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NO. 50.

Rapidly Going.

Since our first notice to close all goods in store at cost until Feb. 1st, as all who have been in our store know that we have certainly sold lots of them, and we feel that after such a successful year's business that it is only our duty to extend to the people this liberality.

Remember This.

We believe at least for the next nine months expenditure that the dollars will be but few and far between; therefore, we shall exert ourselves to give better value than ever before.

Our Mr. J. A. McConnell will spend at least one month in the market, getting as near as possible double value for the Almighty Dollar and we shall mete them out to the people accordingly.

Again Remember,

That when you can get better value for the same money than we can give, that you will either have to get them from some one who stole them or who bought them on time and don't expect to pay for them. We have only a limited quantity of mens and boys clothing left, and when you remember that the cold weather is hardly upon us. It will pay you to call and see if we can fit you.

Heavy medicated red twill flannel usual price 25c our price, per yard, **15c.**
Ordinary heavy red twill flannel usual price 15c; our price per yard, **10c.**

Heavy blue mixed flannel known as Irish freize, usual price, 15c; our price per yard, **10c.**
Our fine gauge nonshrinking mens all wool undersuits, worth \$3.50, our price, **\$2.00.**

The very few hats left by our late expert trimmer, Miss Hughes are going regardless of value.
Our all wool dress goods we have only to show them and the price sells them.

The 60c quality ladies combination under suits now **35c.**
Slate pencils, one hundred in box at 10c a box.

DELAYS — ARE — DANGEROUS.

Respectfully,

W. V. McCONNELL.

Written for Children Who Read The Courier.

I was the guest this forenoon of my friend, the Hon. Jos. D. Mitchell, at his elegant home in this city. Upon entering the hall I was startled at the head of a monster alligator, mounted, and resting upon the floor with great glass eye staring at me. Mr. Mitchell laughingly said it would not bite, and hanging our overcoats upon some deer's horns we entered a large, well-furnished library, shelved to the ceiling for books on one side and furnished with tall glass cabinets of curiosities on the other. Here we met Miss Susie Mitchell, my friend's pretty and accomplished daughter, who retired after bidding us a pleasant "good morning." A bright fire burned in the grate, for it is cold, even in Victoria. Mr. Mitchell is a conchologist and an ardent lover of nature. I love nature, too, and I love children, because they are so natural. But my friend studies nature scientifically. He has the most complete collection of shells in Texas. Besides he has quite a museum of curiosities generally; but shells he has studied and classified by their hard Latin names, and has written volumes about them. Among his curiosities are tomahawks, spearheads, and arrowheads of stone, made by Indians. There were fossil bones of animals once in Texas, but now extinct. There were bones, skeletons, and stuffed specimens of many

of our smaller animals and birds. How ignorant we are about these things! How many boys who read this would know the skull of the opossum from that of a cat if he should find their craniums?

Yet they are as totally different as the skulls of a man and a pig. You can find this out. When hunting take the heads of the animals you kill, cut the skin away, then boil them in strong lye and you can get all the flesh and cartilages off, leaving the white bones. Whole skeletons can be cleaned in this way. But we will leave each boy to make his own collection of bones, horns, eggs, etc., and pass on to the wonders of the sea.

Here were nineteen kinds of crabs. Some of the larger crabs are edible. Their great claws pinch like dull scissors. Their shells are large as a saucer, and claws, including legs and "pinchers," about a foot long. There was the soldier crab, lady crab, robber crab, spider crab, and the little louse crab that annoys the sea monsters as parasites do a razor-back hog in the Yegua bottom.

Next were a lot of bivalves, such as oysters, mussels, scallops, etc. Among them was a pearl oyster shell from the Mediterranean sea, lined with mother-of-pearl. Pearls are formed by grains of sharp sand getting in the shell while the oyster is feeding. Oysters have no fingers with which to expell these sharp pebbles, so nature covers

them with mother-of-pearl, forming the pearls of commerce. These accidents do not happen to the poor bivalves often enough to suit fashion. So divers take oysters out and force bits of glass between their shells and throw them back into the sea to make pearls. When thus cruelly treated no word of complaint escapes the oyster's lips. Our oysters make pearls, too, but they have no commercial value. Those pretty pearl buttons on your sister's dress are made of the lining of oyster shells. Mussels and oysters differ. Mussels are male and female, while all oysters lay eggs—there being no roosters among them.

Mr. Mitchell says the "spat" or eggs of a single oyster will hatch fifty millions of offspring. Suppose your hens would lay that way for Christmas. Eggs would be knee-deep all over the lot. Most of this "spat" is eaten by millions of fish that inhabit our bays, so comparatively few of the eggs ever make oysters. Mr. Mitchell says our oysters attain their full growth at four years. He was the author of a law passed by the last legislature of Texas creating the office of Fish and Oyster commissioner. Under this act young fish and oysters are protected. Old fishermen at Port Lavaca say that under two years' operation of this law the edible fishes have doubled in production.

Leaving bivalves, we next examined a rare collection of corals, sea

weeds, sponges, etc. Space forbids a description of them, but for the girls I will mention one specimen.

Mr. Mitchell pointed to a coil of bright colored strings and said: "These are called the mermaid's corset laces."

Now, this shocked me greatly. I was taught that mermaids, barring their fishy feet, were the incarnation of female beauty and symmetry. But alas! The only tangible evidence of the existence of these belles of the ocean I had ever seen was a bunch of their corset strings, dredged from the bottom of the sea, showing that the demon of fashion had violated the sacred precincts of submarine society and introduced these health destroying appliances. Man in a dilemma may no longer stand "between the devil and the deep blue sea," since one has invaded the other. The next boat may dredge out mermaid's curling tongs.

We passed hurriedly a collection of star fish, sea urchins, sea horses—a very small sea-nare and oolt, without legs—sharks teeth that move and cut like band saws, shark's eggs, besides many curious fishes in alcohol. Here was the end of a snag out of the bay covered with barnacles. Barnacles are shell fish that collect in great clusters, all cemented together, on the bottom of vessels and impede their progress by offering resistance to the water, just as a lot of "moss-

backs" make "slow sailing" for a town or community. Barnacles and mossbacks have to be scraped off.

"Here," said Mr. Mitchell, "is the work of the deadly teredo, that sinks more ships than all the storms." So saying he handed me a piece of wood from a ship's bottom honeycombed with little round holes running longitudinally, leaving the upper and lower surfaces of the plank apparently sound. These perforations are from one-eighth to one-fourth inch in diameter and lie about parallel, like tubes in a boiler. The teredo is a worm-like animal, with an excellent auger on his head, with which he bores his way. The bottom of the ship becomes his habitation, while he gets nutriment from the water—teeming with animalculae—that follows his tunnels and rots the ship. The closest inspection some times fails to reveal his presence from the outside, but the bottom thus weakened gives way upon striking the slightest obstruction, and many a sailor goes down to his death in the vortex of a sinking schooner—the victim of the deadly teredo.

Mr. Mitchell next conducted me into another apartment where was his scientific collection of shells. Of these he has four hundred Texas varieties, and twice hundred and ninety three foreign varieties. He is in regular correspondence

(Continued on 57th page.)

The Governor's Message.

On Thursday of last week Governor Culberson sent in his message to the legislature and the following is a summary of some of its most important features:

Under the head of platform demands he asks the passage of laws in compliance with the platform promises as follows: To continue economy and reduce expenses wherever practicable; liberally support the free schools; liberally maintain the higher educational institutions and the Confederate Home; supply the necessary asylum accommodations for the insane; require express companies to maintain general offices in the state; set apart 50,000 acres for a colored university; reapportion and reduce the judicial districts; facilitate the sale of the public school lands; provide for the safe investment of the school fund now idle in the treasury; protect laborers in the prompt payment of wages and fix lien to secure them; amend and broaden the fellow-servant law; adopt measures to abolish gradually the convict lease system; pass a general official fee bill and reform the criminal laws.

Under the head of redistricting the judicial districts of the state, he suggests that the 54 districts now in existence be reduced to 40 by giving each a population of 100,000 people, and the number of district judges to 40.

He also cites that penitentiary forces are constantly on the increase and recommends as a means of utilizing these convicts, the purchase of state farms to work them on.

Touching on insurance companies now doing business in state, the Governor suggests the passage of a law requiring these companies to invest at least half their premium in investments in the state, citing other States of the Union. Continuing the subject, he says:

"As these companies pay practically no ad valorem taxes, the tax of one-half per cent on their gross premium receipts of fire, marine and accident insurance companies should be increased to 1 per cent and the tax of 1 1/2 per cent on gross premium receipts for life insurance companies should be increased to two per cent."

The Governor's principal recommendation is in the matter of a repeal of the present Texas assignment law, which authorizes preferred creditors. Touching on this subject, he declares specifically for a repeal of the present preferred creditor system and says in defense of his position:

"What property the debtor may possess is distinctly due to all his creditors. In the exact proportion of their debts they have made it possible for him to acquire the estate and upon every principal of justice they should share equally in its distribution. In mercantile transactions often property, unpaid for and on which a creditor has an equitable and moral lien for the purchase money, is transferred in preference to another creditor entitled to a greater consideration. Disguise it in whatever sophistry in the sphere of conscience, this is despoiling one to satisfy another and the rule which permits it should not be tolerated. This policy not only offers opportunities for gross injustice, but it checks confidence in commercial dealing and promotes the most shameless frauds. Justice, financial integrity, faith in mercantile affairs and the suppression of dishonesty and fraud require that preferences by individuals, whether by assignment, sale, deed, mortgage, collusive attachment or otherwise, should be abolished except for taxes, wages and other claims paid and debts due

an executor, guardian or administrator. With effective legislation on the subject and a voluntary national bankrupt law, some of the unrest in commercial circles will be removed and thousands of deserving citizens released from implacable bondage of debt and their energies again employed in the upbuilding of the State."

We commend to the Texas Legislature the Georgia law on trusts which is very stringent and which according to the Globe-Democrat is doing what the framers of the law contemplated. In speaking of the Georgia law the Globe-Democrat says:

"In Georgia the trusts have seen the handwriting on the wall and are accepting the situation. The Legislature of that state has acted on the suggestion in President Cleveland's last message and passed a law declaring unlawful and void all combinations made to lessen free competition or control the price of products by the trust system. It is announced that the Georgia trusts in tobacco, potash, snuff, coffee and matches have notified their customers and agents that the new law has ended their contracts, and that their prices hereafter will be governed by the open market. The Georgia law was signed by the governor December 23, and the promptness with which the trusts have recognized the wisdom of obeying it is a lesson that will not be lost on other states."

STAGE WHISPERS.

"She can do more in five seconds with her eyes than Anthony Comstock can undo in five years," says James G. Huneker of Anna Held, the latest sensation imported from Paris.

An English comedian says the only way to successfully spring a joke on British theater-goers is to first announce that a joke is about to be sprung, then to spring it, and lastly to explain that it has been sprung.

"Cymbeline" is the tenth Shakespearean play elaborately revived by Henry Irving since he entered upon the management of the Lyceum, at the close of 1878, and the first in which the Roman element has been conspicuous.

Clement Scott, the famous London critic, has a son playing in Daly's company in New York in "The Getsha." A son of William Winter, and a grandson of Tom Haddaway, the famous American comedian, are also in the same organization.

It is probable that "Tom Grogan," which Augustus Thomas aided Hopkinson Smith in making into a play, may not be produced this season after all. Considerable work has to be done on it to get it into shape, as the first draught was far from satisfactory.

Boston is moving in the abolition of obstructive hats in theaters. One manager sends an usher to every offending woman, just before the rise of the curtain, to ask her to remove the nuisance, and in nearly every case she complies without ado.

Recent London papers have given much commendation to a performance by Miss Keith Wakeman, an American actress, who was formerly in Lawrence Barrett's company, and who went to England some time ago with that of E. S. Willard.

J. E. Dodson has discovered that stage limelight and stage goodness have some occult connection. "Possibly, were rectitude in real life pointed out by an extra bit of illumination," philosophizes the clever character comedian, "herocs might be more plentiful."

NOTES OF THE DAY.

Missouri's cattle are conservatively valued at \$28,000,000.

Wood for tennis racquet is kept five years before being used.

Sportsmen are shooting bass in the Potomac. The water in the river is low and clear.

A poor North Carolina farmer turned up a gold nugget on his farm, and has since refused fabulous prices for his lands.

Save in the Ottoman empire, Persia, Arabia, Siam, China and the interior of African countries, slavery is now extinct.

Some generous farmers of Millford, N. H., sent 500 bushels of apples to Boston for distribution by the associated charities among the poor people of that city.

Two old men of Madison, Ohio, have been going to the polls together for sixty years. Now they are each eighty-one years old, with but a month's difference in their ages.

Among Mo. people put in their lives in these districts in the ground in the poorest parts of the town where

location locates various pots of gold coin buried during the war.

Robespierre was in love with Eleanor Duplay, and during the bloodiest days of the revolution spent his evenings at home with her and her mother. "You would think him a priest," she wrote; "he reads to us poetry and the bible."

A Philadelphia woman, who is the mother of three charming little girls recently received a birthday present bearing the following inscription: "Dear mamma, this gift is presented to you by your three children and your one husband."

Wad Bishara, the leader of the dervishes, was wounded when the English took Dongola. As he was carried out of the range of fire he exclaimed to those around him, "Allah is against me!" and decided to evacuate the camp during the night.

WISDOM.

Money is the pick-lock that never fails.

Where there is no money there is no devil.

Scatter sound literature, and the harvest will come in due season.

The more you praise a man who don't deserve it the more you abuse him.

Bicycles seem to have taken the place of brass candlesticks for wedding presents.

A weak constitution can be strengthened, but a weak set of brains can't.

Everybody in this world wants watching, but none more than ourselves.

One of the hardest things in the world is for a man who is stuck up to get down.

The top round of the ladder is an imaginary one; nobody has ever reached it yet.

A wise man is never confounded by what he can't understand, but a fool generally is.

I am no herald to inquire of men's pedigrees; it sufficeth me if I know of their virtues.

It is not always necessary to tell the whole truth, but all that you tell should be the truth.

There is no subject on which so much arrant nonsense has been written as on that of money.

A woman always appreciate a rising young man—in a street car.

Ballard's Horehound Syrup.

We guarantee this to be the best cough syrup manufactured in the whole wide world. This is saying a great deal, but it is true. For consumption, coughs, colic, sore throat, sore chest, pneumonia, bronchitis, asthma, croup, whooping cough, and all diseases of the throat and lungs, we positively guarantee Ballard's Horehound Syrup to be without an equal on the whole face of the globe. In support of this statement we refer to every individual who has ever used it, and to every druggist who has ever sold it. Such evidence is indisputable. Price 25c and 50c Sold by L. H. Haring & Co.

A Sound Liver Makes a Well Man.

Are you bilious, constipated or troubled with jaundice, sick headache, bad taste in mouth, foul breath, coated tongue, dyspepsia, indigestion, hot dry skin, pain in back and between the shoulders, chills and fever, etc. If you have any of these symptoms, your liver is out of order, and your blood is slowly being poisoned, because your liver does not act properly. HERRINE will cure any disorder of the liver, stomach or bowels. It has no equal as a liver medicine. Price 75c. Free trial bottle at L. H. Haring & Co.

Ballard's Snow Liment

Mrs. Hamilton, Cambridge, Ill., says: I had the rheumatism so bad I could not raise my hand to my head. Ballard's Snow Liment has entirely cured me. I take pleasure in informing my neighbors and friends what it has done for me. Chas. Handy, clerk for Lay & Lyman, Kewanee, Ill., advises us Snow Liment cured him of Rheumatism. Why not try it? It will surely do you good. It cures all Inflammation, Wounds, Sores, Cuts, Sprains, etc. Sold by L. H. Haring & Co.

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

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

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

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THAT'S THE ACCUMULATION POLICY OF THE New York Life Insurance Co. JNO. MANGUM, Agent, Crockett, Tex.

Fire, Life and Accident Insurance. 27 LEADING AMERICAN AND 27 FOREIGN COMPANIES. The wet season is over and we are sure to have our share of fires.

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A DUNKARD COLONY.

THEY ARE SETTLING LANDS IN LOUISIANA.

They Come from Illinois, Kansas and Indiana and are Trifty Citizens and Have Some Money—They all Like the Southwest.

Lake Charles, La., Jan. 16.—There is a great movement of Dunkards from Kansas, Illinois and Indiana to the unsettled lands of Calcasieu parish and the southeastern rice belt. Thursday a fresh party arrived from Nappanee, Elkhart county, Indiana, and were yesterday prospecting in the Bonair settlement. They are headed by J. C. Mellinger, Dr. G. L. Shoemaker and Messrs. Good and Culp, all from that section of the Hoosier state, some of the party being Mennonites, a sect very much like the Dunkards proper. They are thrifty, desirable citizens, and all have some money. They usually settle in bunches, and support churches and schools of their own. This company was delighted with the southwest, and the prospects are that a big colony will come in from Northern Indiana as the result of this investigation.

A short time previous to their arrival the Watkins Railroad company had a party of Dunkards here from sections in Illinois. In fact, that was the beginning of what promises to be an enormous system. Last fall the Dunkards held a grand gathering, a kind of clannish convention, in Kansas, where thousands of the sect assembled. The Watkins company sent a representative to that convention, and told them of the immense agricultural lands in Southwestern Louisiana and on the Texas border, and invited them to come and inspect the place. A party of twenty-five, as a committee from the convention, was brought down in a special car and shown over the entire country. That shrewd movement is now bearing fruit.

The big colony at Roanoke of the Southern Pacific railroad is well established. There are 100 of them, and they have a church of their own, everything about the place denoting the keenest of prosperity. There is money in the settlement, and it is a custom of their own that when one member of a colony gets behind or temporarily embarrassed financially all the fellow members chip in and help him out.

The Watkins company laid out what it called "communities," which should be especially adapted to this sort of immigrants. A "community" on an average consists of four sections of land, or about 2500 acres, and there is a church lot to each settlement. Thursday I. S. Metzger, of Cerro Gordo, Ill., contracted for 300 acres of land at the Bonair community, and left for home to arrange for the coming of several families. Joseph Shively, of Mulberry, Clinton county, Indiana, was also of the party, and he expects to invest. The movement of Dunkards is slow, but steady, and a class of settlers that is regarded as among the most desirable now seeking homes in the great southwest.

Want Montauk Point.
River Head, N. Y., Jan. 16.—The Montauk tribe of Indians, by their chief and king, Wyandank Pharliah, have asked County Judge Benjamin H. Reeve to bring an action against the Long Island Railroad company for the recovery of Montauk Point. The suit involves the title to the peninsula of Montauk, which consists of about 900 acres of land and worth perhaps \$500,000. The summons and complaint, drawn up by New York lawyers, are ready for service, but they have not been presented to Judge Reeve.

The Indians claim that they hold the right to inhabit the peninsula and to enjoy all the benefits to be derived therefrom. When the property was sold to Arthur W. Benson, in 1873, it was sold subject to the rights of these Indians to use and occupy certain portions of the land known as the Indian Field.

The land in litigation takes in Fort Pond bay, which the late Austin Corbin hoped to make a free port.

When Benson purchased the property the Montauk Indians were still in possession and enjoyed their full rights. Benson soon began to remove the Indians. He made them liberal offers and finally purchased land near Pelham, and established an Indian colony.

There are not more than ten full blooded Indians left of the tribe. Wyandank Pharliah, now king, is a son of King David, whose fore fathers led the powerful Montauks against the tribes of Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The queen of Montauk now occupies a little hut in Freetown. She is very aged, and is a genuine Indian squaw.

Near Monterey, Ky., recently, Jennie Browning drowned herself and child.

At Asper, Cal., John Motta was hanged the other day.

Men Adrift on Ice.

Monominee, Mich., Jan. 16.—Last night nine men were clinging to a block of ice a few rods square that was being driven out of Green bay by a fierce southerly gale.

The wind was blowing thirty miles an hour and carries with it a zero temperature and an occasional snow squall. The men are fishermen, clad only in the none too heavy clothing worn while tending their nets, and unless the ice floe has been blown against Chambers' island or Green's island, there is little possibility that they lived through the night.

The doomed men are residents of Menasha, and their wives and children and neighbors spent the night on the mountains of ice barricading the beach, watching.

The missing men are: Neis Mattson, Otto Christianson, Ed Hoffman, Lars Larson, Matt Halgren, Seth Jeltson, John Johnson, Thomas Kutson and Tom Lund.

Yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock a strip of ice about ten miles long, extending south from the mouth of the Menominee river, broke from the west shore and was carried rapidly toward the east shore of Green bay, in the direction of Death's Door.

When the ice floe left its anchorage were on the ice, tending their nets, but were so far away from the crack that by the time the alarm had been given the crack was so wide that they could not escape to the shore. Signals of distress were displayed, but it was some time before they were discovered, and meantime the ice had swept well toward the middle of the bay. Two yawls were manned and four men were brought to the shore, but the others, fearing that help could not reach them from Mainstay or Menominee, had rushed to the eastern side of the ice, evidently intending to escape to Green's island and thus reach Chambers' island or Door bluff, on the east shore of the Green bay. As the darkness settled down, however, the ice could be seen carrying well into the lake, and fishermen think escape is impossible.

Minister Willis Dead.

San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 16.—The steamer Monowal, which arrived here at midnight Friday, brought advices from Honolulu to the effect that United States Minister Albert S. Willis died at 9:30 a. m. on Jan. 6, after an illness covering several months, resulting from the attack of pneumonia he contracted while on his vacation to the United States.

In April the minister and his family left Hawaii for a visit to their old home at Louisville. While in San Francisco, on the return trip, the minister contracted a severe cold, which settled upon his lungs. This was the immediate cause of his death. At noon on Dec. 31, while leaving church, his horse ran away and threw Mr. Willis to the ground. He was taken to a physician's office, and soon recovered sufficiently to return to his home at Waikiki. He never left it again.

Fever increased, and the cold taken in San Francisco soon developed into pneumonia. This settled so firmly upon the lungs that it could not be checked. All human effort was expended without avail. Three physicians labored incessantly and held frequent consultations upon the case. A few days before Christmas the case was pronounced hopeless.

Held for Wife Murder.

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 16.—Patrick Donahoe, who was married Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock, was arrested yesterday, charged with murdering his wife. A reception was given at their home, at 219 Darien street, which lasted until 10 o'clock Thursday night. That was the last seen of the couple until yesterday morning, when a milkman came along and rang the door bell. Donahoe came to the door, frightened and haggard, and asked the milkman to go for his sister, saying his wife was ill. When Donahoe's sister reached the house she found the woman dead. Her face was black, her head cut and bloody finger marks were on her neck. Donahoe was placed under arrest, but denies all knowledge of the murder.

A Serious Charge.

New York, Jan. 16.—Theodore P. Steele, a lawyer, was arraigned in the central police court yesterday, charged with passing a worthless check for a small sum on Clara A. Davenport, a typewriter, who also says he betrayed her while she was employed in his office. He was unable to furnish \$200 bail, and was taken to prison. Mr. Steele came originally from Lexington, Ky., and belongs to one of the oldest families of that state. It is said that Col. W. C. P. Breckinridge is his first cousin. Steele has practiced law in New York for thirteen years.

On the Stage.

First Actor—How much do you earn in your new role?

Second Actor—I earn about \$500 a week, but the manager only gives me \$25.—Texas Siftings.

SIXTEEN ARE DEAD.

VICTIMS OF THE ORPHANS' HOME FIRE INCREASE.

Several More May Yet Die from Their Injuries—Heartrending Scenes Were Witnessed—List of the Dead and Injured. Visit Texas.

Dallas, Tex., Jan. 17.—The fullness of the horror of the fire at the Buckner Orphans' Home Friday night was not discovered and fully realized until daylight.

The fire, which commenced about 10 o'clock at night, and raged until the boys' dormitory was destroyed, did not cool enough for a search for bodies in the ashes until about 3 o'clock in the morning.

At that time it was thought that only five children had been burned to death.

When the ashes had cooled enough to admit of a search scores of sympathizing friends and neighbors began the sad task of finding the bodies of the five who, it was known, had perished.

The search had hardly been instituted when the terrible truth that there were more than five bodies in the ashes appeared. The search continued until dawn, when fifteen bodies had been found. The names and homes of the dead are as follows:

Oscar Jackson, aged 13, Dallas county; Birdie Britton, aged 13, Dallas county; Marvin Britton, Milton Britton (twins), aged 10, Dallas county; Carlos Jones, aged 5, Hunt county; Willie Richards, aged 8, Collin county; Grover Cleveland Yarborough, aged 13, Smith county; Preston Cribbs, aged 13, Fannin county; William Miller, aged 7, Lamar county; Virgil Nelson, aged 10, Marion county; Eugene Black, aged 8, Callahan county; Richard Marsh, aged 10, Denton county; Arthur Edwards, aged 10, Wise county; Oscar Howard, aged 5, Cherokee county; Ray King, aged 9, Indian Territory; Thomas O'Bannon, aged 6, died at 1 o'clock Sunday afternoon from his burns.

The seriously injured are: Dan Grace, aged 5, seriously burned over two-thirds of his body. He is not expected to live. Earle Doodle, aged 5, badly burned on the back, but has a chance for recovery. Charles Boyd Friend, aged 10, seriously and probably fatally burned on head, face, hands and arms, and injured on the head from jumping from the second story. Richard Zurnwoldt, aged 12, seriously burned on head, face and neck and both arms and hands. Studie Britton, aged 17, hands burned and ankle sprained from a jump from the second story. Walter Blockington Yarborough, aged 8, both hands burned. Benzie Ware, aged 11, seriously burned over half the surface of his skin; not expected to live. Jim Scott, aged 10, burned on both legs. Samuel Henderson, aged 10, burned about face, hands and arms; not considered fatal.

Santa Fe Officials Visit Texas.

Dallas, Tex., Jan. 18.—The visit of Paul Morton, third vice-president of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, but who is supposed to be very close to the throne; W. B. Biddle, freight traffic manager, and F. C. Gay, the Topeka general freight agent, is looked upon as indicating a revival of railway improvement in this state and preparation for increased traffic from the northwest. Mr. Morton said that despite the hard times the business of the Santa Fe system had increased during 1896. "We had a large movement of export corn and other grain into the state," he said, "which went through the port of Galveston. The enormous increase in the volume of business is coincident with the deepening of the approaches to Galveston so that vessels of the deepest draught can enter without difficulty. We look for a still further increase this year. Being nearer the grain producing district than New York, there is every reason why Galveston people should expect at no distant day to become one of the largest grain exporting points in the country."

Damage Suit.

Taylor, Tex., Jan. 17.—On the morning of Jan. 3 Albert Bisong and his daughter, Lillie, of Taylor, while en route to the International and Great Northern railroad depot at this place, fell into an excavation on Main street and both sustained painful injuries. As a result of this accident Mr. Bisong Friday entered suit in the district court of Williamson county at Georgetown jointly against the International railroad and the city of Taylor for damages to himself and daughter in the sum of \$10,000.

Her Suspicion.

"Circs," said the lecturer, "as you no doubt remember, turned men into bugs."

"I wonder if she did it by starting a street car line" mused the woman who had been in a strap all the way to the hall.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

A Mock Marriage.

Galveston, Texas, January 19.—W. M. Martin, a conductor on the Katy, was arrested in Denison yesterday, charged with one of the most revolting crimes known to our penal code. The facts, as near as can be ascertained, are that Martin has been waiting on Miss Susie Marshall of Henrietta for several months past, and they were to have been married Christmas, but Martin postponed the wedding, agreeing to the date of January 12. Miss Marshall met him here last Tuesday, and they were supposedly married. Wednesday Martin went to Denison to return next day, but he failed to show up, and Mrs. Martin began to inquire for him, and in brought out the facts that no license had been issued, and the man who Martin said was a justice of the peace was an impostor.

Miss Marshall is a very handsome girl of 17, comes of one of the most highly respected families in Henrietta, and the shock will be a great one to her many friends. Martin is in jail and refuses to talk. To all inquiries he says, "Ask her." The man who impersonated the justice of the peace has not been apprehended.

Movement in Grain.

Galveston, Texas, January 19.—The threatened grain blockade is not quite so threatening now as it was. The Wharf company's elevator got rid of a pretty good lot of grain yesterday, thus making room for more to be unloaded from the cars, and the indications are that in a few days tonnage will be sufficient to relieve the elevator of a considerable portion of the million bushels of grain stored therein. There were two steamships under the spouts yesterday and the day before, the Victoria taking 42,000 bushels yesterday and the Endeavor taking as much as could be pumped into her of the 100,000 bushels for which she has engagements. Other vessels to move the grain are overdue and should arrive within the next two or three days, and shipping men who are conservative say there is less danger of congestion than at some of the other ports where lack of tonnage has threatened to interfere with a perfectly free and easy movement of all the grain offered. However, Galveston has realized the necessity for increased elevator facilities, and has gone to work to provide them much sooner, perhaps, than would otherwise have been done.

Nothing Against Howey.

Dover, Dela., January 19.—The democratic senatorial caucus last night nominated Mr. Kenney, a prominent lawyer of this city on the twenty-sixth ballot. Mr. Kenney has always voted the democratic ticket and was an ardent supporter of Mr. Bryan. The last ballot resulted: Kenney, 13; Salisbury, 8; Walcott, 3.

The "Rump" legislature made up of fourteen republican representatives and three republican senators, held a caucus and unanimously selected J. Edward Addicks for United States senator.

Winnipeg, Manitoba, January 18.—The Grand opera house here was totally destroyed by fire at 2 o'clock yesterday morning with all its contents. The theater was opened only two weeks ago. Loss, \$40,000. The theater adjoined the Hotel Manitoba, and this had a narrow escape, the interior being flooded with water to save it.

Big Fish Scheme.

San Francisco, Cal., January 19.—An important pooling arrangement has been brought about between the Alaska Packers' association and the Alaska Fruit company, that will materially affect the salmon industry in Northern waters and the price of canned salmon next season. Under the terms of the agreement the entire product of all Alaskan canneries are to be put in pool and marketed by the Alaskan Packers' association, at prices, which, while eliminating existing competition, are expected to greatly exceed the prices now in vogue.

Aransas Pass Deepening.

Corpus Christi, Texas, January 19.—A recent unofficial sounding was made at Aransas Pass and the average increase of water over the bar is said to be 18 inches. This increased depth is attributed to the efficacy of dynamite, which is now being extensively used at the Pass. The people in this section are more sanguine than ever that deep water at Aransas Pass is now an assured fact, as the work is being prosecuted in a practical manner and already shows good results by the increased depth.

Cowboy Recruits.

Fort Worth, Texas, January 19.—H. Warr and Charlie Sweeney are here from Virginia City, Nev. With twenty other cowboys they started for Cuba to join the patriot army at El Paso. Thinking they had been spotted, these two left their companions and went to Galveston to reconnoiter and found that they could not embark from that port; they are now returning, but as they can hear nothing from their friends either by letter or wire, they think they must have been straggled in submarine captivity.

TEXAS NEWS ITEMS.

sons are busy throughout Texas.

Jim Robertson of Mount Calm, was arrested recently on a charge of seduction. He waived examination and his bond was fixed at \$500.

A Mexican was arrested near Granger and taken to the county jail at Georgetown, Williamson county, the other day, charged with passing counterfeit money.

A few night ago Saddler, Fowler & Hall, general merchandise dealers at Saddler Switch, Grayson county, filed a chattel mortgage. Enumerated indebtedness about \$1300.

The engine drawing passenger train No. 4, arriving at Denison from the south at 1:30 in the morning, was struck by lightning near Pottsboro the other day. No serious damage was done.

News came to Jacksonville, Cherokee county, recently, of a killing about nine miles from town. The victim was a boy about 16 years of age. His name was Tipton. The weapon used was a pocketknife.

Dr. Odell, of Roanoke, Denton county, was dragged over a wire fence by his frightened horse and a gash about six inches long cut to the bone in one of his legs. The wound was very severe, but not serious.

Burglars entered the residence of James Meadows at Denison a few nights ago and took therefrom \$25 in cash and a pearl handled revolver. Mr. Meadows and family were away from home at the time. The back door was forced open.

Justice Hill a few mornings ago held an inquest on the body of Mariah Murphy, a young girl who died at Houston. From the evidence it seems that the unfortunate girl met her death from eating some poisonous red berries which she mistook for haws.

Mr. D. T. Taylor, who is charged with killing Jesse Bryant at Vilas, Bell county, in 1896, had a habeas corpus trial before District Judge Furman at Belton the other day. Judge Furman fixed his bail at \$5000, which he has not given, but which, it is said, he will be able to give.

R. A. Stuckert, lumber dealer, was found dead in his lumber yard at Yokum, DeWitt county, a few evenings ago. Mr. Stuckert was in ill health. He moved there from Brenham about two years ago, and was doing an extensive business. He leaves a wife and four children.

James M. Fuller, residing on Major J. S. Grinnan's farm, fainted from weakness on the streets of Terrell recently. He sustained several gashes on the face and forehead, two of them cutting to the bone. His physician states that he had just recovered from an attack of la grippe.

News was received at Laredo, Webb county, the other day of the shooting of Sermando Camales, son of Gen. Camales, of Trivino. The cause of the affair is an old family feud. The latest account is that young Camales cannot survive. He was well and favorably known in the city.

The postoffice, George P. Knight, postmaster, and store at Calaveras, Wilson county, was burglarized a few nights ago. The safe was blown open with dynamite and the robbers got \$70 and some goods. The same night the postoffice and store at Lorenz was robbed of \$20 and some goods.

Mr. M. D. Haygood, former editor of the Standard, at Marble Falls, Burnitt county, and Miss Mamie Camp, while on their way to a sociable the other night, were thrown out of their buggy by an unruly horse. Mr. Haygood received internal injuries. Miss Camp's injuries are not serious.

A colored lad named Tim Hawkins, who is charged with forging a note was up for trial in Justice Cutler's court at Denison the other evening. The witnesses in the case were not present and the case was postponed. Coming down the stairway, the lad made a break for liberty and gave the officers a merry chase before he was recaptured.

The Texas Midland railroad, in connection with the Frisco, carried nineteen carloads of cattle from Greenville to St. Louis, Mo., recently, in nineteen hours. The train left Greenville at 1 a. m. and reached St. Louis that evening at 7 o'clock, making the fastest time ever made by a cattle train from Texas to St. Louis.

Marion Mackey, a star route mail carrier on the route from San Antonio to Spring Branch, was arraigned before Commissioner West at San Antonio recently on a charge of cutting open a mail bag. The mail bag was cut open and valuable letters and packages scattered along the road for quite a distance. Mackey denies taking any money from the mail.

At Denton recently while riding an unruly horse W. B. Brown, a well known farmer, was thrown into a barbed wire wire fence and severely cut, the wound extending to the brain and necessitating a long stay in the hospital.

GINGER BUTTS.



HE Laborer: It was in Newborn, N. C., that I first locked hands and swore eternal friendship to Harry Butts. Thirty years ago he and I worked on the Times of that city. The favorite drink with the lads in that locality was known as "whisky squeeze."

The gentleman behind the bar having poured out as much of the liquid hardware as he thought it prudent to hide away, the gentleman behind that wooden structure would, with his dexter hand, force a few drops of lemon juice in the glass and your whisky squeeze was ready for the sacrifice.

One night Harry Butts changed the order of things and requested that a few drops of the extract of ginger be deposited in his glass instead of the customary lemon juice. This modest request of Harry's tickled the lads; and ever afterward he was known as "Ginger" Butts. No man ever drank alone in that town. Southern hospitality demanded that everyone should "hit" until his neighbor was accommodated, and the man who treated would shout: "Show your glass," when every glass would be drained. I have seen a score of typos outside of the old-fashioned bar of the Gaston house, which, I believe, was situated on Pollock street, wait with true politeness for the cry of "show your glass," at which command each tumbler would be emptied with precision.

Now, Ginger Butts was a good-natured, handsome fellow, and half the white girls in Newborn were in love with him, not to mention a few of the off-colored ones. But Ginger fought shy of the fair sex until he met a young lady in the name of—well, just here I'll call her Kate Devere. Kate was a typical southern beauty. She had the dark hair, flashing eyes, ruddy cheeks, coral lips and the tall symmetrical form so often met with in the daughters of Dixie. That she was high-spirited and imperious, will be seen later on.

Now, there wasn't a lad on the Times but would have given his whole week's string for a smile or a tender word from Kate, and for a time a certain individual who shall be nameless felt that he was making rapid progress in her good graces until Ginger fastened his blue eyes upon her, and then that nameless person's stock began rapidly to decline.

One night at a little social gathering Ginger confidentially informed us that a week previously he had said to Kate "Will you?" and that the young lady had blushing replied, "I will." So it was hands down and eyes off with all the rest of us after that. Some of us, the nameless person above alluded to included, felt rather sore upon the receipt of this information, but it was only momentarily. Ginger was such an all-round favorite that it was almost impossible to bear him malice, and in the course of a half hour we were all "showing our bottom" at Ginger's expense.



"UNMANLY BOOR! BEGONE."

The day of the consummation of the nuptials had been named. They were to be married in October, and Ginger thought it would be a good and friendly thing to give an entertainment to a few of his bachelor friends shortly before the wedding. As no paper was issued on Sunday, a Saturday evening in the latter part of September was selected as the most appropriate time for the affair.

So on that memorable Saturday evening a score or more of us, by special invitation, repaired to Miss Kate's vine-clad cottage, which was situated just outside of town, all prepared to have a quiet, sociable, but jovial time.

Unfortunately for Ginger, in anticipation of the pleasure of the evening, he had indulged a trifle too much in his favorite beverage during the afternoon. Whether it was the whisky or the ginger that worked the change in him, I never could ascertain, but certain it was that he was a trifle weak in his limbs, and slightly incoherent in his speech.

Miss Devere was alone in the parlor when we arrived and received us with the southern hospitality. How beautiful she looked! What a vision of the ideal woman! There's nothing more beautiful than a young woman who has been brought up in the best of ways, and who has been

good in 1866, and does yet if an old-timer's opinion is worth recording. Certainly never before or since have I seen anyone look "half so sweet" as Kate did on that evening. She was the very embodiment of love's young dream.

Well, the young lady sat down to the piano, and for half an hour entertained us with the "Star Spangled Banner," the "Bonnie Blue Flag," "Hail Columbia," "My Maryland" and various other patriotic airs. When she concluded Ginger rose, waltzed gracefully to the old-fashioned sideboard, upon which glasses and decanters were placed, and requested us to imbibe. As one man we accepted the invitation. Then the prospective bridegroom raised his glass, and stammered: "N-now, gentlemen sh-show your bot-bottom."

We were about to empty when my eye rested on Kate, and I raised my hand warningly. "Wh-wha's matter?" persisted Ginger. "Sh-show bot-bottom!"

Again I raised my hand. Instinctively every eye turned toward me, and from me to Kate.

She stood erect, her tall form towering to its fullest height, and from her black eyes flashed forth a glance of scorn and contempt. "Unmanly boor!" she cried, "is this language fit for a lady's presence? Begone!" and she haughtily pointed toward the door.

As if by magic the recreant lover stood before her completely sobered. "Kate," he cried piteously. But the haughty southern blood within her was afire. That blood which overcame us at Fall Run and Chancellorsville and nearly turned the tide of battle at Gettysburg, was boiling in her veins like a volcano, and she again pointed to the door.

Broken hearted, crestfallen, humiliated, Ginger seized his hat and departed. Silently we followed in his footsteps.

Poor Ginger! We tried to comfort him, but he was inconsolable. A few days afterward he endeavored to explain and affect a reconciliation. But 'twas of no avail. The imperious maiden, who should have been born in the middle ages—"in the days of old when knights were bold"—refused, most emphatically, to harken to his frantic appeal, and preemptorily ordered him from her presence. Within a fortnight he left the Sunny South for the rugged hills of his native New Hampshire.

A dozen years ago, while touring the eastern states I met Ginger in a country town in Massachusetts. He was greatly changed; presumably old, and suffering from melancholia. He made a confidante of me; told me he had never forgotten his early love; she was still his ideal, and that's why he never married.

INDIAN DIVORCES.

The Courts Flaying Havoc with Customs of Marriage.

With most of the plain Indians marriage consists simply of picking out the maiden, leading her to a cabin or wigwam and installing her as mistress of the house and corn-field, sometimes with the necessary preliminary of paying the father a pony or two or an installment of blankets and occasionally with some slight ceremony performed by a chief or medicine man, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. And when the brave grows tired of his partner he can get rid of her as easily as he won her. The people who are now flocking to the Dakotas or Oklahoma to get divorces would be supremely happy if they could throw off the galling bonds of wedlock as easily as does the reservation Indian. The fact having been formally announced by the head man of the clan the divorce takes place when the tribe is gathered at a dance. When all are assembled and the circle formed, the discontented warrior strikes a drum used by the revelers, gives away a few presents (ofttimes making a present to the squaw he intends to take next) and then in a short, bombastic speech he stigmatizes his wife by giving her over to tender mercies of the other braves, while they look upon him enviously and consider that he has performed an act of bravery in his desertion. Often as many as half a dozen divorces are thus obtained at a single dance. No tedious waiting, no courts, no lawyers and no trouble about alimony or the custody of children. And the squaws (thus cast off, as a general thing, seem to take it as a matter of course, and before the close of the dance are using the wiles known and used by women the world over in an effort to repair as speedily as possible the break in their hearts and matrimonial experiences. With the taking of land in severalty and putting on of citizenship, however, the Indian finds that he has cemented the ties that were no looser before, for the courts everywhere are deciding that the tribal marriages are legal and binding upon the Indian who becomes a citizen. And if the weight of one legal marriage wears somewhat heavily upon a white man, how must it be with the red man, who has contracted two, three, four or even more alliances which the court now declares legal and at the same time sets away his former alliances of relationship.

IS NOT SETTLED YET.

UNITED STATES AND SPAIN HAVE NOT AGREED.

It is Denied that a Special Envoy Has Been Sent from Spain to the United States to Negotiate Terms of an Agreement.

Washington, Jan. 15.—It is positively and authoritatively denied that the United States and Spain have practically concluded an agreement regarding terms to be offered the insurgents for the settlement of the Cuban rebellion, or that there has been any change in the situation since the date of the president's message.

It can be stated furthermore that until yesterday when Senor de Lome made his usual Thursday diplomatic call on the secretary of state there has been no conference between Secretary Olney and the Spanish minister up to last Thursday, when the latter was among the list of diplomats who paid their respects to the secretary and saw him regarding the public business.

The United States, as stated in the president's message, made certain representations to Spain and the present attitude of this government is that of awaiting the response of Spain to the suggestion that the interests of the United States and other considerations demanded that the war should not be prolonged or indefinitely dragged out.

It is denied also that a special envoy of Spain has been or is to be sent to the United States shortly as a private negotiator with special instructions from Senor Canovas and the Duke of Tetuan. It is said that this latter report probably arises from the fact that Senor Solar has arrived in Washington recently to succeed one of the secretaries of the legation. Senor Solar was formerly the secretary to the Duke of Teutap and when his coming was first announced a report similar to the present one was circulated and officially denied.

Madrid, Jan. 15.—Semi-official denial is published here that Spain and the United States have arrived at an agreement regarding the terms of settlement of the Cuban question. Senor Canovas del Castillo says that at the present there is no question of the introduction of reforms in Cuba.

Deaths at Washington.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The senate yesterday passed the free homestead bill, which has been under discussion since the holiday recess. It is a measure of far-reaching importance, particularly to the west and the interest in it was shown by the fact that a plank concerning it was a feature of the several national platforms.

The effect of the bill is to open to settlement all public lands acquired from Indians free of any payment to the government beyond the minor office fees and to release from payment those who have heretofore settled on these lands. The number of acres involved is 33,252,541, which would have yielded the government \$35,345,000. But it was brought out in debate that the lands were mainly arid and the settlers were unable to make payment. The western senators, in the main, favored the bill as an extension of the general homestead policy of the government. The opposition was directed mainly by Mr. Platt, of Connecticut, and Mr. Vilas, of Wisconsin. As the bill passed in the house it covered only the lands acquired from the Indians in Oklahoma, but as passed the bill includes all Indian lands. The final vote, taken by agreement at 4 p. m., showed a decisive majority in favor of the measure.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The house yesterday devoted considerable time on the Groat bill to make oleomargarine and other imitation dairy products subject to the laws of the state or territory into which they are transported. An arrangement was agreed to extend the debate an hour and a half and then take a vote.

Mr. Groat, in charge of the bill, offered an amendment providing that "nothing in the act shall be construed to permit any state to forbid the manufacture or sale of oleomargarine in such a manner as will advise the customer of its real character."

Mr. Groat's amendment was adopted. The bill was then passed—yeas 126 to nays 96.

Charged With Perjury.

San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 15.—J. J. Cooney, ex-notary, was yesterday arrested on a warrant sworn out by Charles L. Fair, for alleged perjury. At the Fair trial Cooney testified that the late ex-Senator Fair, on Sept. 27, 1894, acknowledged to him his signature to deeds conveying property worth \$1,000,000 to Mrs. Nettie Craven, a school teacher, who claims to be the widow of Fair. District Attorney Burgess states that the prosecution will prove that the paper on which the alleged acknowledgment was taken was manufactured at a later date than that on which Cooney asserted Fair made acknowledgment.

Fight With Insurgents.

Havana, Jan. 15.—The San Quentin battalion of Cayo de Espino, province of Pinar del Rio, has had a skirmish with the insurgents, during which the latter lost nine men killed, including the secretary of Gen. Ruiz Rivera, the insurgent leader who succeeded Antonio Maceo in command of the Cuban forces in that part of the island.

The troops also destroyed three insurgent camps and burned 200 huts. The column had seven men wounded. The Spanish columns commanded by Gens. Yncian and Gesco have been engaged with several insurgent bands in different parts of Pinar del Rio, have destroyed three camps and have burned 200 huts. The insurgents lost twenty-two men killed, retired with many wounded, and the troops captured twelve prisoners. The Spaniards had two men killed and fourteen wounded.

During a number of small skirmishes in the provinces of Matanzas and Santa Clara recently the insurgents lost twenty-two men killed. The troops captured six prisoners and the government forces had twenty-two men wounded.

In the past three days 344 armed insurgents have surrendered at different points in Matanzas, Santa Clara and Pinar del Rio.

The insurgent leader, Andres Sboroto, has been killed in an engagement at Yaguajay, in Santa Clara. An insurgent camp, consisting of fifty huts has been destroyed by the troops near Santiago de Cuba.

Chased a Steamboat.

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 15.—The Clyde steamship Delaware, Capt. Ingraham, which arrived in port yesterday morning from Boston, had quite an unexpected adventure just before daylight yesterday, when near Official bar, being mistaken for a filibuster by the dispatch boat Dolphin.

The Dolphin's searchlight was being used almost constantly, and so discovered the Delaware lying rather close to shore. The light showed the steamship that it was too near shore, and it immediately headed out. At the same time a launch going out, which had lost its position, the compass failing to work, instead of proceeding south, headed east, apparently to meet the Delaware. This aroused the suspicion of the Dolphin's officers, and the vessel went in pursuit of the two crafts, soon overhauling them. An officer was put aboard each vessel, and they were escorted back to the bar. The officer aboard the Delaware reporting that vessel all right, she was allowed to come up to the city, the officer still remaining on board. The captain of the launch explained matters satisfactorily and was allowed to proceed.

Mine Owner Missing.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 15.—Millionaire Mine Owner George S. Hammond of the San Juan mining district of New Mexico is missing, and it is feared he has been foully dealt with.

Hammond left Albuquerque, N. M., Christmas week bound for Chicago to dispose of some mining property. He had several thousand dollars with him and a quantity of valuable jewelry. Detectives have learned that a ticket purchased by Mr. Hammond was used to this city, but further than this there is no clue to the man's whereabouts.

None of the hotel registers of the city contain his signature, and a tour of private boarding houses has not offered a clue. It is believed by the detectives that Mr. Hammond fell into the hands of strangers and was robbed, or perhaps murdered for his money. Mrs. Hammond and her daughter will arrive in Chicago Saturday to aid in the search.

Still Protesting.

Ardmore, I. T., Jan. 14.—The following protest against the ratification of the Dawes treaty was telegraphed the secretary of the interior yesterday by Messrs. B. F. Frenesley, A. S. Wolverton, S. S. Hammer and W. A. Ledbetter, the Seminole committee:

"Ardmore, I. T., Jan. 14.—Hon. David R. Francis, secretary of the interior, Washington, D. C.: We protest against provisions in Dawes Choctaw treaty which assesses present value to lots over what they were worth as raw land. Treaty as agreed on means destruction to towns, and we ask that it be changed to fix fair basis of apportionment. We protest against all alien board of appraisers."

The Battle Ground.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 15.—The fight between Corbett and Fitzsimmons is to be pulled off in Mexico. This was settled yesterday by a personal message from Dan A. Stuart to his representative, Lew M. Koussman of this city, which closed with the words: "Prepare your friends for a trip to Mexico." The fight will take place just over the Rio Grande in either the state of Chihuahua or that of Coahuila.

Harry—I always wear a hat to suit my head; hang the style. Dick—Yes; I notice that a soft hat is your favorite.

Tom—You look awful blue. I suppose it's because of Miss Maybelle's having rejected you? Cholly—Yes, I can't help feeling sorry for the poor girl.

Max Muller knew eighteen different languages to the extent of being able to speak or write in any one, and a considerable number in addition less perfectly.

Houston, January 20th, 1897.

Lecture Hon. W. J. Bryan, Agents from Cypress to Calvert and Austin in inclusive on the Houston and Texas Central railroad for trains arriving at Hempstead and arriving at Houston on the evening of January 20th, will sell round trip tickets to Houston at one fare; account Lecture Hon. W. J. Bryan. Limit tickets January 21st, 1897.

M. L. Robbins, G. P. & T. A.

Judge—What made you turn burglar? Tramp—I am so fat that people refused to give me food.

"Do you think the pictures will be life-like?" "Yes, indeed. She was a perfect r—ge with the artist."

The Most Unique Calendar of the Season

Has just been issued by the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Ry. Copy can be secured by sending six cents in stamps to cover postage, to A. J. Smith, G. P. A. Cleveland.

The Kansas City Star is of opinion that Russell Sage has probably more ready money and less fun than any man of his class in America.

NO-TO-BAC FOR FIFTY CENTS.

Over 404,000 cured. Why not let No-To-Bac regulate or move your desire for tobacco. Saves money, makes health and manhood. Cure guaranteed, 50c and \$1.00 all druggists.

Hamilton tells us a story of an old Scottish shepherd who knew the bible by heart. When hearing any verse, no matter from what book, he could go on and give the remainder of the chapter. He could also locate most of the verses by book, chapter and number.

When billions of costive, eat a Cascaes, candy cathartic, cure guaranteed 10c, 25c.

The devil has trouble with the man who minds his own business.

FITS stopped free and permanently cured. No fits after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Free 25 trial bottle and treatise. Send to Dr. R. C. Allen, Philadelphia, Pa.

The commercial travelers' fair at Madison Square garden, New York, cleared over \$15,000. The trustees have voted to make it an annual occurrence.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25 cents a bottle.

There are 70,000 persons destitute in Chicago, according to the canvas of the charity organizations.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All Druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

Humboldt calculated that the average level of North America is 748 feet above the ocean.

Rheumatism

Is a blood disease and only a blood remedy can cure it. So many people make the mistake of taking remedies which at best are only tonics and cannot possibly reach their trouble. Mr. Asa Smith, Greencastle, Indiana, says: "For years I have suffered with Sciatic Rheumatism, which the best physicians were unable to relieve. I took many patent medicines but they did not seem to reach my trouble. I gradually grew worse until I was unable to take my food or handle myself in any way; I was absolutely helpless. Three bottles of S.S.S. relieved me so that I was soon able to move my right arm; before long I could walk across the room, and when I had finished one dozen bottles was cured completely and am as well as ever. I now weigh 170."

A Real Blood Remedy. S.S.S. cures Scrofula, Cancer, Eczema, and any form of blood troubles. If you have a blood disease, take a blood medicine—S.S.S. (guaranteed purely vegetable) is exclusively for the blood and is recommended for nothing else. It forces out the poison matter permanently. We will send to anyone our valuable books. Address Swift Specific Co., Atlanta, Ga.

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W. N. U. HOUSTON—No. 4—1897.
When Answering Advertisements Kindly Mention This Paper.

The energy of English patriotism shows itself in all classes of English people, from the peer to the criminal. An incident of the Crimean war, mentioned by Mr. Hawthorne in a letter to his family, illustrates this fact. We quote from "Some Memories of Hawthorne," published in the Atlantic Monthly: "No act of the British people in behalf of the soldiers has struck me as so noble and touching as that of the reformed criminals at an institution in London. They wished to contribute something to the Patriotic Fund. The only way they could do it was by fasting. So from Sunday night till Tuesday morning they ate nothing, and the money saved—three pounds and over—was sent to the Fund. Precious money is this! American patriotism is not so strong as the English brand, and some say it is dying. Everything should be done to inculcate the spirit of American patriotism into young and old. This 'hands across the sea' business should stop. England's hands will never stretch across the sea until John Bull sees a chance to grab Uncle Sam by the neck and choke the life out of him.

The 14-year-old daughter of John Mansfield, a wealthy resident of Rutherford, N. J., made two attempts at suicide. First she drank carbolic acid which she found in the kitchen closet, and afterward shot herself through the head with her father's revolver. She told what she had done, and said she wanted to die. A physician says her chances of recovery are slight. Mr. Mansfield arrived home about an hour after his daughter shot herself, and was almost crazed by grief.

Scarcity of time is often pleaded as an excuse for want of inclination.

Large quantities of self-control are necessary to keep jokes free from malice.

Solemn cheerfulness acts like an icicle dropped down the back of innocent mirth.

The Liver of Bilioussness.
Is a pronounced yellow. It is visible in the countenance and eyeballs. It is accompanied with uneasiness beneath the right ribs and shouder blade, sick headache, nausea and irregularity of the bowels. To the removal of each and all of these discomforts, as well as their cause, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is admirably adapted. This pre-eminent family medicine also remedies malaria, rheumatism and kidney complaints, nervousness and debility. It promotes appetite and sleep.

Mithridates is said to have known by name every soldier in his army of 10,000 to 20,000 men. He spoke twenty-two different languages, all that were used in his kingdom.

NO-TO-BAC FOR FIFTY CENTS.

Millions of men who are daily "Tobacco Spitting and Smoking Their Lives Away" will be glad to learn that the makers of No-To-Bac, the famous guaranteed tobacco habit cure, that has freed over 400,000 tobacco users in the last few years, have put on the market a fifty cent package of their great remedy. This will give every tobacco user a chance to test No-To-Bac's power to control the desire for tobacco in every form and at the same time be benefited by No-To-Bac's nerve strengthening qualities. Every tobacco user should procure a fifty cent box at once from his druggist or order it by mail. You will be surprised to see how easily and quickly the desire for tobacco disappears. Any reader can obtain a sample and booklet free by addressing the Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago or New York and mentioning this paper.

"Has Bilkins' sight been completely restored?" "The doctor thought so until he presented his bill, when he couldn't make Bilkins see that it was worth \$300."

"Saying de right thing at de right time," said Uncle Eben, "am er great gif. But not sayin' anything at de right time am mos' ez good an' er heap mo' roll'ble."

FOR 14 CENTS.

We wish to gain 100,000 pleased customers in 1897 and hence offer:

- 1 Bag Slimek Cucumber 15c
- 1 Bag Broomfield Beet 15c
- 1 Bag Carrot 15c
- 1 Bag Kaiser Wilhelm Lettuce 15c
- 1 Bag Evening Nylion 15c
- 1 Bag Giant Yellow Onion 15c
- 1 Bag 14-Day Radish 15c
- 1 Bag Brilliant Flower Seeds 15c

Worth \$1.00, for 14 cents.

Above 10 pkgs. worth \$1.00 we will mail you free together with our great plant and seed catalogue upon receipt of this notice and 10c. postage. How can we do it? Because we want new customers and know if you once try Salzer's seed, you'll never leave get along without them! Catalogue alone 10c. postage, N. W. JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO., LA. (ROCK), WIS.

When you plant seeds, plant **FERRY'S** Always the best.

For sale everywhere. S. M. FERRY & CO., Detroit, Mich.

MANUFACTURED BY **THE ROGEE FENCE CO. LEO BAKE CHARLES L.A.**

The best and Cheapest Fence on Earth. Sold by all the principal lumber dealers in Texas. Write for circular and mention this paper.

PLANETARY SIGNS.

GOOD AND EVIL PERIODS IN HUMAN LIFE.

Readings by Mail Becoming a Popular Feature of This Department—Further Instructions to Applicants—Free Readings.



HE astrologer again calls the attention of applicants for free readings in this column to the fact that full name and address plainly written must accompany every request. Only the initials will be published when the readings appear. In case that the applicant does not wish us to use initials, some other means of identification can be given. Such as "Lorene" Topeka, or any other name the applicant may choose. Those who have neglected to send in full name and address with their applications should do so as soon as possible. It is often necessary to send special instructions. Those who do not know the hour or date of birth should send TWO 2 cent stamps for particulars. Their horoscopes can be made by the astrologer's system of calculation.

Our private readings by mail are becoming very popular. Applicants for private readings must enclose 25 cents in stamps. The horoscope will be read at once and forwarded to the applicant's address. Persons who do not wish to wait for newspaper reading can avail themselves of this means of getting a quick reading. Address Prof. G. W. Cunningham, Dept. 4, 194 So. Clinton St., Chicago, Ill.

The following are the readings for this week:

Inez M. Avoca, Iowa.
According to the data the sign Libra, which Venus rules, was rising at your birth, therefore Venus is your ruling planet or significator. You are medium height or above; graceful figure; medium to dark complexion; blue eyes; chestnut hair; rather a youthful appearance in general. You are usually cheerful, jovial, youthful and happy; fond of the fine arts, as music, painting, drawing, sketching, etc.; you take delight in going to theaters, parties, dances, and any place where a good jolly time will be had. You are quite yielding in your nature and very much dislike to see bloodshed. You love to see justice rendered to all and would make a good teacher or judge. You will have a very eventful life and be a great traveler. You are not promised an early marriage but your husband will be a model man and marriage will be far more than average fortunate for you. Space is too limited for me to give you his description here.

S. A. C. Clarkville, Iowa.
According to data you are a mixture of the signs Scorpio which Mars rules and Sagittarius which Jupiter rules, therefore Mars and Jupiter are your ruling planets or significators. Saturn is co-significator because on the ascendant. You are medium height or above; medium to dark complexion, hair and eyes; full face; the hair grows very luxuriant. You are very energetic and ambitious; you naturally take the lead in anything you become interested in. You dislike a subordinate position of any kind and should always be at the head of your department. You will be subject to chronic headaches in the early part of life. You have a fine intellect and can readily learn almost anything. You also have very good command of language. You are quite secretive in your nature and do not tell everything you know. You should secure a finished education and make a salaried position your main object by which to secure your money. You will not be very fortunate in anything connected with love and marriage.

"Lorene" Topeka Kansas.
You have a refined, sensitive and confiding nature and anything rough or boisterous jars on your nervous system and has a tendency to reduce your vital force. You will manifest considerable enthusiasm with very little encouragement and will appreciate and treasure up a kind word to the same extent that you will remember an injury if anyone abuses you. You will forgive but cannot forget them. Your talent runs in the direction of some of the fine arts but whenever you have made any attempts to study anything you have found it necessary to overcome obstacles in your path. You are a firm friend on every occasion. Your love affairs do not run smooth long at a time and if married, your husband has a spirited temper and will not permit anyone to interfere with his business no matter if he is right or wrong and as a rule he is not able to successfully execute what he plans.

Nice, Pleasant Franchise.
Policemen went to the morgue in New York the other day and fired many bullets into corpses there for the purpose of learning if powder-burned the skin at a distance of three feet—Exchange.

At the annual dinner of the English electrical engineers the president said "that the commercial supremacy of the British empire was initiated by our being the first to employ, on a large scale, the coal at our disposal. If coal ceased to be necessary for our industries he doubted whether the empire would maintain its commercial supremacy. In the falls of Niagara there was a waste of more power than could be derived from all the coal that could be raised throughout the world, and there were many other falls than Niagara. It would be the work of the engineer to utilize those falls, and then we should either have to live on our accumulations or we would have to fight. The commercial supremacy of Great Britain would have gone."

"If you must know, doctor," said the doctor, "your husband won't live twenty-four hours longer." "Good gracious" ejaculated the broken-hearted woman, "and here you've gone and prescribed enough medicine to last five days."

A MIGHTIER FOE THAN ARMIES

OVERCOME BY A BRAVE UNION GENERAL AND HIS FAITHFUL ALLY, DR. WILLIAMS.

From the *Sentinel*, Cherokee, Kansas.
At the breaking out of the war of the rebellion in 1861, General Wiles, whose portrait adorns our page, was Captain and owner of the then well-known river steamer, "Charley Potwin," plying between Zanesville and Parkersburg, but he immediately disposed of his boat and became enrolled as lieutenant in the 78th Ohio Infantry. At the battle of Fort Donelson, on February 16, 1862, Lieutenant Wiles was promoted from lieutenant to lieutenant-colonel, for "brave and meritorious conduct on the field," and at the age of thirty-six Gen-



eral Wiles was colonel of his regiment, and while with Sherman, was gazetted brigadier-general.
The General lives the greater part of his time in Halesstead, Kansas, though he is much in Windsor, New York, in both of which places he has business interests that require his presence.
Some few years ago General Wiles was attacked by illness, which came very near proving fatal. Typhoid fever, followed by inflammatory rheumatism and then paralysis, made a temporary

In England there are 114 widows to every 54 widowers.

The devil throws the most darts at a shining mark.

I never used so quick a cure as Pilo's Cure for Consumption.—J. B. Palmer, Box 1171, Seattle, Wash., Nov. 25, 1896.

The Japanese are said to make cotton half hose at about half the cost of the German article.

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

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by their firm. West & Truax, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.
Walling, Kinnan & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.
Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 50c per bottle. Sold by all druggists.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

The Eureka, Cal., gold mine is 2200 feet deep.

CASCARETS stimulate liver, kidneys and bowels. Never sicken, weaken or gripe. 10c.

The Lord's sheep all know their Shepherd.

Only One!
Not more than five men or women in a thousand are free from some form of Kidney, Liver or Bladder trouble, which is certain to run into serious disease unless checked.

Stop and Think!
that there is but one known remedy for these troubles. Ask any druggist, physician or friend what it is, and he will tell you.

Salt Cure
This great remedy stands ABSOLUTELY "at the top," and is so acknowledged by the most advanced thinkers of the world. This suggestion is all you require!

The people of Illinois will be glad to know that the University of Illinois has taken advanced ground in favor of clean athletics. The Illinois representative at a recent conference of the chief universities of the Northwest took the lead in securing the adoption of a stringent set of rules intended to close all loopholes for professionalism. These rules have since been seriously modified and weakened by the action of other college authorities. The State University will hold to these rules, because they seem, on the whole, the best means of checking the great evil of professionalism in college athletics. In one or two recent cases adherence to this high standard has meant a real sacrifice by the athletic team concerned. The faculty and students of the University of Illinois believe in intercollegiate athletics as an aid to sound physical development, as a means of recreation for genuine students, not as the business of those who are professionally athletes and incidentally students.

wreck of the herculean frame, and in view of his advanced age, his anxious friends believed that he was not long for this world. The following is his own account of his illness:

"In the latter part of 1890, I was taken down with a severe attack of typhoid fever, which confined me to my bed for two months. Two months is a long time to be in bed, but I was not to get up yet, for inflammatory rheumatism seized me, and it was worse than the typhoid, for it was more painful. To add to my trouble and make it more interesting, the inflammatory rheumatism was followed by a stroke of paralysis, and I lost almost totally the use of my legs and arms, for I could not walk a step and could not feed myself. It would seem that I had reached the depths of misery, but such was not the case, for my kidneys gave out, and this seemed to be the last straw on the load that was to crush me."

"My friends all thought I would never recover, and though the doctors came to see me and prescribed, it was easy to see that they were but trying to make my pathway to the grave a little more easy, without the remotest hope of recovery, and I looked forward to death with happiness. "While in this frame of mind, I was advised by a friend to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and began the use of them, taking one pill after each meal, and this I continued for one week, and began to fancy I perceived improvement in my condition. I then increased the dose to two after each meal, and at the end of the second week there was no doubt but what Pink Pills were making me better, so I kept on using them according to directions, and in three months was well again."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold by all dealers, or will be sent post paid on receipt of price, 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50 (they are never sold in bulk or by the 100), by addressing Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

It has recently been ascertained that almanacs and calendars date back to the year 200 A. D.

That Pleasing Paralyzing Pie!
How good it looks! How good it is! And how it hurts. Why not look into the question of PILL after Pie? Eat your pie and take Ayer's Pills after, and pie will please and not paralyze.

AYER'S Cathartic Pills
CURE DYSPEPSIA.

SANTA FE TO ..
SAN ANTONIO
A NEW WAY TO GET THERE.
BEGINNING JANUARY 16TH, 1897 AND EVERY DAY THEREAFTER THROUGH PULLMAN SLEEPER WILL LEAVE

PARIS AT 5:20 P. M.
DALLAS AT 8:50 P. M.
CLEBURNE AT 10:50 P. M.
FORT WORTH AT 9:40 P. M.

PASSENGERS FROM FORT WORTH WILL CONNECT WITH SLEEPER AT CLEBURNE ARRIVING AT

SAN ANTONIO
9:45 A. M. VIA ..

C. C. & S. F. TO CAMERON
S. A. & A. P. TO FLATONIA
SO. PAC. TO SAN ANTONIO
ONE CHANGE ONLY, WITH DIRECT CONNECTION FOR COACH PASSENGERS AT CAMERON.

ABSOLUTELY THE QUICKEST TIME BETWEEN NORTH TEXAS AND SAN ANTONIO.
W. S. KENTON,
G. P. & C. C. S. F. R. Y.

QUARTER OF CENTURY OLD.
NO TAR ROOFING
CHEAP WATERPROOF. Not affected by gases, by acids, by alkalis, by salt water. Durable substitute for plaster on walls. Water proof sheathing of same material. See & choose best in the market. Write for samples, etc. to THE FAT MANILLA ROOFING CO., CAMDEN, N. J.

OPIMUM and WHISKY habits cured. Book sent FREE. Dr. W. W. WAINWRIGHT, ATLANTA.

As sure as winter comes, comes **STIFFNESS SORENESS** As sure as **St. Jacobs Oil** comes, it comes to CURE. The ailment goes.

1849-VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE-1897
Standard Seed and Plant Catalogue. Contains all that's New and Good. Always Reliable.

THE GUIDE - One packet either Wonderful Branching Aster, New Japan Morning Glory, or Pansy Choice mixed, for 15 CTS. and your Choice. Two packets 25c., three packets 30c. Full retail prices 45 cts.

Vick's Illustrated Monthly Magazine which tells how to grow Plants, Flowers and Vegetables, and is up to date on these subjects, for 3 months, the Guide and One packet of Seeds (named above) for 25 cents.

Every tenth person sending an Order as above will receive a coupon good for 50 cents' worth of Seed free.

When ordering state where you live, and we will send you a packet of Flower Seeds free.

JAMES VICK'S SONS, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

VICK'S ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE

CANDY CATHARTIC
Cascarets
CURE CONSTIPATION
REGULATE THE LIVER ALL DRUGGISTS

10c 25c 30c
ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEED to cure any case of constipation. Cascarets are the Ideal Laxative. Never gripe or gripe, but cause easy natural results. Sample and booklet free. Ad. STERLING REMEDY CO., Chicago, Montreal, San., or New York. 27c.

REASONS FOR USING **Walter Baker & Co.'s Breakfast Cocoa.**

1. Because it is absolutely pure.
2. Because it is not made by the so-called Dutch Process in which chemicals are used.
3. Because beans of the finest quality are used.
4. Because it is made by a method which preserves unimpaired the exquisite natural flavor and odor of the beans.
5. Because it is the most economical, costing less than one cent a cup.

Be sure that you get the genuine article made by WALTER BAKER & CO. LAR., Dorchester, Mass. Established 1780.

THE CROCKETT COURIER.

CROCKETT, TEXAS.

Vanity is generally a harder task-master than duty.

People who look all right are generally accepted on trust.

A sentence well couched, takes both the sense and the understanding.

The average man thinks it adds to his importance to annoy somebody else.

Most men suffer a good deal less from conscience than from indigestion.

When we have a trouble important enough to talk about it seems to grow lighter.

An employer who understands the details of his business is seldom unjust to his employes.

The most popular form of self-denial is to inconvenience yourself in order to spite somebody else.

A coquette is like a rose. Each lover plucks a leaf; the stem and thorns are left for the future husband.

Unfortunately for the human race, few of us feel that our particular sphere is worthy of our best energies.

It is easy enough to borrow trouble by imagining what people ought to do and then fretting because they do otherwise.

To character and success, two things contradictory as they may seem must go—humble dependence and many independence.

The only thing that can be compared to a good ad. in working ability is a mortgage. They both work day and night, rain or shine.

It is a good idea to swear off something at the beginning of the new year, even if the monotony of habit is only broken for a few days.

Strict attention to the small courtesies of life will advance a man faster than waiting to ride into popularity on some tidal wave that may never come.

If it were not for the unhealthy conditions of the slums in large cities, the vicious portion of the population would increase fast enough to drive away all other elements.

In Lexington, Ky., there is a club the youngest member of which is 89 years old. All the others are over 90. The club meets regularly for purposes of mutual improvement and social pleasure.

A New York dentist has invented a new thing in teeth which, he says, will place them within reach of the masses. The teeth are made of rubber, the base or plate and the teeth being formed integrally. These new artificial masticators will be sold for \$1.50 and \$2 a set.

The word trocha is of such frequent occurrence in dispatches and news from Havana that it seems likely in time to become incorporated into the English speech. An explanation having been asked of the term, which is pronounced troch-a, with the accent on the first syllable, it may be stated that originally it denotes a footpath, pathway, or sometimes a short cut. During the present Cuban unpleasantness its significance has been applied to a fortified high road.

Dr. Charles Sweet, the bone-setter, died at his home in Lebanon, Conn., last week. He is said to have operated in more than 100,000 cases of bone-setting. His family for three generations have been renowned for bone-setting abilities, although no member has had more than a common school education, and none of them ever studied anatomy. Dr. Sweet was in Wisconsin about twenty years ago and many people will remember his marvelous success in fixing dislocated joints.

The announcement that "days of grace" have been abolished in one more state, suggests that in old English law the phrase had a meaning different from the present well understood significance of the words as used in business. Law or custom allows three days beyond the fixed day of payment for paying a note or bill of exchange. The term, "days of grace," as used in old English law, signified the period of three days allowed by the court for the appearance and answer of a person summoned, beyond the day mentioned in the writ. This old use thus pointed to mercy rather than to mere business accommodation or convenience. In these days of trusts and skylocks there is neither mercy nor business—just plain hard bargaining and no more.

THE SEAL COMMISSION

INVESTIGATING THE CONDITION OF SEALS IN BEHRING SEA.

A Census of the Seals Was Taken and Showed That There Were 16,000 on the Pribilof's—About 11,000 Young Ones Were Found Dead.

London, Jan. 18.—Mr. Gerald Barrett Hamilton, one of the British commissioners appointed to investigate the conditions of seal life in Behring sea, has recently returned to London on the conclusion of his mission.

Leaving London last summer with Prof. Darcy Thompson, Mr. Hamilton proceeded, via New York and San Francisco, to the north of Japan. Thence he was conveyed on board H. M. S. Spartan to Robbin island, near Saghalien, where there is a small rookery. Prof. Thompson went independently to the Pribilof group. The investigation was made in consequence of the statement that the seal herd was being wiped out by poising sealing.

After spending six weeks on the Commander islands and visiting Robbin island, Mr. Hamilton joined Prof. Thompson on the Pribilof's. There the commission remained until the end of October.

The Canadian and United States commissioners, Messrs. McCoun and Clarke, were also on the Pribilof's at the time. The British commissioners say they received most friendly treatment from the Americans who behaved in a very fair way.

Owing to the exceptional powers given to the American commissioners by their government, they were able to do more than has been previously accomplished.

Among other things, a census of every seal on the island was taken. This shows that there were 16,000 seals on the Pribilof's, and proved that the American estimates of previous years were much below the mark.

Another important piece of work was the counting of dead pups. The Americans claimed that, owing to the killing at sea of breeding females, vast numbers of pups were left to starve on the islands; they said as many as 30,000 perished in this way. It was therefore highly important to know actually how many dead pups there were.

There were a large number of dead—about 11,000—that it was proved had been killed by over crowding before the commencement of pelagic sealing, and about 10,000 had died later in the season.

The results of the investigations on the spot have tended to prove to the minds of the commissioners that, although it has been said that the seal industry would collapse in two years, there is no fear of such an early extinction of the fur seal. No doubt is entertained that, now the question has been approached in such an amicable way, some measures of preserving the seal will be adopted. The large decrease in this year's catch of seals is probably due in part to the bad weather prevailing during the early part of August. It does not necessarily indicate a decrease in the number of seals. On this point opinion is divided, the Canadians saying that the seals on the Pribilof's have increased in number, while the Americans claim that they have decreased. The British commissioners are now preparing their reports, and they will probably be in the hands of the foreign office in the spring. In all probability a fresh commission will be sent this year, in order to report any change, as compared with last year's condition.

Fighting Arrested.

New York, Jan. 18.—The lives of over 100 persons, comprising the twenty families who live in the five-story double-decker tenement at 108 East One Hundred and Thirtieth street, were endangered Saturday night when a fire was started at the bottom of a shaft which had been soaked with oil.

Just after dark two tenants going down the stairs noticed a light which came from the direction of the elevator shaft. Then they saw that this was a fire, and a Mr. Meyer, who lives on the second floor of the house, was standing over the flame fanning it. The man was so busily engaged that he did not notice the approach of the two men. Not only was the wood burning, but a quantity of rags and papers which, like the wood, had been saturated with oil, was also burning.

Meyer was arrested and the fire extinguished. An examination by the police showed that the woodwork of the shaft had been thoroughly saturated, and a policeman found at the bottom of the shaft a bottle which had contained the oil that had been used. Meyer, who is a cook, had his furniture insured for \$500. Incendiary fires in tenement houses have been frequent lately.

Quite Natural.

Maud—I like George Richards to call on me.

May—I don't.

Maud—Of course not, dear. You'd rather have him call on you.—Truth.

A Serious Wreck.

Texarkana, Ark., Jan. 18.—News reached here yesterday of a serious accident on the Texas and Pacific railroad at Forrest, fifteen miles west of Texarkana, at 10:35 Saturday night.

As No. 3 passenger train for El Paso was nearing the station it struck an iron rail that had been placed across the track. The engine was turned over and fell down a slight embankment. The tank was lodged across the track, while the express car and smoker were leaned over almost to a tipping point.

Engineer M. L. Clemmons, in his effort to escape, jumped from the engine the moment he felt the obstruction, but he landed too near the track, and before he could regain himself sufficiently from the jar to crawl away the falling engine caught him, mashing off his legs above the knee. He was taken to the Marshall hospital, where he died at 7:45 yesterday morning.

The fireman, whose name is given as Moore, received a broken shoulder and is otherwise badly bruised.

The express messenger, Barney Wilson, was considerably shaken up, but it is certain that he was not hurt.

Wm. Ratcliff, the mail agent, was slightly injured.

The passengers were all in the rear cars and suffered no injury whatever.

The express and smoking-car were greatly damaged and the tender of the engine crushed in.

Engineer Clemmons was a cripple, and to this was no doubt due his slow movement in escaping. He was an old employe of the Texas and Pacific railroad and a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. Considerable confusion existed at the scene of the disaster and it was several hours before the track could be sufficiently cleared to enable the proper restoration of traffic.

An Interesting Case.

Texarkana, Ark., Jan. 18.—Considerable interest has been felt here among hotel and legal circles over the personal liberty problem, as it is viewed by the law and as it existed in this case: It appears that Mr. Dennis Sullivan, proprietor of the Iowa hotel, was disturbed in his peace by the operation of a boiler making establishment situated near the hotel, and owned by Cahill & Sweeney. The boiler man maintained that it was their right to conduct their business where and when they pleased, and that any interference therewith was an assault upon their personal liberty.

The question was brought into court several days ago, after first serving an injunction upon the boiler makers from the further operation of their concern.

Judge J. M. Talbot listened to the arguments in the case Saturday, and after a long and tiresome discussion on the part of the attorneys rendered a decision dissolving the injunction perpetually and throwing the cost of court upon the plaintiff. By virtue of this decision Messrs. Cahill & Sweeney will resume the operation of their enterprise to-day, and thirty or forty men, who have all this time been idle, will be given employment.

Escaped Lynching.

Macon, Ga., Jan. 17.—The three negro murderers who narrowly escaped lynching Saturday are now safely jailed at Jeffersonville, guarded by a posse of twenty men. Mr. Rowland kept a country store. On Thursday night his negro waiter, Forsythe, asked for his pistol, as he feared some strange negroes who were prowling about. He secured the weapon. Rowland and his wife were awakened at 2 a. m. by men demanding something to eat. Forsythe appeared to parley with them, when they were let in and shot Mrs. Rowland to death, robbed the house and departed. The husband was left alone in the house with the dead body of his wife until dawn before he dared to venture out. It was not until night that the guilty men were caught. The leader of the gang was Forsythe, who claimed his employer and then led his companions to the slaughter of Mrs. Rowland.

Will Not Close Down.

Woonsocket, R. I., Jan. 17.—Cotton manufacturers in this state have not yet consulted in regard to a shutdown. Several of the manufacturers have expressed a willingness for a short-time movement, but the minority will not commit themselves in the matter. The general feeling in this state at present is that the mills will not shut down and that business will soon improve. At the present time many of the big mills are piling up goods.

Mark in Distress.

New York, Jan. 17.—The steamer Edam, which arrived Saturday from Amsterdam, reports having sighted an unknown German bark in distress on Jan. 5. The crew wished to abandon the bark, but insisted on carrying their effects with them. The Edam's officers were afraid this would be too much for Mr. Heffcoats in the heavy sea, and attempts to rescue the crew were abandoned.

PLOT DID NOT WORK.

YOUNG MAN FEIGNED DEATH TO SWINDLE HIS FATHER.

Five Hundred Wounded Spanish Soldiers Carried Into Havana—Weyler's Stories of Pacification Not Confirmed by the Results—Serious Railway Wreck.

Santa Fe, Cal., January 18.—Horace Hall, a white half-breed, over 60 years old, and Wm. Rusk are in jail here, charged with a peculiar offense. Rusk's father is a wealthy citizen of Atwater, Ill. The young man left home about ten years ago. The scheme was for young Rusk to pretend that he was dead, and that, under the name of Brown, to become administrator of his estate. Hall was then to write to Rusk's parents, telling them that Rusk was dead and that Rusk had borrowed \$4000 from Hall, which Brown, the administrator, refused to pay until he heard from Rusk's father. The letter was couched in sympathetic terms, but made it very plain that it was Rusk's duty to send money to Brown; so he could pay the debt of his alleged dead son.

Had it not been for the Illinois farmer's desire to see the remains of his son, the game would probably have worked; but, after telegraphing a number of times about the body to "Brown" and Hall, and getting no satisfaction, he became suspicious.

Serious Railway Wreck.

Texarkana, Ark., January 18.—The Texas and Pacific passenger train No. 3 which left here at 9 o'clock Saturday night for El Paso, was wrecked at Forrest switch, nineteen miles from here. The engine, tender, mail, express and baggage cars were thrown down an embankment and crushed to splinters. The engine fell on the opposite side of the track and caught Engineer M. L. Clemens, as he attempted to jump, crushing his right leg to a pulp and inflicting internal injuries, which he died a few hours later.

A brakeman, whose name was not given, was seriously hurt, sustaining the dislocation of a shoulder and other injuries.

Railroad Mail Clerk William Ratcliff was also badly bruised and R. L. Mahaffey slightly. The latter informed the reporter that it was a miracle how any one escaped alive from the wreck was a cross tie which had floated across the track by a heavy fall of rain which occurred late yesterday evening. It was at almost this identical spot that a similar accident, in which the engineer and three others were killed, took place in July, 1894.

Hospitals Crowded.

Key West, Florida, January 18.—News was received by the steamship from Havana to the effect that over 500 wounded Spanish soldiers had arrived in Havana within the past forty-eight hours from Artemisa and other sections in the west, thus substantiating reports of Cuban victories in that section, as sent in this correspondence some days ago. It is reported in Havana that the field hospitals in that section are now overcrowded, and that, much against his will, Weyler had to order the removal here of these men. A large proportion are suffering from machine wounds, showing conclusively the nature of the engagements. It has leaked out that Weyler did intend going to the front in Havana and Matanzas provinces this week, but that owing to the more recent disturbances reported in and near Artemisa, he was unwilling to leave Havana. It is stated that General Rivera's movements near Artemisa are causing him considerable uneasiness, as the Spanish commanders there have asked for reinforcements.

Don't get too thoroughly imbued with the idea that you are a sign-board to direct other people on the road to duty.

The Orphan Home Victims.

Dallas, Texas, January 18.—The little sufferers who are in the hospital on account of burns caused by the burning of the Buckner Orphan's home Friday night are reported by Dr. Buckner last night to be doing fairly well. Two or three of them are still in a very serious condition. The superintendent of the home reports that the donations have been generous and telegrams of sympathy from all parts of the state frequent. The school at the home will open today as usual. All the inmates are now comfortably bedded.

For Foreign Missions.

Fort Worth, Texas, January 18.—Bishop C. C. McCabe of the Methodist Episcopal church Friday night delivered an eloquent lecture at the First Methodist Episcopal church, on the subject of foreign missions. It is said that he is able to raise \$1,000,000 a year for the cause, and those who have heard him and who know his earnestness can readily believe it. Another mass meeting, over which the venerable bishop presided, was held Saturday night in the First Baptist church. Inclement weather has interfered with both meetings.

Emperor William of Germany asked his sailor brother recently what he could do to astonish the world. The reply, "Remain quiet one week and see how dumfounded everybody will be," suggests that peace is not always in noise and activity. "Pistol," quoth Shakespeare, "hath a killing tongue and a quiet sword."

In the face of the fact that the Princess de Chimay-Caraman refuses to permit her gypsy lover to practice on the violin some one is trying to start the absurd rumor that she is demented.

WHAT A STUPENDOUS LEE!

We hear a farmer say when he reads that John Breider, Mishcote, Wis., grew 173 bushels of Salzer's Silver King Barley per acre in 1896. Don't you believe it! Just write him! You see Salzer's seeds are bred up to big yields. And Oats 230 bushels, corn 260, Wheat 60 bushels, Potatoes 1,600 bushels, Grasses 6 tons per acre, etc., etc. \$10.00 FOR 10 CENTS.

Just Send This Notice With 10 Cents stamps to John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., and get 12 farm seed samples, worth \$10, to get a start. w.n.

Trajan, the Roman emperor, knew the names of all the Praetorian guards in the city, about 10,000 in number.

Henry Clay knew personally and remembered the names of thousands of his constituents. It was his strong point during a canvass.

Vick's Floral Guide is a bright harbinger of spring, although as we write the air without is raw and cold. We have advertised Messrs. James Vicks Sons seeds and plants for many a year, and know that they give satisfaction to those who deal with them.

The Guide for 1897 contains six full page half tone illustrations, photographed from life, of Asters, Roses, Carnations, Gold Flowers and Tomatoes. It tells how to secure and grow everything wanted in the garden.

See the advertisement in another column of this firm from Rochester, N. Y.

Just try a box of Cascares, candy cathartic, the finest liver and bowel regulator made.

When the world gives treasure, it always sends trouble therewith.

Exper-Hood's Sarsaparilla

The Best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier

Hood's Pills cure rickets, indigestion, biliousness, 25 cents.

Galveston, La Porte and Houston

RAILWAY.

"The Bay Shore Line."

6-Daily Trains—6

Time-Table in Effect November 15th, 1896

SOUTH		NORTH	
Read Down.		Read Up.	
No. 7	No. 8	No. 9	No. 6
P. M.	P. M.	A. M.	P. M.
7:10	7:30	7:30	7:45
7:20	7:40	7:45	8:00
7:30	7:50	8:00	8:15
7:40	8:00	8:15	8:30
7:50	8:10	8:30	8:45
8:00	8:20	8:45	9:00
8:10	8:30	9:00	9:15
8:20	8:40	9:15	9:30
8:30	8:50	9:30	9:45
8:40	9:00	9:45	10:00
8:50	9:10	10:00	10:15
9:00	9:20	10:15	10:30
P. M.	P. M.	A. M.	P. M.

Trains marked * stop on signal only. Trains do not stop where no time is given. All Bay Shore Line trains use Grand Central Station at Houston, and the Union Depot at Galveston. Through tickets on sale at Galveston for all points north, east and west. Close connections at Houston with all trunk lines.

W. F. SIMMONS, M. F. SMITH, Union Ticket Agent, General Agent, Houston, 219 Tremont St. Galveston, C. W. NELSON, G. P. A. Houston.

NEW FRUITS

Are Sometimes Hungry.

but we shall never improve our orchards unless we try new kinds. We have the Triumph and Greenboro Peaches, the Red June and Wickson Plums; the Koonsee and Lincoln coreless Pears and other new fruits, besides the best of the old standards. Send for our new illustrated catalogue and see what is said of them. Also Seed and Flowers.

BAKER BROS., Fort Worth, Texas.

High Class Seeds

Plants, Bulbs, Insects (do & Garden Hose, Spraying Outlets, Etc. F. G. LAEVEHENS, 2315 Market Street, Galveston, Texas. WRITE FOR CATALOGUE.

RODS

For tracing and locating Gold or Silver. One lost or hidden treasure. E. D. POWELL, Box 257, Southwestern, Okla.

TEXAS DISC PLOW CO. DALLAS PLOWS

Best on earth. Write for catalog. Texas Disc Plow Co., Dallas, Texas.

PICTURES and FRAMES

Supplying agents a specialty. Liberal terms. Write to C. B. Anderson & Co., 220 21st, Dallas, Tex.

MASON'S ARCADE

210-212 Main St., Houston, Tex. Dry Goods, Millinery, Clothing, Boots and Shoes, etc. Robt. Tibbcock, Prop.

If afflicted with eye troubles, use Thompson's Eye Water.

PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION

CURE WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.

LOCAL NEWS.

B. F. Chamberlain for drugs.
W. E. Hail and wife are both quite sick.

Mrs. R. E. McConnell has been and is still quite sick.

Mr. C. Baber of Daly, gave this office a call last Saturday.

Little Lord Fauntleroy at the opera house, Saturday at 2.30 p. m.

Mr. J. H. Webb of Pennington, gave the COURIER a call this week.

A. LeGory and John Spence are up again after an attack of gripe.

E. W. Ashworth of Pennington, gave the COURIER a call one day last week.

Mr. Jehu Beeson of Lovelady, was in town Saturday and gave the COURIER a call.

Get a sack of candy at the Fauntleroy matinee, Saturday at 2.30. 15 and 25 cents.

Dr. H. J. Cunyus, dentist, Crockett, Texas. Office over Arledg, Kennedy & Co's Grocer Store.

Don't fail to see the great play, "East Lynne," to night (Friday) at the opera house.

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Self have gone to housekeeping in their new cottage home just west of the residence of Judge Cooper.

Misses Ella Murchison and Myrtle Mainer of Lovelady, came to the city Monday and were in the audience at the opera house that night.

Lawrence Brazeale, son of the late W. G. Brazeale of Porter's Springs, who was reported as dead at one time last week, has passed the crisis of his illness and is expected to soon be up.

A neat and spacious pavillion over John E. Monk's now celebrated well is being erected. The water is free to visitors at the well, but they are charged ten cents a gallon for all they carry away.

There are several syndicates ready to bid for the land of the Crockett Tram and Lumber Company. Indications point to a consummation of the deal as soon as the lawyers look into the titles.

The COURIER office has recently bought a new outfit of job type of the latest style. If you have any job work that you want done, bring it around. This office is prepared to do any and all kinds at reasonable prices.

Last Tuesday night, H. F. Moore, Dick Douglas, Dr. Cunyus, J. C. Thompson, John I. Moore, and John Murchison, Pick Lacy and others whose names were not learned, left for Houston to hear W. J. Bryan lecture on Wednesday night.

Some people are prompt to remember the COURIER when they want to see personal notices complimentary to themselves, but if they have job work to be done they forget all about the COURIER, and can think only of printers away off in St. Louis or Galveston or Houston or Atlanta or some such place that never spends a dollar in the town or speaks a good word for the town or the county.

**CASH! CASH!!
CASH!!!**

Just received at the CASH STORE 2 CARS TEXAS RED RUST PROOF OATS, 2 CARS SACKED CORN, 2 CARS Hay Forney and alfalfa, 1 CAR RICH WHEAT BRAN, 1 CAR BOLTED MEAL, 2 cars salt one coarse and one fine, 200 lb COARSE AT 85c 200 lb FINE AT 90c. Will keep on hand cotton seeded meal. You will find the CASH STORE headquarters for all kinds of feed.

R. M. ATKINSON.

Charley Story is out again after a recent attack of the measles.

J. A. Hughes, of Sherdan, was a visitor to this office last Monday.

Dr. Lawrence Corley, now located at Nevill's Prairie, was in town Saturday.

N. M. Rayburn, W. O. Phipps and I. J. Hart, all of Lovelady were in town Monday.

Don't forget the candy matinee at the opera house, Saturday, at 2.30 p. m. 15 and 25 cents.

Col. Tom Bowers of the Enterprise, made a business trip to Houston and Austin last week and returned Sunday.

The commissioners' court meets in regular session on Monday, Feb'y 1st. The court should not overlook the important question of establishing three election boxes or wards for the convenience of voters.

A movement is on foot to settle a colony of fifty families in this county. The probabilities are that the enterprise will go through. An agent representing these people will look over the ground next week and the families will come out in the spring.

Miss Minnie Ola Hughes, the very handsome and gracious young lady recently in charge of the millinery department at W. V. McConnell's store, is now at her home in La Grange, this state. During her residence here she made many friends and they all regret to see her leave.

W. W. Lively, of Grapeland, was in Crockett Thursday of last week. He is an enthusiastic and earnest advocate of the hog law, and says it will be but a short time when the entire county will go under the law. Mr. Lively came to this county in 1849, and this is the first year he has ever had to buy corn.

Not a few who read what Mr. Robert Rowles, of Holland, Va., has to say below, will remember their own experience under like circumstances: "Last winter I had a gripe which left me in low state of health. I tried numerous remedies, none of which did me any good, until I was induced to try a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. The first bottle of it so far relieved me that I was enabled to attend to my work, and the second bottle effected a cure." For sale at 25 and 50 cents per bottle by B. F. Chamberlain.

The reception at the residence of Dr. J. B. Smith, last Friday night, given by Miss Grace Smith in honor of her guest, Miss Lela Hill of Weimar, was a brilliant and notable gathering of the society people of Crockett, and the guests were enthusiastic in expressions of pleasure over the delightful occasion. The parlors were thronged until a late hour with charming ladies and their escorts, and both Miss Smith and Miss Hill are to be congratulated on the perfect success of the reception.

Henry Small, white, in jail here under sentence of two years in the pen for passing a forged order on Mrs. Stubblefield, will get a new trial. The Court of Criminal Appeals has dismissed the appeal in his case on the ground that the judgment and sentence were not responsive to the verdict. The first and third counts in the indictment were for forgery, and the second for attempting to pass a forged instrument. Small was found guilty on the second count, but by mistake the judgment and sentence were for forgery—a different offence. The dismissal of the appeal destroys the judgment and sentence of the district court and Small gets a new trial.

On Thursday of last week, Ritta Howard, wife of J. Howard living near Crockett, died of pneumonia at the residence of Miss Fronie Fuller in this city.

Mr. J. T. Dixon, a newspaper man of wide and varied experience, is now at work on the COURIER. For years he was connected with the leading dailies in Kansas City and other western cities, as reporter and staff correspondent. He wields a vigorous, trenchant pen, as those have discovered who have been reading the COURIER for the past month.

To save a few cents possibly, there are those who will send off their job work, thinking possibly that those doing such work in St. Louis or elsewhere will do it cheaper or better. When, however, they have anything they want to see in print about themselves or some one close to them, it occurs to them all at once that there is a printing establishment in Crockett.

Justice Pritchard [had up before him last Friday, seven colored females charged with vagrancy. Some plead guilty and were fined, and others gave bond for their appearance for trial. The officers intend to make a vigorous war on vagrants from now on, and see if the sidewalks can't be cleared of loafing, guffawing vagabonds "who toil not, neither do they spin," but manage to keep full stomachs all through the year.

So far this has been a merciful winter to the "dumb creation. Feed stuff is scarce, 'tis true, but every one should make an effort to save and care for the poor work stock. We have no patience with nor consideration for that type of Christianity that will make church houses echo with psalm-singing on Sundays and then let the work-stock starve to death. We have a suspicion that Sheel was in great part created for that class of hypocrites.

Aldrich & Newton are offering some rare bargains in the furniture line. They are closing out their stock at greatly reduced prices to make room for another carload of new goods which are coming. Come quick and take advantage of the cut in prices. These bargains can't last long, they are too tempting to be overlooked. Special bargains in Bedsteads, Chairs and Kitchen Safes. Be sensible and save money when the opportunity presents itself.

Jim Hutchinson, the negro tough whose sensational arrest was described in the COURIER last week, will be tried before Justice Pritchard to-day, Friday, on a charge of theft of clothes. The numerous scars on the fellow and his general appearance, demeanor and conversation indicate that he is a thoroughly depraved criminal of a very dangerous type and, doubtless, badly wanted by the officers of the law in some other places. Sheriff Waller is making inquiries on this latter point.

Little Frank Chaffin, seven years old, son of John E. Chaffin of this county, and ward of Dr. F. C. Woodward of Grapeland, was one of the inmates of the Buckner Orphan Asylum, near Dallas, in which seventeen orphan boys were burned to death last Saturday night by a fire which destroyed part of the building. Frank was painfully but not seriously burned on the arms and legs, and his brothers and sisters who are also in the asylum, escaped uninjured. LATER—Since the above was in type news has been received that Frank was so badly burned that he cannot recover.

"Time and tide waits for no man." An occasional dose of Chamberlain's Chill Tonic often saves you from a long spell of sickness. "No cure no pay." Put up in both, Tasteless and bitter styles. Tasteless 50 cent size.

Last Friday night Jim Fain, colored, rode up to the house of Harrison Hawkins who lives about two miles north of town, and hitching his horse to the fence in front, went in to see Hawkins. When he came out his horse was gone and he hasn't heard of it since. The animal didn't break loose, but apparently some one with a fondness for other people's horse flesh, came along and stole it outright. At least, that is what Fain thinks.

Complaint has been made that some one recently left one of the gates of the cemetery open, with the result that cattle got in and did much damage to the shrubbery, rose bushes and vines. Such carelessness is inexcusable. The ladies of Crockett have been at much trouble and expense to put the cemetery in good condition, but their work will avail but little if cattle are allowed to roam at will through the sacred enclosure and trample the graves of the dead.

The sharp admonition of a disastrous conflagration may perhaps yet be needed to arouse the people of Crockett to the propriety of taking some steps to protect the city against fire. From all over the country come daily reports of the destructive work of the flames in other towns unguarded like our own, but simply because no property has been destroyed here thus far this winter we argue that we are safe enough. It is the argument of unmixed folly. We are not safe for a day or an hour and if a great fire should break out in Crockett we would have no more facilities with which to fight it than did our forefathers before water-works, fire companies and hose carts were heard of. In most towns in Texas of the size of Crockett there is some sort of fire organization even where there are no water-works, but we have nothing of the kind here. Crockett needs to be aroused on more subjects than one, but first in importance comes water-works, and as preliminary to that, the city government should provide some kind of facilities to work with in case of fire, and these right away.

Aldrich & Newton have decided to furnish the use of their hearses free of charge in the future. Their stock of Caskets, cloth, wood and metallic, and undertaking supplies, is the largest and most complete in East Texas. Charges very moderate.

An Excellent Company. At the opera house this week the Schwarz Stock Company has clearly demonstrated that it is a troupe of genuine merit. It has presented a series of popular plays to large and enthusiastic audiences of our best people, and is sure of a warm welcome when it comes this way again. The company has been carefully organized, and Mr. Owen Bartlett, the excellent leading man, has a good support in all the plays presented. The band and orchestra furnish delightful music and materially help to make a good show that much better. The company plays the remainder of the week, with Saturday matinee.

Did You Ever.

Try Electric Bitters as a remedy for your troubles? If not, get a bottle now and get relief. This medicine has been found to be found to be peculiarly adapted to the relief and cure of all Female Complaints, exerting a wonderful direct influence in giving strength and tone to the organs. If you have Loss of Appetite, Constipation, Headache, Fainting Spells, Nervous, Sleepless, Excitable, Melancholy or troubled with Dizzy Spells Electric Bitters is the medicine you need. Health and strength are guaranteed by its use. Fifty cents and \$1.00 at B. F. Chamberlain's drug store.

(Continued from first page.)

with the Smithsonian Institute and has found and classified many shells hitherto unknown to science. Some of these have "Mitchell" appended to their technical names by the Smithsonian, in honor of the discoverer. In this collection are shells from Alaska, Honolulu, Samoa, Manilla, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Ceylon, Borneo, Palestine, Red Sea, Bay of Bengal, Mozambique Channel, coasts of Peru, Chili, Bolivia—everywhere on the map, almost. My young readers ask, "How did your friend get so many shells? Did he buy them?" No, he got them through exchanges. All over the world are scientists collecting. Their names are catalogued with address and favorite science, thus: "Hon. Jos. D. Mitchell, Victoria, Texas, conchologist." A professor in the university at Leipsig, Germany, sees this and writes to Mr. Mitchell, offering to exchange specimens from the North Sea for those of the Gulf of Mexico. So this foreign collection comprises perhaps the contributions of a hundred correspondents.

But to return to the shells. I found in these, as in other things, nature wears her most gorgeous robes within the tropics. The shells from tropical shores of the Pacific and Indian Oceans excelled all others in beauty. The greatest beauties were concha from the Island of Ceylon and cypreas from the Gulf of California and the Philippine Islands. To get good specimens the crustaceans are taken alive. Among the foreign curiosities were the shells of a large snail found on the hills of France and esteemed a great delicacy in French cuisine. Mr. Mitchell adds constantly to his collection, filing notes on each new specimen. All of this he offers to donate to the public schools of Victoria as soon as the city builds a suitable and safe school building where they can be protected.

BAYLIS J. FLETCHER.
VICTORIA, TEX., Jan'y 16, 1897.

Game Laws

The open season for killing deer has expired. The law against it became operative on the 21st of this month. Look out for all violators of it and let them all be prosecuted. As long as it is on the statute book it should be enforced. Turkey can be killed until 15th of May and quail till March 31.

A Daring Robbery.

Last Friday night Mr. Campbell, the milk man who lives with his family on the Tunstall place, two miles south of town, had a mysterious experience with robbers. While he and his family were at supper, unknown parties stealthily entered the house and took away a trunk filled with clothing and other articles. When Mr. Campbell missed the property he came to town after Sheriff Waller who went out the next morning with Marshal Lacy and Allen Newton to investigate the matter. They found the trunk in a field adjoining the house and from it had been taken a suit of clothes, the pants and vest of another suit, and some female wearing apparel. Other articles were left in the trunk, the thieves apparently getting only what they wanted most and leaving the rest. Their tracks indicated that they had approached the house barefooted and put their shoes on at the place where they left the trunk. No clew to the guilty parties was discovered.

I will give a 3 mo. subscription free to the Texas Plover & Quail. The Ornithologist for Christmas Courier and the Virginia Plover with every bottle of Chamberlain's Chill Tonic bought from me B. F. Chamberlain.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

The twenty-fifth legislature at Austin was fully organized last week and both houses are now in smooth working order. J. S. Boggs of Kaufman, was elected sergeant at arms of the house, Lee J. Rountree of Kyle was elected chief clerk, Mrs. Sue Meriwether Franklin of Harris, postmistress and Rev. J. A. Jackson of Cass, chaplain. Houston county got none of the plums in the election and appointment of the numerous legislative officers, clerks, etc. As soon as the two houses were organized the members commenced the usual work of introducing a flood of bills, the vast majority of which will never be heard of again outside the committee rooms. One of the first measures to be adopted by the house was that limiting the members to \$15 worth of postage stamps each, during the session.

One of the most important bills introduced in the senate is known as the fellow-servant bill, which prohibits contracts between employer and employ based upon the contingency of the injury or death of the employe, limiting the liability of the employer for damages. This bill promises to produce a commotion in the house, as it will probably be antagonized by the railroads and is being backed by the labor organizations of the state. A joint resolution was introduced by Senator Dibrell looking to the holding of a Constitutional Convention in August of this year, and providing for the holding of a general election the first Monday in August to elect delegates to said convention.

Another bill provides for the expulsion from office of any Sheriff who permits a mob to take a prisoner from him.

The following are some of the more important sections of the fee bill introduced by Drew of Kaufman.

Sec. 3. The fees, commissions and salaries received by the officers named in this act, exclusive of the salaries of deputies, shall be fixed by the county commissioners' court and limited for the several officers, respectively, for a period of twelve months, not to exceed the following to-wit:

Table listing salaries for County judges (\$1,800), Sheriffs (2,000), District clerks (\$1,800), County clerks (1,800), County and district clerks (1,800), Tax collectors (1,300), Tax assessors (1,600), County treasurers (1,500), County attorneys (1,900), Assistant county attorneys (1,500), Justices of the peace (1,200), Constables (1,000).

Sec. 4. The officers named in this act shall keep an accurate and correct itemized account of the receipts, fees, commissions and salaries, respectively, received and earned by them in a well-bound book, and to be furnished by the commissioners' court, which fee book shall at times be subject to the inspection of any person wishing to see the amount of fees therein charged, and at the expiration of each three months, said officers shall submit to the commissioners' court, at their regular meetings, an itemized statement, under oath, showing the amounts earned by them during said quarter, the amounts collected and amounts paid out, showing the salaries paid their deputies, and the said accounts shall be passed upon by said commissioners' court.

Sec. 7. The commissioners' court may approve and allow such deputies to the sheriffs, not exceeding

the number of... and to the county clerks, district clerks, tax collectors and tax assessors of their respective counties as said court may deem necessary, and fix the amount of the salary of said deputies; provided, however, that the salary allowed the deputies shall not exceed the sum of \$75 per month for the first deputy to any of the offices mentioned in this section, and \$50 per month salary for such other and additional deputies appointed by said officers and confirmed by said commissioners' court; and the commissioners' court may approve and allow the county attorney such assistant attorneys as said court may deem necessary; provided, the salary allowed said assistant does not exceed the maximum allowed assistant county attorney in this act.

Sec. 8. When the quarterly report herein provided for has been made to the commissioners' court, all the excess of one-fourth of the annual salary and commissions herein allowed any officer which has been collected or earned by him during said quarter, shall be paid to the treasurer of said county to the equal credit of the general and school funds of said county, and at the expiration of each year, if the quarterly amount due any officer mentioned in this act shall have been less than one-fourth of his annual salary, and he has, during any other quarter of said year paid into the county treasury an excess of his yearly salary, he shall be reimbursed out of the excess so paid in by him to the extent thereof; provided the annual allowance does not exceed the maximum sum allowed him and his deputies by the commissioners' court or the amount of cash actually collected by him.

Section 9. Provided, that in addition to the amount of fees, commissions or other remunerations retained by the sheriff, he shall be allowed 5 per cent of all moneys collected by him on an execution or any order of sale, when the same is made by a sale, for the first \$100 or less; for the second \$100, 4 per cent; for all sums over \$200, 2 per cent. When the money is collected by the sheriff without a sale, one half of the above shall be allowed him.

Mr. Turner of Corpus Christi, introduced in the house a joint resolution providing for a constitutional convention to assemble at Austin on the first Tuesday in September, 1897; election of delegates to said convention to be held on first Tuesday in July.

The remainder of the house committees were appointed on Monday and on that day both houses met to count the vote for governor and lieutenant governor. The result of the vote was as follows: For governor: Culberson, 298,528; Kearby, 238,692; Clark, 1876; scattering, 682. For lieutenant governor: Jester, 306,244; Ashby, 230,863; Bradford, 2008; scattering, 495. Culberson and Jester were formally declared elected to the offices respectively of governor and lieutenant governor, respectively.

On Tuesday the inauguration ceremonies were held at the capitol and Governor Culberson and Lieutenant Governor Jester were sworn into office.

DAVID BENNETT HILL, who, during the presidential campaign was as dumb as a clam, has at last been prevailed on to open his mouth:

"The demagogues," he says, "by their violent doctrines, have driven every man of property from the Democratic party, and the party is now on the rocks of Populism." He thinks that the sound money Democrats will want to control the party in 1900. But whether they get into control or not, he believes that all the Democrats dare to rely upon is that the "Republicans will have some fierce quarrels among themselves."

Austin starts in with the apparent purpose of reducing the fees of county officials in some counties. That gait will not hold out, however. There are all kinds of influences that will go to work in opposition to the proposed reduction, and they will be felt, too. The prerequisites of the officials in many of the counties are no doubt excessive and should be trimmed, but just where to draw the line is difficult to determine. To insure efficiency and competency in office the compensation of the office must be such as to induce efficient and competent men to take it. There are those, we doubt not, who will accept them at a remuneration of one third of what it is now. But such officials come high in the end. If they are not dishonest they are more than likely to be incompetent, and will cost the county a disastrous figure in the long run. In counties like Dallas or McLennan or Travis, the officials get more than they ought to receive. Such, however, is not the case of counties like Houston or Anderson. There are other ways along which to retrench. Such proceeding smacks rather much of the spigot, doodle-bug type of economizing. If the legislature wants to strike extravagance where it will pay to strike it, it should take hold of this attached witness and other features of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Thousands of dollars may be saved on such lines where hundreds would be in this fee onslaught.

Cheatham's Chill Tonic is peculiarly adapted to persons in enfeebled health and invalids. It assists digestion, and is a perfect strengthener and appetizer. Satisfaction or money refunded. Put up in both the Tasteless and bitter styles. The Tasteless in 50 cent size.

NOTICE IN PROBATE.

THE STATE OF TEXAS) County of Houston) To the Sheriff or any constable of Houston County—Greeting:

You are hereby commanded, that by publishing for twenty days in a newspaper printed in the aforesaid county, you summons all persons interested in the estate of J. H. Stuart, deceased, to answer an application, filed by W. B. Page, administrator of said estate, in the County Court of Houston county, on the 12th day of January, A. D. 1897, for his final account and exhibit to be approved and that he be discharged as such administrator and be relieved from further liability, which will be heard by said Court at its February term A. D. 1897, at the Court House of said County, in Crockett, at which time all persons interested in said estate may appear and contest said application if they see proper.

Herein fail not, but have you before said court, on the first day of the next term thereof, this Writ, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Witness my hand and official seal, at Crockett this 14th day of January 1897. N. E. ALLEBRIGHT, Clerk County Court Houston Co. Tex.

NOTICE IN PROBATE.

The State of Texas, To the Sheriff or any Constable of Houston County, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded, that by publishing for 20 days, exclusive of the day of publishing, in some newspaper published in your county, a true copy of this Writ, you summon all persons interested in the estate of S. F. and Martha Wall deceased, to answer a final exhibit filed by John C. Wall administrator of said estate in the County Court of Houston County, on the 7th day of Jan'y 1897, showing condition of said estate and an application to be discharged which will be heard by said Court on the 1st day of Feb'y 1897, at the Court House of said County, in Crockett, at which time all persons interested in said estate may appear and contest said exhibit and application if they see proper.

Herein Fail Not, but have you before said Court, on the said first day of the next term thereof, this Writ, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Witness my hand and official seal, at Crockett this 7th day of Jan'y 1897. N. E. ALLEBRIGHT, Clerk, County Court Houston County, Texas. By JOHN SPRACK, Deputy.

R. C. Stokes, WATCHMAKER & ADJUSTER, HAS A COMPLETE LINE OF Watches, Jewelry, Clocks, Silverware, Etc. BUYS OLD GOLD AND SILVER. OUR MOTTO, RELIABLE GOODS AT BOTTOM CASH PRICES. CROCKETT, TEXAS.

YOUR OPPORTUNITY. An Entire Stock of Merchandise, Hardware, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Clothing, Dry Goods, Notions, for Sale regardless of cost, to be sold on or before January 30th, at private or public Sale. These Goods have got to be sold and if they dont go at one price they will at another. Store-house will be rented to purchaser if desired. CLARK BROS.

Lumber! Lumber! I am now ready to furnish Any and All Kinds of Lumber, of any Grade and of any Dimension. Will supply in any quantities at mill or delivered, the very Best Heart Lumber or mixed as the log runs. Any one wanting lumber for any purpose Will Find it To His Interest to Call and See me before buying. I can make it to his interest to buy from me. Mill two and a half miles South of Crockett right on Lovelady road All bills Filled Promptly and at Prices that Defy Competition. Try me. A. M. Langston.

To the People of Houston and Adjoining Counties: When you need anything in the way of corn, oats, bran, corn chops, wheat, rye, barley or anything in the feed and grain line it will pay you to see me before you buy. I carry a large stock and am prepared to meet all legitimate competition. My motto is spot cash and honest weight and measure. Store under Opera House Crockett, Tex. Respectfully, JNO. MANGUM.

To the Lovers of Fine Flour: I have the agency of three of the best flouring mills in the South West and solicit your trade. My leading brands are, White Swan, Bell of Mexico and Peerless. There is nothing better made of wheat than the above and to purchasers, I guarantee the fullest satisfaction or will cheerfully refund money. Respectfully, JNO. MANGUM.

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