



"In time of an emergency," remarked an elderly man to a Washington "Star" representative, "I would rather have presence of mind than a gun."

Church of England schools are ear-tugging, so that the figures are a little deceptive. Indeed, out of four and a half million children in English elementary schools last year, only 634,000 were ear-tugged. On the other hand, the staff notation was used only in 8 per cent of the schools, and the tonic sol-fa in 68 per cent.

New York "Times" dramatic critic: One difficulty with which the operetta composers have to contend is the wretched singing of most of the persons engaged in that branch of musical entertainment. Of course, many of those who are popular with the public never studied singing at all.

For at least a minute the actor addressed himself to his trembling audience, and then, deliberately selecting a complacently white-haired man in the very center of the house, he commanded him to rise and be shot.

Two coming Shakespearean performances which are exciting preliminary curiosity in London are the "Othello" of Forbes Robertson and the "Hamlet" of Nacomb Gould.

A new comedy in four acts by Ralph Lumley, with Mrs. John Wood, Weedon Grossmith, Irene Vanbrugh and others in the cast, will be seen soon in London at the Avenue Theatre.

The London "World" does not think much of Leo Thavos' "Dr. Johnson," which seems to have been received rather favorably at the London Strand Theatre. It says: "The dialogue contains one or two of Johnson's recorded sayings, but is for the rest hopelessly un-Johnsonian."

The recent production in London of Ibsen's "John Gabriel Borkman" at the New Century Theatre is treated with very little respect by the Philistine critics, although it is generally admitted that the cast was as good as one that could have been selected.

Count Geza Zichy, the well-known one-armed pianoforte virtuoso, had an audience of the German Emperor recently, the director of the opera, Count Hochberg, being likewise present, when he played extracts from his opera "Ahr," which has been accepted for performance in Berlin within a few weeks.

After hearing Mme. Nordica as Elsa at the Paris opera the other evening, the opera composer Alfred Bruneau wrote that she was "consciously received." "Her style," he said, "lacks simplicity and naturalness; her pronunciation is very defective, and her voice, of agreeable quality in soft passages, is not always true in passionate moments."

The following-named officers of the American Dramatists' Club for the ensuing year have been elected: President, Bronson Howard; First Vice-President, J. I. C. Clarke; Second Vice-President, Howard P. Taylor; Corresponding Secretary, Charles Barnard; Recording Secretary, Charles Klein; directors, H. P. Mason, Harrison Grey Fiske and E. A. Paulton.

"Miss Wilkins' story, 'A Humble Romance,'" says the "British Weekly," "has been dramatized by Mrs. George MacDonald under the name of 'Arcadia in a Tin Cart,' and was acted at the

VOICE OF THE PRESS.

Extracts From Editorial Expression of Journals Of the State and the Coast on Subjects of Living and News Interest.

Merced Sun: James Berry, the colored monster of Modesto who brutally murdered his wife the other day, said when brought into court that he was guilty and wanted to be hanged immediately. He should be hanged in the morning on his way with-out any unnecessary delay.

PAPER MONEY IN CUBA. San Jose Herald: Captain-General Weyler with his almost despotic power has tried to force paper money on Cuba as a Government proposition, and now such paper is quoted at Cardenas, one of the leading seaports of the island, at 5 cents on the silver dollar.

SETTLED. Los Angeles Times: The oration was a species of wild sheep, wholly different from the American cimarron or "big horn," and also different from the mouflon of Thibet and Persia. Its existence was for years denied by our most eminent scientists, but now there is a perfect skeleton of one has been found by some Yale College students, not far from the scene of the Custer massacre, the dispute must be considered as ended.

WILL SHE? Oroville Register: The editor of the Livermore "Herald" advises the girls of the town to be careful. The advice is thrown away. When it comes to a dress a woman will wear just what she chooses, in spite of all the men from the time of Adam to the youngest Native Son.

EXPECT THE AX. Chico Record: The School Directors of Berkeley have adopted a rule for the employment of teachers in the school department. Instructors troubled with indigestion are apt to be cranky with the youngsters; hence only those who can show a clean bill of health can in the future find employment in the college town.

THE HIGH HAT. Alameda Argus: Dr. Rottanzel, Supervisor of San Francisco, has succeeded in having the ordinance against high hats repealed. Now all that remains is to put it in force. After the latter shall have been accomplished there will be many to rise up and call Dr. Rottanzel blessed.

SQUEEZE. Santa Rosa Democrat: "The banks TWO VIEWS OF RURAL DELIVERY. San Jose Mercury: A few days ago the Los Gatos "Mail" noted in an editorial paragraph that since the rural free postal delivery in Campbell district has been in operation many farmers and fruit growers residing between Campbell and Los Gatos, who formerly received their mail at the latter town, are complaining that their mail is delivered at their door, and that when wishing to buy groceries or other goods they make a special trip to San Jose instead of purchasing in small quantities every few days, as they were wont to do at Los Gatos.

However, the "Mail's" paragraph, which was referred to at the time in these columns, has stirred up a lot of editorial discussion concerning the benefits and the disadvantages of the rural free postal system. The fruit section at Campbell was selected by the Government as a suitable field in which to make the experiment because it is an ideal rural district, embracing a large and progressive population, a fact well known and appreciated by Congressman Loud, to whom the district is indebted for this favor.

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Warm Reception. "Did the old gentleman ask you to sit down the other night, Chumpley, when you called to ask him for his daughter?" "No, and I haven't been able to sit down since, either."—Detroit Free Press.

Nursing Mothers. "The greatest benefit from taking Anheuser-Busch's Malt-Nutrine. It helps them and gives their children a healthy start in life. At all druggists."

IN RELIGION'S REALM.

Expressions From Various Religious Newspapers. The Religious Thought of the Day as Expressed in the Secular Press.

"If the Church of England and our own church in America," says the "Church Standard" (P. E.) of Philadelphia, "while holding the primitive faith in its integrity, were to add to other doctrines which were not held as articles of faith in the primitive church, and if they were to refuse communion with other Christian churches unless on condition that such churches should accept those doctrines as articles of faith, then the Church of England and our own church here in America, while catholic in faith, would be schismatical in their position. But the fact is that neither the Church of England nor our own church here in America has ever imposed or required anything but the catholic faith of the primitive church as a condition of communion. In respect of doctrine, the Anglican position is purely and simply catholic. The Anglican churches hold the faith of the primitive Catholic Church unaltered, and, so far as doctrine is concerned, they obey the Council of Chalcedon by requiring nothing more. Heretics (like the Arians of the fourth century) reject some part of the faith; schismatical churches (like that of Rome) exalt local and provincial opinions to equal dignity and authority with the very faith itself, and make their acceptance an indispensable condition of communion. The Anglican churches do neither the one nor the other."

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From the Capitol

Come the Words: "Most Complete."

M. H. DE YOUNG, Prop. S. F. Chronicle, San Francisco, Cal.—Dear Sir: I beg to acknowledge the receipt of The Century Dictionary and Cyclopaedia which was forwarded by the "Chronicle" on the 20th inst., and for which please accept my thanks. I will state that in the limited time I have had to examine this work I think it is the most complete Dictionary and Cyclopaedia now before the public. Very respectfully,

A. M. Banitt, Adjutant-General.

Being such a splendid example of the real appreciation in which The Century Dictionary and Cyclopaedia is held, we take the liberty of publishing the above.

This work is its own advertisement, and where one set is placed in any community it is SURE of being the means of selling others. This is why The Century Co. first proposed to distribute 1,000 sets through the Chronicle Century Club at a low introductory price and on easy payments. These few sets judiciously distributed will gain the desired introduction.

On account of the many towns we must accommodate, only a few sets of the original 1,000 can be allotted for distribution in Sacramento, therefore it becomes a case of a prize for the prompt. Write for particulars.

THE CHRONICLE, SAN FRANCISCO.