms \$1.00 per annum, invariably cash in advance.

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

Saturday, April 23, 1898.

Announcement Rates.

The following rates will be charged by the FREE PRESS for announcements of candidates for office and will include placing their names on a sufficient number of the party tickets for the general election in November. Terms cash. For State & District offices, \$10.00 For county offices, 5.00 For precinct offices, 3.00

Announcements.

For Judge, 39th Judicial District, P. D. SANDERS. For County and District Clerk, C. D. LONG, G. R. COUCH, CHARLIE MAYES. For Sheriff & Tax Collector, A. W. SPRINGER. For County Treasurer, JASPER MILLHOLLON, J. E. MURFEE. For Tax Assessor, F. M. GREER, S. E. CAROTHERS, J. N. ELLIS.

LOCAL DOTS.

—Read Reedy's new ad. —GERMAN MILLET seed for sale, the big kind, at S. L. Robertson's. —\$1.00 gets 20 lbs. of sugar at Meadors & Ellis. —Mr C. M. Brown's announcement for tax assessor will appear next week. —Good sorghum molasses at Fields Bros. for 30cts per gallon. —The ladies are especially requested to call and examine the new goods at S. L. Robertson's. —Mrs. J. N. Ellis is on a visit to her sister in Kent county, who is sick. —Don't forget that you can get a dish of chillie or a nice warm lunch at Reedy's any time. —C. M. Featherston, a prominent lawyer of Rayner, was here Thursday on legal business. —A choice new stock of Ladies and Misses slippers and fine shoes for spring and summer at S. L. Robertson's. —Quite a large party went out on Tuesday on a fishing excursion to Paint and California creeks. As nearly as we could learn it was composed of Dr. J. E. Lindsey and family, Mr. M. S. Pierson and family, Mr. S. L. Robertson and family and Messrs J. W. Collins, Lee Pierson and Rev. Farmer. —We desire to say to all persons owing accounts to the firm of T. G. Carney & Co., that since the purchase of an interest in the business by R. H. McKee it is essential that we close up and settle all outstanding accounts and we hereby ask one and all to come forward without delay and make satisfactory settlement of such accounts. Please see us at once and save us the trouble of having to go to see you. T. G. CARNEY & CO. —Local items of interest were an almost unknown quantity this week, and as the war situation is the paramount topic with everybody just now, we have devoted most of our local space to that subject. A good deal of news relating to it will also be found on our inner pages. —We are pleased to say to our friends that we are back again with the choicest stock of goods we have ever been able to offer them, and there is enough of them for everybody, so much in fact that our groceries are crowded out and had to be moved to another building. This tells the story of our increased business better than we can do it in words, and while we flatter ourselves that good, honest goods, fair prices and the courteous treatment which we have extended to all alike have been large factors in building up and extending our business in spite of competition, we are at the same time grateful to our friends for the liberal patronage they have extended to us and we assure them that we shall be pleased at all times to extend to them every courtesy possible and to give them the best the shop affords for their money. Respectfully, F. G. ALEXANDER & CO.

Judge P. D. Sanders.

By reference to our announcement column this week our readers will find the name of Judge P. D. Sanders, of Haskell county, who places himself before the people of the 39th judicial district as a candidate for election as judge thereof at the ensuing election.

To the people who know Judge Sanders and have known him for years past in every-day life as a private citizen as well as a trusted official, it is unnecessary for the Free Press to indulge in any eulogy upon his character, but to many in other counties of the district, who are not personally acquainted with him, we have no hesitancy in commending him as an honorable, honest and upright man and a christian gentleman. Such has been our observation of him through an acquaintance of several years and such is his reputation among those who have known him still longer. Haskell county has had no more enterprising citizen nor any who has given his time and labor more freely in every enterprise calculated to promote the public welfare than he.

For the six years, or the three consecutive terms, prior to the last election, he was county judge of Haskell county, and his administration was marked by economy and conservatism in the management of the county's affairs. It is estimated that in that time he saved to the county in contracts, the auditing of accounts and in interest on bonds by refunding at a lower rate of interest, eight or ten thousand dollars. He also saved money to the county by never keeping idle juries waiting on the movements of the court. And the confidence of the lawyers and litigants in his fairness and legal ability was strongly evidenced by the fact that they submitted most of the civil cases to his judgment without juries. The record shows that only six civil cases were ever appealed from his court and of these four were affirmed and only two reversed. And of 48 criminal cases tried only one was appealed, this being reversed. His reputation is that he is conscientious and careful in the trial of all cases and that, if he falls into an error, it is one of the head and not of the heart. Besides his experience as judge of the county court, he has acted as special district judge in the trial of a number of cases wherein Judges Cockrell and Hamner were disqualified. It speaks much for him that he has the written endorsement of every lawyer of his home bar, except one, and of all but one of the county officers, which endorsement has just been shown to us. These are the people who know him best and have had the best opportunities for judging of his character and qualifications. If the people see fit to honor him with the office, we believe he will discharge its duties to the credit of himself and the district.

He authorizes us to say that he pledges himself, if elected, to run the courts as economically as possible, consistent with efficient service on the part of juries and executive officers. Accounts will be carefully scrutinized and none allowed that are not within the terms of the law—farther than this no man can go consistently with his oath of office.

—Did you ever hear the like? Listen!

Ladies' vests, each, . . . 50cts Men's working gloves, pair . . . 35cts Men's nice gray suit, . . . \$3.00 Men's nice \$10 suit, . . . \$4.95 Good window shades, each, 25cts. CARNEY & MCKEE.

If IT'S WAR we want to see Weyler made the leader of the Spanish forces.

—Mr. S. L. Robertson is increasing his stock of dry goods to very handsome proportions. He says he is buying from a first class cash house, paying cash for the goods, which places him in position to meet any competition in the country. He will make it to the special interest of the cash buyer who is entitled to cash prices.

Two years ago R. J. Warren, a druggist at Pleasant Brook, N. Y., bought a small supply of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. He sums up the result as follows: "At that time the goods were unknown in this section; to-day Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a household word." It is the same in hundreds of communities. Wherever the good qualities of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy become known the people will have nothing else. For sale by A. P. McLemore.

THE LATEST.

The latest news as to the war situation is a telephone message saying that Spain has replied to the president's ultimatum demanding evacuation of Cuba by her refusing to do so and that our naval fleet was ordered to Cuba on Thursday.

Our entire army is being rushed to the coast for the invasion of Cuba and congress has authorized the president to call out 80,000 volunteers. Evidently war is on, unless Spain surrenders Cuba without a battle, which no one now expects.

LATER. A telephone message after we went to press, at 4 o'clock Friday evening says our "Flying Squadron" had sunk the Spanish armored cruiser Alphonso XIII and captured another, name not given.

—I have taken the agency for the "Quaker Folding Hot Air and Vapor Bath Cabinet," whose wonderful efficacy in promoting health as well as restoring persons to health in many forms of diseases is attested by physicians and scientists. With it you can have at home Turkish, Russian, hot air, steam, medicated vapor, mineral, salt, hop, sulphur, etc., baths at a trifling cost. The price of the outfit is very moderate. Call at my place and see one and try it if you like. J. W. BELLE, if

—Have your sewing machines repaired by W. H. Parsons. He keeps needles for all machines in stock.

If it comes to burning powder in this little Spanish affair it don't matter what sort of a war they call it, we'll bet a dime to a ginger cake that the war cry will be "Remember the Maine"

—A job lot of shoes and slippers, come and get them—not at our price, but at yours. CARNEY & MCKEE.

THE REV. W. H. Weaver, pastor of the U. B. Church, Dillsburg, Pa., recognizes the value of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and does not hesitate to tell others about it. "I have used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy," he says, "and find it an excellent medicine for colds, coughs and hoarseness." So does everyone who gives it a trial. Sold by A. P. McLemore.

—My stock of Groceries is complete in all lines and I am now selling very low to the cash trade. Call and see. S. L. ROBERTSON.

OUR sailors aboard our warships are said to be champing the bit to be turned loose at the Spanish. They don't care what the government bases a declaration of war on, they just want a chance to nip a hundred Spaniards for every man blown up on the Maine.

AMERICANS are the most inventive people on earth. To them have been issued nearly 600,000 patents, or more than one-third of all the patents issued in the world. No discovery of modern years has been of greater benefit to mankind than Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, or has done more to relieve pain and suffering.

"I have used Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in my family for several years, and find it to be the best medicine I ever used for cramps in the stomach and bowels. For sale by A. P. McLemore.

To Cure a Cold in One Day.

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

THE Liverpool and London and Globe insurance company telegraphed their manager in New York that if any of their employes in this country wanted to enlist in the event of war with Spain that they could do so and their wages would still go on while they were in the army. This is practical English sympathy.

A Narrow Escape.

Thankful words written by Mrs. Ada E. Hart, of Groton, S. D.: "Was taken with a bad cold which settled on my lungs, cough set in and finally terminated in Consumption. Four doctors gave me up saying I could live but a short time. I gave myself up to my Savior, determined it I could not stay with my friends on earth, I would meet my absent ones above. My husband was advised to get Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. I gave it a trial, took in all eight bottles. It has cured me, and thank God I am saved and now a well and healthy woman." Trial bottles free at A. P. McLemore's drug store. Regular size 50c and \$1.00 guaranteed or price refunded.

TO MY FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS: Next Spring

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

HERE WE ARE With our

New Goods

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

OUR LADIES DRESS GOODS.

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

Staple Dry Goods.

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

Clothing.

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

Boots and Shoes.

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

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

Spring Millinery.

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

Our Grocery Department.

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

We extend a cordial invitation to all to call and look at our goods and get our prices. Respectfully,

F. G. ALEXANDER & CO.

A CALL.

Thinking that it will be to the interest of the farmers of Haskell and adjoining counties to have a Farmers Institute, we the undersigned ask all farmers that feel an interest in the cause to meet with us at the Haskell court house the second Saturday in June 1898. Signed:

- M. A. CLIFTON, W. T. MONTGOMERY, J. J. ALBIN, D. A. WHATLEY, J. F. ALBIN, R. L. CARLETON, C. L. MAYES, J. A. RUSSELL, G. R. PAGE, R. K. NAPIER, W. H. JASPER, T. D. WHITFORD, W. T. FENN.

The Mesquite School.

To the FREE PRESS, Please announce that the patrons of the Mesquite school will meet at the school house on the last Friday in April, 29th inst., at which time Judge J. M. Baldwin will deliver a lecture on the subject of education. All are invited. Come, bring your provisions and let us make it a pleasant and profitable time. Dinner all day and speaking on the ground, exercises to begin at eleven. R. L. CARLETON.

ICE COLD! Milk Shake, Cider, Soda Water, Glace and Ice Cream always ready to serve.

Warm Lunches or Meals to order at all times.

Cigars, Cheroots and Tobacco Canned Goods, Confectioneries, Fruits and Nuts.

Try my Flavoring Extracts, Spices and Seasonings for cooking—the choicest and best to be had.

W. M. REEDY.

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

Next Spring

Travel will begin to the Gold Fields of Alaska, and it is suggested that those who intend going to the

Klondike

Will find THE DENVER ROAD the most satisfactory route in every particular by which water transportation is reached. The reasons why your ticket should read via the Denver Road, are

Shortest Route!

Quickest time! Grand scenery and a Through Tourist Sleeping Car Line between Colorado and Portland, necessitating but one change of cars between Fort Worth and Portland, reaching the Northwest Seaports with economy, luxury and comfort via

The Denver Road

(Fort Worth & Denver City Railway.)

Eli A. HIRSHFIELD, A. G. P. A. D. B. KEELER, G. F. A. FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

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

THE HASKELL NATIONAL BANK,

HASKELL, TEXAS.

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

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

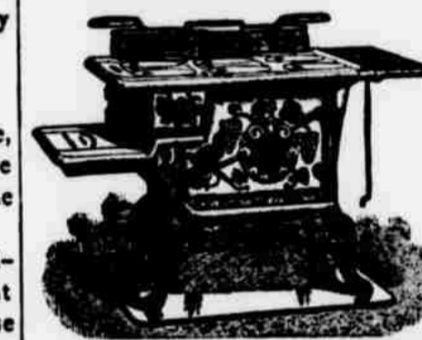
J. W. BELL,

Manufacturer & Dealer in SADDLES and HARNESS.

Full Stock, Work Promptly to Order.

Repairing done neatly and substantially. Prices reasonable and satisfaction with goods and work guaranteed.

Your Trade is Solicited.



IT IS TIME To Think of BUYING A STOVE.

We have just received a

Car Load.

POPULAR BRIDGE BEACH & CO'S COOKING

AND HEATING STOVES.

These stoves are first class in every particular, and will be sold at prices that will beat going to the railroad for them.

Call and see them.

McCullum & Wilbourn Co.

Navies of the United States and Spain.

From a table in the Scientific American of the 16th inst., giving a complete list of the navies of all countries, we have extracted the following showing a comparison of the navies of the United States and Spain as of peculiar interest at this time. The Scientific American states that the table was prepared by Lieut. W. R. Hamilton, of the Fifth Artillery, and is correct from the latest official reports on file at the War Department, Dec. 1897, hence does not contain the recent purchases of vessels by U. S. and Spain. The U. S. has made larger purchases than Spain.

TABLE.

Table with columns for U.S. and Spain, listing various naval vessels like Battleships, Cruisers, etc.

and rapid fire guns. The table begins with the heaviest and most formidable ships and it will be seen that the U. S. has a decided advantage in these as well as in their armament of heavy guns, the U. S. having 550 heavy guns to 209 for Spain. Spain, however, has the best equipment in torpedo boats and torpedo-boat destroyers. The list includes two first-class battleships for the U. S. not yet completed and ready for use. In the Spanish list there are 59 obsolete vessels to 11 obsolete in our list, and as these out of date craft will be of little use in a modern war it makes a larger deduction from the Spanish effective force than from ours.

THE United States we believe has a just cause in its quarrel with Spain. We would have preferred to see a satisfactory settlement without bloodshed, but we believe it is honorable to fight in the cause of humanity, liberty and civilization against a butcher and tyrant like Spain. Few if any great reforms or strides toward liberty have come about in the history of the world except as the result of wars. Say what we may about the horrors of war, this remains a fact.

MRS. A. INVERN, residing at 720 Henry St., Alton, Ill., suffered with sciatic rheumatism for eight months. She doctored for it nearly the whole of this time, using various remedies recommended by friends, and was treated by the physicians, but received no relief. She then used one and a half bottles of Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which effected a complete cure. This is published at her request, as she wants others similarly afflicted to know what cured her. The 25 and 50 cent sizes for sale by A. P. McLemore.