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WASHINGTON, MAY 16, 1890.

A SPECIMEN OUTLET.

Perhaps the most remarkable recent contribution to "outlet" literature was a communication which appeared some days ago, over the signature of Mr. B. F. Camp, in our esteemed contemporary the Post.

First, it would lower the level of the river many feet at New Orleans and points above, and—

Secondly, it would enable the flood-tides to precipitate great volumes of sea water into the river, which sea water, being much heavier than the fresh, would naturally tumble to the bed of the river, and there so pound and gouge and rowl out the bottom, as shortly to double the depth of the channel.

This interesting document of Mr. Camp's went on to say that, at the point fixed for the outlet in question, the river level is some sixteen feet higher than that of the sea in Lake Borgne.

But it is not necessary to dissect the flabby nonsense that has been uttered in this controversy, when we have such an array of facts from which to draw serious and reliable deductions.

The "Talent" must have gone down heavily in the Brooklyn Handicap. There was only one Castaway in it, but several thousand pocketbooks seem to have been "marooned."

It is now claimed that Edwin Cowles, the late editor of the Cleveland Leader, was the first to propose holding a world's fair in 1892.

The Emperor Eugenie has become very much of a recluse, and is preparing a memorial of the late Emperor Napoleon and the prince imperial.

It is interesting to learn that Mr. Clarkson of Iowa is in favor of "the merit system" in the civil service. The statement comes to us, however, on excellent authority, and we must assume that it is a truthful one.

Several of the greatest reformers in the Democratic party favor the merit system as fervently as Mr. Clarkson does. Hon. D. B. Hill of New York, Hon. Eugene Higgins of Baltimore, and dozens more whom we could name, have always planted themselves firmly on this ground.

We shall never know what Mr. Clarkson means by declaring himself in favor of the merit system until we have before us his definition of merit. The prevalent impression is that Mr. Clarkson's philosophy is as simple and child-

AMUSEMENTS.

"Old Lavender" at the National. In spite of the fact that Rome underwent its final downfall for the present season, so far as Washington is concerned, at the circus grounds last night, a house of generous proportions and disposition assembled at the National to see and applaud Mr. Hartigan's clever presentation of "Old Lavender."

No collocation of illiterate utterances on the subject of the Mississippi River would be complete that did not include the following editorial from the New York World of the 16th:

The Senate Committee on Commerce has been hearing many expert witnesses on the subject of the Mississippi River, with results which are as dangerous as they are dangerous.

There are two or three things to be said on the subject in answer to the opinions given. The first is that as low water occurs mainly in the summer, when nobody wants to navigate the river to any great extent, its navigation at such times is scarcely worth the effort.

The second is that the only really serious problem presented by the Mississippi is that of preventing the destructive manifestations of its anger in time of flood, and that every suggestion of narrowing the channel is in the direction of increasing the danger.

One esteemed contemporary, the Post, may safely dismiss its fears as to Mr. Mills. That gentleman is not given to equivocation. What he thinks he says, and he employs to that end a fine, abedded, nervous English, as to the purpose and significance of which it is difficult to harbor the smallest doubt.

When Mr. Mills said that the present Ways and Means Committee had not been improperly approached, he stated what he believed to be and what doubtless is the truth. Why should the committee be approached, improperly or otherwise, by those who made their deal with the Republican party itself in 1888?

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A MINE OF INFORMATION.

The Man Who Tells Congressmen What They Want to Know. Frank G. Carpenter's Letter. I dropped into the Congressional Library and asked Mr. Spofford as to the condition of the great American brain, Mr. Spofford is the man who gives to the Congressmen the information that they want to know.

It is really this mysterious old man who is an Italian named Lino, born at Barzeto 105 years ago, and perhaps the last living relic of the Grande Armee of 1815.

On the outbreak of the terrible storm, which was destined to carry off the order of General Pina, he was taken prisoner, after having been severely wounded by the Cossacks of Platow.

At the close of the war he obtained as the reward for his services a little piece of ground, which he cultivated. When he was 45 years old he married a young Polish girl named Nerawka, who died in 1875.

More than a hundred years old, the old veteran at last became homesick, after seventy-eight years of exile. He resolved at all hazards to return to his native land, and there pass the remainder of his eventful career.

Through the influence of the Italian Ambassador at St. Petersburg he was sent home to Italy at the expense of the Italian Government. Lino is now in an asylum at Reggio, where he is cared for by the Italian Government.

It is worthy of note that the Australian system of balloting, which now prevails in that country, was first introduced by the election of last Saturday on the day of the regular election.

The political lessons of this significant victory of the Democracy in New England will not be lost upon party managers. A great change is coming over the spirit of the tax-ridden American people.

Senator Davis' First Case. "Did I ever tell you how I gained my first client?" Senator C. K. Davis of Minnesota asked me the other evening.

Well, it is too good a story to keep so secret. I have been kept eighteen hundred and ever so few— that's definite enough—I was trying to practice law in a little town in Northern New York.

What Waterson Thinks of It. From the Louisville Courier-Journal, May 13. The nomination of Richard Vaux to succeed Mr. Randall takes us back into the centennial and completely baffles all current controversies.

Two Interesting Proctors. From the Chicago Tribune. FRANKFORT, Ky., May 11.—Between the Louisville Derby and the Senatorial election the whole State of Kentucky is in great excitement.

A FEW SUN BEAMS. ONE OF THE THINGS THE POET HAS TO STAND FOR is called to see about some verses called "Burning Words" I sent here six weeks ago.

LAST OF THE GRANDE ARMEE.

A Survivor of Napoleon's Troops Reaches Home at Last. From the Courrier des Etats Unis. The Italian papers report a recent arrival at the railway station at Barentino, near Reggio, Central Italy, of a strange, looking personage that was the object of considerable curiosity.

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A BEOUSE BEAUTY.

Once Famous Woman Well Known in Washington. From the Richmond Dispatch. The woman who swoops by in the gay crowd on Broadway was a famous beauty in her day. She is still good looking. Her face is a trifle altered, and there are wrinkles on her brow and crow's feet in her cheeks, but it is still a face that would be noticed in a crowd.

She goes to New York occasionally to visit friends, but her home is in Washington. She is no longer the gay butterfly of fashion, and her dresses, while fashionable and well made, have not the dash that made her so much talked about in some of our papers.

Every summer thousands of visitors make pilgrimages to the cottage in which Robert Burns was born, near Alloway Kirk and the banks of Doon. They are shown the room in which the poet first saw the light, as well as the "original" furniture used by Burns.

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IN THE SPRING

Nearly everybody needs a good medicine. The impurities which have accumulated in the blood during the cold months must be expelled or when the mild days come and the effect of breathing air is lost the body is liable to be overcome by debility or some serious disease.

That Tired Feeling "There is a large and growing demand here for Hood's Sarsaparilla, the sales already exceed those of all other similar medicines combined. I know of many customers who have been greatly benefited by it and who speak of Hood's Sarsaparilla in the highest terms.

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AMUSEMENTS.

FINAL NIGHTS OF THE SEASON. IMMEDIATE HIT OF EDWARD HARRIGAN, In His Inimitable Creation. OLD LAVENDER. Original Songs and Music by Dave Graham.

LAUGHING GRAND OPERA HOUSE. Evenings at 8:15. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. CARLETON OPERA COMPANY. In an entirely new Comic Opera, entitled "WYNNEBER JEN."

HARRIS' BROTHERS. WEEK OF MAY 12. Matinee Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Elaborate Production of THE WAGES OF SIN.

THE WAGES OF SIN. With New and Marvelous Effects and Brilliant Costumes. Next week—ADA GRAY. KIRKMAN'S NEW WASHINGTON THEATRE. 11th St., south of Penna. Ave.

LONDON SPECIALTY AND GAIETY CO. Next Week—Lester & Allen's Big Show and Kirk's Parisian Ballet Troupe. GLOBE THEATRE. FA. AVE., NEAR 11th ST. Monday, May 13, and during the week.

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