THE ETHICS OF JILTING.

RIGHTS AND WRONGS OF BROKEN MATCHES.

Mrs. Sarah Grand's Opinion—Miss Swan Thinks That Men Suffer Little.

"Is it ever justifiable to break off an engagement?" is a problem discussed by several ladies in one of their own periodicals. Now, of course, there are circumstances in which Amadis of Gaul, or Faithful Grizel, would have broken off an engagement. If it turns out that the betrothed fair loves the wassail bowl even too well, that the swain has been detected with cards up his sleeve, that either belongs to a family of hereditary homicidal maniacs, then almost every one would say "break the engagement off." To be sure, some young things will insist they can slowly break Edwin of his habit of turning up the nine, or of tarrying by the wine cup, but here a stern parent may exert all the authority which may have been left to him by the march of intellect.

We do not enter into the chapter of what Meg Dods was beginning to call "prenup," as affecting the tenure of engagements, because full instructions on that theme in all its bearings may be found in novels by emancipated ladies. They recommend the fair to put the swain through a strict examination of his pre-betrothal conduct—but that should be before accepting him, not after. The examination may be "viva voce," or on paper, but paper work is much to be preferred, many men being nervous in "viva voce." Somehow no masculine novelist has ever yet instructed the swain to cross-examine the nymph. By examining first and proposing or accepting afterward, many painful feelings may be avoided. These, of course, are merely amateur reflections; we turn to the ladies who sit on the bench of British Cupid in this Court of Love. Mrs. Sarah Grand thinks that we certainly ought not to break off many engagements. "You mauna aye be dram, draming," as the Scotch minister said, after making the most ample allowances.

THE ENGAGEMENT AS AN EYE OPENER.

Mrs. Grand thinks that if a girl, as soon as she has hooked her fish, begins to display anxiety about her future carriage, and betrays "aspirations on the same material plane," it would be "unfair to the girl" if a soaring swain clove to his word. Obviously, this rule applies all round. In an engagement the betrothed parties are likely to find each other out. One may be soaring, the other material, "terriblement enfonce dans la matiere." One may be jealous, and, if any discovery can be terrifying, it is the discovery of jealousy. The lady had better break off, the gentleman may shoot himself accidentally in going through a hedge. A prig has been known to end his engagement on the discovery of "intellectual disparity"; this is rare. Mrs. Grand admits that a girl may take more license in jilting, "for men get on pretty comfortably with quite inferior women." Indeed, a man is apt to make the best, and a woman the worst, of what cannot be mended.

Mrs. Joseph Parker justly remarks that the wise thing is to know all about each other, before people get engaged at all. We ought to look before we leap. But, of two wrongs, breaking off an engagement may be the less. A girl may discover that she does not care for a man, or that she prefers somebody else. There is a legend of a lady whose swain, when she murmured "Yes," said, "Let us kneel and pray for a blessing." The young woman confessed that she occupied this interval in thinking "how to break it off," which she did promptly. Mrs. Haweis remarks that a lady should not use a man "as a sort of spooning machine." Persons of taste will not listen to advice couched in the most vulgar slang.

STRANGE THINGS IN HONOR'S NAME.

Lady Laura Ridding exclaims against the strange things done in the name of honor, as when a man or woman keeps a pledge merely because it has been given. Honor is not so common or cheap that we should belittle it. Women are, for many reasons, allowed more latitude in breaking this promise than men. A betrothed man who knows that the girl will go near to break her heart if he deserts her is in a position where honor certainly has something to say. Women are much more lenient than men to male jilts, whom other men instinctively desire to beat or shoot. It is plain that, while men regard honor as a binding principle—so that to lose honor is to lose all—they will be more cautious about falling into entanglements. But if they acquire the idea that they can break engagements with as little blame as commonly ataches to the other sex, they will be more reckless in getting betrothed at a venture. A male jilt inflicts a much severer social wrong than a lady jilt, yet female opinion lets him off with comparative ease.

Women ought to be more severe in their judgment of this kind of character. A man may make "vows of love and honor" with more honor than love in his heart. If so, it is his business to keep his vows and hold his tongue. But in all this casuistry, the question must be one of a choice between two evils, and people must choose for themselves. Luckily, the persons who get into scrapes are usually the persons who get out of them again with least pain and trouble. The good-natured souls who become engaged out of good nature, on either side, go on good naturedly. "The flippants of both sexes," extricate themselves flippantly. The wise who have made a blunder act with congenial wisdom. And the rest write sentimental lyrics—"all ends in song." The breaking of an engagement may "be an action dictated by a keen sense of honor," but who would preach it for a truth "to those that eddy round and round."

THE MAN GETS TIRED FIRST.

Miss Annie Swan's experience of life teaches her that "in the great majority of cases it is the man who tires." Really we can only accept this opinion if backed by great masses of statistics. If Miss Swan will procure these, by sending out papers of questions like those issued by the Society for Psychical Research, we shall listen to her seriously. A man suffers little, if at all, from being jilted," says Miss Swan, which is encouraging to young ladies who take their morals from popular magazines. "To jilt, jilt, jilt, to jilt all day" will now be their temptation, for a man may "feel it keenly," but he "suffers little," says Miss Swan. She may quote the extremely fatuous person who, hearing talk of woman's fickleness, parodied Wordsworth: "Alas! the constancy of girls has often left me mourning." A man, it seems, is not "cheapened" by being left to wear the willow; a woman is. But Miss Swan should remember that a man betrayed often abandons himself to a course of what moralists call "gayety." This was Lovelace's case; he states it fully in a letter to Mr. Belford. Being jilted, Lovelace went and avenged himself on the whole sex. How he must have suffered! He sacrificed hectacombs of the fair to his revenge. Girls should keep these appalling examples of "how much the wretched dare" in mind before they stoop to jilting. Unlike Lady Laura Ridding, Miss Swan thinks that few women would not prefer to take their chance with a reluctant but honorable swain rather than lose him. If that is so, surely a man is bound to keep his word; and here the young are placed in great jeopardy. Are they to follow Miss Swan's or Lady Luar Ridding's theory? They can hardly put the question to the person most concerned, and professional casuists, like Escobar, leave the matter undetermined. If a young man consults a lady friend, she will probably advise breaking off. If he consults a man, he is likely to hear some very plain language.—London Daily Times.

A NOVEL GUNBOAT.

Guns and Sharpshooters in the Fighting Tops.

Novelties in naval construction to meet new features expected in actual warfare are not elsewhere more apparent than in the latest gunboats, of which the Helena, recently a visitor to the Washington ordnance establishment, is a type. This vessel attracted widespread curiosity there among Uncle Sam's professional warriors stationed at headquarters, particularly on account of her lofty smokestack and military mast, which are wholly disproportionate to her size when compared with familiar marine craft.

This mast, with its platforms or "tops," is designed for novel uses. In the river service, for which the Helena class has been especially adapted, it is to furnish shelter as elevated as possible for a wide outlook over the surrounding country, especially where the banks are high or wooded, and to provide unexposed perches for sharpshooters. It is practically two masts as high as the lower fighting top, the inner tube or mast proper of two feet diameter extending to the platform above the searchlight, sixty-eight feet above water, where four men manipulate the automatic guns, firing twice each second. Around this mast an outer shell six feet in diameter covers a staircase to the pilot-house and to the lower top, where eight men are in action stationed at the four one-pounder rapid-fire Hotchkiss guns, each firing a pound projectile every three seconds. To both fighting tops run electrical ammunition hoists reaching down into the magazines below water, and speaking tubes, signals, steam steering gear and other apparatus are inclosed.

Above all, towering over 100 feet, rises the signal mast. The huge stack discharges its smoke eighty feet above the fire-grate beneath the boilers, this hight serving the double purpose of carrying away the smoke from the sharpshooters and furnishing great natural draught in the fire-rooms without the aid of blowers.

The Helena has eight 4-inch rapid-fire rifles, six in broadside and two on the main deck. Each has a crew of four men attended by four ammunition passers. The gun captain, standing at the left, trains, elevates and fires; the second Captain, at the right, relieves him when disabled; No. 3 with a sweeping motion swings open and shuts the breech, and No. 4 hands the 57-pound cartridge into the gun. The Helena's forward deck crew will hit a small target a mile away five times in forty-five seconds with a steel shot weighing thirty-three pounds. The shield protecting the four men is of 3-inch steel, and the gun's pedestal, besides containing all needed implements, resists a twenty-ton recoil at each discharge.—New York Tribune.

Points of Advantage.

"A horse is superior to a wheel, after all."

"In what way?"

"If you run over anybody while riding horseback you can blame the horse."

The mainland of South America was reached in 1498 by Columbus, who landed at Paria, but still was not aware that he had found a new continent.

WITHERED.

HOW MANY TREES WE SEE THAT look like the picture. Yes! But how many men we see that are as dead as that tree seems to be! What is the reason? Folly? Perhaps, yes! Possibly no. The fact that a man seems more dead than alive, the fact that he is unable to fill fully all the duties of a perfectly sound man, and the fact that he dares not own—even to himself—what a poor, weak mortal he is, is one of the problems that physicians have had to face since civilization was known. It has never been faced so wisely, so well and so successfully as it is being done today by the Hudsonian doctors. All the years that they have spent on the subject have not been spent in vain. No, indeed! In the great remedio-treatment "Hudyan" they have shown the entire world that the health that has been wrecked can be promptly and surely restored. More than that! They have shown that faculties that have been practically dead, so to speak, are rejuvenated and regenerated. It is idle folly to talk of what "Hudyan" cannot do. If the statements of 15,000 men are to be relied on, there is absolutely no case of debilitation that it does not surely cure. It is not true that because you have abused your memory, your voice or any other function of your system that you are bound to live to your dying day an imperfect man. "Hudyan" will cure you—and it makes no difference how wicked you have been. Why not try and find out about it? Two cents brings you all the information you need.

You may be wrong as to the cause of the loose teeth that you have. It may not be blood taint. Write and ask for all the information that can be given about blood taint. It will not cost you a cent to get a reply that will relieve your mind.

HUDSON MEDICAL INSTITUTE,

Stockton, Market and Ellis Streets,

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

AMUSEMENTS.

The box-office opening at the Metropolitan yesterday for "In Gay New York" was signalized by a tremendous sale of seats. The sale will continue today. Sale of seats for the full week of the Grau Opera Company begins tomorrow morning.

Sale of seats for "South Before the War" engagement of one week begins at the Clunie Opera-house to-morrow morning. Among the features in this engagement will be the introduction of the cinamatograph, with ten new pictures each evening.

John Slater, the mind reader, styled "the psychic wonder," who has appeared in Sacramento a number of times, will be at Pythian Castle on Sunday and Monday evenings. He promises to introduce new phenomena.

There was a packed auditorium at the Congregational Church last night, the occasion being the second of the Capital concert series. The music-loving public are indebted deeply to Messrs. Cohn and Kidder for organizing the series for a second year. They enable the public to enjoy music treats that otherwise it would not be likely to secure; besides, their endeavor is doing much to maintain a high, cultivated musical taste in the community. The concert last night was a delightful one. It so pleased that the encores became an infliction, and in the second part some of the artists had to decline. Miss Bassian, soprano, greatly pleased. She has not a great voice, but a brilliant one, and it is managed with consummate skill. It is fresh, sparkling as champagne, and behind it is an informing intelligence fired by true dramatic spirit. The result is expression and feeling of the higher order, and that makes her presence on the rostrum a pleasure and a charm. Miss McClosky's contralto is that of a correct voice of staying quality and possessed by a singer precise, accurate and artistic. The volume of her tone is not great, but the quality is superior and the management admirable. Mr. Weiss, the 'cello soloist, is a player of fine perception and masterly execution; his playing is distinguished by depth of feeling. Mr. Lucy, the pianist, is a brilliant player and one of the rarely accomplished accompanists. The Knickerbocker quartet is well known here, and was warmly welcomed. Messrs. Coffin, Elliott, Crane and Larsen were in good voice and were complimented by sincere applause and many encores. Mr. Newton, the humorist, was not so satisfactory as expected. His first number was a pathetic reading, and scarcely in keeping with the spirit of the evening. His humorous numbers were simply fair—in fact, Mr. Newton last evening could have been supplanted to decided advantage.

SOCIAL EVENTS.

On last Saturday evening an enjoyable surprise party was given to Mrs. Senatz by Mr. and Mrs. Disborough at 1023 Third street, the occasion being her birthday. The evening was spent in music, singing, reading and social converse and card playing. At 11 o'clock all were invited out to refreshments, and at 12 o'clock good nights were exchanged, all wishing her many more birthdays.

* * *

A very pleasant surprise party was given to Miss Mollie Neidhart at her residence, 2101 P street, last Saturday evening, December 4th. The evening was spent in playing games and dancing and other amusements until a late hour, when refreshments were served. those present were: The Misses G. Kaufman, M. Brunner, M. McAlpine, M. Neidhart, F. Schaefer, G. Thielen, A. Conrad, L. Nicholos, E. Sachs, L. Sachs, T. Stoppel, A. Buzer, P. Bauerli, J. Neidhart and Mrs. C. Lochbaum, Messrs. F. Brunner, C. Lewis, H. Person, W. Egan, F. Schoenbachler, F. Donsing, N. Brown, H. Thielen, G. Ryan, L. Stoppel, N. Pittney, H. Gray, J. Pitzel, J. Thielen, C. Chikadena, G. Groeger, O. Chamberlin, C. Lochbaum, E. Chettina.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mrs. A. W. La Bassie is on a visit to Clipper Gap.

Dr. F. D. Tyrrell went down to the Bay yesterday.

Miss Mamie Neff of Woodland is visiting Sadie Fuller of this city.

H. D. Burroughs came down from Chico yesterday and is at the Golden Eagle.

Mrs. E. B. Walbridge of Tuscan Springs is visiting Mrs. William Hill, her sister, at 324 M street.

Mrs. Al. F. Kleinsorge and children have returned from their visit to Woodbridge, San Joaquin County.

John F. Carrere, Secretary of the State Commission in Lunacy, went to San Francisco yesterday morning on business connected with the State asylums.

Hotel Arrivals.

Arrivals at the Golden Eagle Hotel yesterday: E. B. Dana, New York; A. Sturm, Joe Kopecky, Chicago; H. D. Burroughs, Chico; W. C. Van Sant, Columbus; Dr. George Wedelstaeder, St. Paul; C. M. Elliott, Frank Coffin, D. B. Crans, Roscue Warren Lucy, Ella V. McCloskey, A. Wicks, Mrs. Alexia Bassican, L. A. Larsen, Professor C. B. Newton, Knickerbocker Concert Company; C. A. Ingals, Boston; A. S. Levy, F. Jacobs, New York; J. N. Sitton, New Jersey; Wyatt Grau, New York; C. O. Cushman, Chicago; Thimothy Mee, E. W. Cooper, Roger B. Friend, C. L. Hopkins, Robert Husbands, J. G. Meyer, A. F. Sewell, San Francisco.

Who Stole the Coat?

C. P. Kelly and Charles B. Brooks visited the police station last evening, where the former accused the latter of having stolen a coat and vest belonging to him from the room they jointly occupied on Ninth, between D and E streets.

Brooks, who was drunk, said another man had committed the theft, and he, too, had been loser of some clothing and $2 in money. He was locked up for drunkenness.

Camping on His Trail.

A hobo who impersonates a deaf mute has been working the southeastern portion of the city for several days past. He solicits alms from women by means of signs, and if they decline to contribute shows his true feather and insults them. The officers are camping on his trail and expect to have him in limbo before he gets much older.

Date Taken.

The Catholic Ladies' Relief Society will hold its annual party on February 17th.

"This baby," said the fond father as he turned for another lap along the room, "is going to be a great actress one of these days." "What makes you think so?" inquired his wife. "Just look at the way she can shed real tears and bring an audience to its feet!"—Washington Star.

COMMERCIAL.

SPECULATIVE WHEAT MARKET HIGHER.

Barley Lower, Both for Spot and Futures—Fair Demand for Oats—Corn Quiet.

San Francisco, Dec. 9th.

The local speculative Wheat market is higher, and there is a generally stronger feeling, owing to the workings of the Chicago market, but spot values are unchanged. Barley, owing to the wet weather, is lower, both for spot and futures; buyers are not numerous. No changes in Oats; fair demand; over 11,000 centals arrived from Washington today. Corn is quiet and unchanged in price.

Not many Apples arrived to-day, but held-over stocks are large and no additional are needed. The market all through shows no improvement, all lines dragging.

Butter is lower. There is practically no packed Butter in first hands; there is still some in second hands, and until that is cleaned up or the price of the fresh article comes to a point that will create a shipping demand, there is little chance for improvement. Eggs are lower, and moving slowly.

Produce Quotations.

FLOUR—Net cash prices for Family Extras, $4 55@4 65; Bakers' Extras, $4 30@4 40.

WHEAT—Shipping Wheat, $1 42½ per ctl for No. 1 and $1 43¾@1 45 for choice; Milling Wheat, $1 46¼@1 48¾.

BARLEY—Feed, 82½@90c per ctl; Brewing, $1@1 07½ per ctl.

OATS—Poor to fair, $1@1 05 per ctl; good to choice, $1 07½@1 12½; fancy feed, $1 15@1 20 per ctl; Gray, $1 12½@1 17½; milling, $1 07½@1 12½; Surprise, $1 20@1 30; Black for seed, $1 35@1 50; Red, $1 55@1 40.

CORN—Large Yellow, 90@95c; Small Yellow, 95@97½c; White, 87½@90c.

RYE—$1@1 02½.

BUCKWHEAT—$1 25@1 35 per ctl.

MIDDLINGS—$20@22 50 per ton.

BRAN—$18@18 50.

ROLLED BARLEY—$20@21 per ton

CLIPPED OATS—$1@$2 per ton more than the whole article, as to quality.

HAY—Wheat, $12@14 50; Wheat and Oat, $11@13 50; Oat, $10@12; Barley, $10@12 for best; Alfalfa, $8@9 50; Clover, $8@9 50; Stock, $8@9; Compressed Wheat, $12@14.

STRAW—30@40c per bale.

HOPS—New, 10@14c per lb; old, nominal.

BEANS—Bayos, $2 40@2 50; Butter, $1 25@1 50; Pink, $1 40@1 60; Red, $1 50@1 60; Lima, $1 50@1 75; Pea, $1 30@1 50; Small White, $1 25@1 35; Large White, $1 15@1 25; Blackeye, $1 85@2 05; Red Kidney, $1 75@2 25.

POTATOES—Early Rose, 40@45c per ctl; Oregon Burbanks, 50@65c per ctl; River Burbanks, 40@50c per sack; River Reds, 35@40c per ctl; Salinas Burbanks, 60@80c per ctl; New Potatoes, 1½@2½c per lb; Sweet, 40@50c per ctl; Merced Sweets, 60@75c per ctl.

ONIONS—$1 50@1 65 per ctl.

VEGETABLES—Garlic, 3c per lb; Green Peas, 4@5c per lb, including Los Angeles; String Beans, 50@3c per lb, including Los Angeles; Tomatoes, 25@50 per box for Bay, and $1 per crate for Los Angeles; Dried Okra, 12½@15c per lb; Asparagus, 15c per lb; Mushrooms, 15@20c per lb; Los Angeles Egg Plant, 12½@15c per lb; do, Green Peppers, 4@6c per lb.

FRESH FRUITS—Apples—Choice, 75c @$1; common, 25@50c per box; Lady Apples, $1 50@2 per box.

Berries—Strawberries, $2@3 per chest for large; Cranberries, $8@9 50 per barrel for Eastern, and $2 50 per box for Oregon.

Grapes—20@40c per box; crate grapes for shipping bring 10c more than boxes.

Pears—Common to choice, 40@65c per box; fancy, 75c@$1.

Persimmons—25@65c.

Quinces—20@40c per box.

CITRUS FRUITS—Oranges, new $2 50@3 per box for Navel and $1 25@1 75 for Seedlings; Japanese Mandarins, 75c@$1 per box; California Lemons, 50c@$1 25 for common to choice and $1 75@2 25 for fancy.

TROPICAL FRUIT—We quote Bananas, $1@$2 per bunch; Pineapples, $2@4 per dozen; Smyrna Figs, 11@13c per lb.

DRIED FRUIT—New Crop—Carloads—Apricots, 5@6c per lb for Royal, 7@8c for Moorpark; Prunes, carloads, 40-50's, 4@4½c; 50-60's, 3½@3¾c; 60-70's, 3@3¼c; 70-80's, 2½@2¾c; 80-90's, 2@2½c; 90-100's, 1¼@1¾c; Black Figs, in sacks, 2@3c; Peaches, 5@7½c; peeled, 10@12½c; Nectarines, 4@6c; Pitted Plums, 4@4½c; Pears, 2@5c for quarters and 4@6½c for halves; Apples, 6@7c for evaporated and 3½@4c for sun-dried.

RAISINS — New crop—Carloads—Two-crown, 2¼c per lb; 3-crown, 3¾c; 4-crown, 4½c; London Layers, $1 10@1 15 per box; Seedless Sultanas, 5c; Dried Grapes, 2¾@3c.

BUTTER — Creamery—Fancy, 26@26½c per lb; special brands, higher; seconds, 24@25c. Dairy—Fancy, 25c; good choice, 19@22c; lower grades, 16@18c. Pickled—Nominal; Firkin, nominal; Creamery Tub, nominal.

CHEESE—New, 12c; old, 10@11c; California Cream Cheddar, 11@12c; Young America, 12@13c; Eastern, 12@14c.

EGGS—Store, 25@25c; Ranch, 27@30c; Eastern, 14@20c for cold storage; Duck Eggs, 20@25c per dozen.

POULTRY—Live Turkeys, 11@12c per lb; Dressed Turkeys, 12@14c per lb; Roosters, $3 75@4 for old and $3 50@4 for young; Broilers, $2 50@3 for small and $3 25@3 50 for large; Fryers, $3 50@4; Hens, $3@4 50; Ducks, $3 50@4 50 for old and young; Geese, $1 25@1 75 per pair; Goslings, $1 25@1 75; Pigeons, $1 per dozen for old and $1 25@1 50 for young.

GAME—Mallard, $2 50; Teal, $1@1 25; Sprig, $1 50; Widgeon, $1 25; Small Ducks, $1; Quail, 75c@$1 12½; Bran, $1 50; Gray Geese, $2@2 50; White Geese, $1@1 25; English Snipe, $1 75; Jack Snipe, $1@1 25; Hare, $1; Rabbits, $1@1 50.

Meat Market.

Following are the rates for whole carcases from slaughters to dealers:

BEEF—First quality, 6½c; second quality, 5@6c; third quality, 4@5c per lb.

VEAL—6@6½ for large and 6@7½c per lb for small.

MUTTON—Wethers, 6½@7c; Ewes, 6@6½c per lb.

LAMB—7@8c per lb.

PORK—Live Hogs, 3¼@3⅝c per lb; dressed, 5@5¾c per lb.

Closing Grain Quotations.

Chicago, Dec. 9th.

WHEAT—December, $1 07; January, 94½c; May, 92⅝c; July, 83¾c.

New York, Dec. 9th.

WHEAT—December, 98⅝c; January, 98⅝c; May, 94¾c.

San Francisco, Dec. 9th.

WHEAT—May, $1 39⅝c; December, $1 43⅝.

BARLEY—May, 80c.

CORN—Large Yellow, 90@95c.

BRAN—$18@18 50.

California Dried Fruits.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—California Dried Fruits steady. Evaporated Apples—Common, 5@7c; prime wire tray, 7¾@8c; wood dried prime, 8@8½c; choice, 8½c; fancy, 9@9½c. Prunes, 3@8c. Apricots—Royal, 7@8½c; Moorpark, 9@11c. Peaches—Unpeeled, 7@9c; peeled, 17@20c.

SACRAMENTO MARKET.

Trade in Produce Circles Continues Quiet at Unchanged Prices.

Sacramento, Dec. 9th.

Trade continues quiet in local produce circles. Prices are as previously quoted.

To-morrow (Friday) the following varieties of Fish can be had at the markets at prices quoted: Rockcod, 12½c; Seabass, 12½c; Flounder, 10c; Sole, 10c; Smelt, 12½c; Catfish, 10c; Halibut, 10c; Striped Bass, 12½c; Sturgeon, 12½c; Perch, 15c; Salmon, 15c; Codfish, 12½c; Sardines, 10c.

In smoked and Cured Fish the following prices will rule: Oregon Smoked Salmon, 20c per lb; Smoked Sturgeon, 20c; Red Herrings, 15c per dozen; Yarmouth Bloaters, 20c; Finnin Haddies, 35c per lb; Kippered Herrings, 40c per dozen; Salt Codfish, Eastern, 15c per lb; California, 10c; Brick, 20c; Holland Herrings, 40c per dozen; Select Milchners, $1 per dozen; Mackerel, extra select Eastern, 50c each; California Mackerel, 5 for 25c.

Shell Fish are quoted as follows: California Oysters, $1 a hundred; Large Eastern Oysters, 35c per dozen; small, 25c; opened, 50c; Eagle Brand, 70c per can; Blue Point, 50c; Soft Clams, 10c per dozen; Hard Shell Clams, 5c per lb; Clams, opened, 20c per quart; Shrimps, 10c per lb; Mussels, 12½c per quart; Lobster, 8c per lb; Crabs, 15c each.

Following are the retail prices for the various articles mentioned:

FLOUR—Family Extras, $2 50 per 100 lbs; $1 25 for 50 lbs.

FRUIT—Oranges, Navels, 50@75c; Seedlings, 20@30c; Mandarins, 20c; Limes, 10c; Lemons, 15@25c; Cocoanuts, 10c each; Bananas, 25c per dozen; Strawberries, 10c; Grapes, 3c per lb; Apples, 3c; Pears, 5c; Peaches, 3@5c.

Tidings of Holiday Things

WHITE SPREADS.
White Bed Spreads, extra size, Marseilles pattern; no filling; a regular $1 25 value. Special price, 89c each.

Which have been gathered here for your choosing.

To look through our busy store you'd think that Christmas was nearer than it really is, although but fifteen days off. Among the particularly attractive features about the store is the always interesting toys, which occupy a department on the second floor. The collection is new, from the famous toy land away over the sea. Santa Claus will be with us until after the holidays; he will be found busily engaged making toys in one of our large windows.

Great Book Selling.

Monday we commenced an important book sale at the book department—a well-bound imitation cloth covered book, by noted authors—the quantity placed on sale was very large, and you find a good assortment left to select from, at

5 Cents Each.

It Is Wonderful

The interest our patrons continue to show in the Cresco Corset. Perhaps it is owing in a measure to the skill of our expert fitter, Miss Hulin, in fitting these corsets and making clear to her customers the fine points to be observed in selecting a corset that gives grace to the figure, and perhaps it's due to the fact that a well-satisfied customer is a merchant's best advertisement. Added to this a corset that DOES NOT BREAK AT WAIST LINE, is sure to attract some attention. We believe that these reasons are the cause of our wonderful success with the Cresco. Miss Hulin is still with us and we again invite you to call and talk corsets with her; she will cheerfully devote her time in explaining the particular advantages of the CRESCO.

Toy Department News.

We would like you to compare prices on these goods. They were bought in large quantities for our other stores, as well as for this store—swinging rocking-horses, velocipedes, tricycles, shoo-flys, wood and iron-wagons, all sizes, boys' bicycles, children's sewing machines, doll buggies, iron banks, iron hook-and-ladders, fire engines, hose carts, police patrols, locomotives, trains, writing desks, blackboards, wash tubs, toy furniture, toy trunks, pianos, drums, toy stores, stables, warehouses, toy dishes, targets, blocks, mechanical toys, jumping jacks, magic lanterns, soldier sets, baby jumpers, wood horses attached to wood delivery wagons, hay wagons, milk wagons, trucks, watering carts, police patrols, stuffed dogs and lambs, horses, mules, cows, etc., rubber dolls, rubber dogs, cats, horses, birds, etc.

Christmas tree ornaments in a large assortment.

Small size Santa Claus.

Small size artificial Christmas Trees, Christmas Candles, etc.

Doll sundries, such as doll hats, parasols, shoes, stockings, gloves and doll hammocks and swings.

Toy Wood Horses, 12 inches high, on platform with wheels; worth double. Special price, 50c each.

Some Interesting Specials on Sale To-day.

Men's Brown Fedora Hats, new styles and a good, serviceable hat. Special price, 75c each.

Genuine Congo Wood Canes, with sterling silver mountings; regular price, $1. Special price, 38c each.

Nice line of Colored Dolls, wool hair. Composition head. Special price, 10c each.

Fancy Military Braid Sets; our entire stock of fancy colored braid sets that have been ready sellers at $1. Special price, 50c set.

Irish Point Bureau Sets, all new, pretty goods; a very suitable article for holiday gifts; regular price, 75c and $1. Special price, 50c set.

Toy Wool Dogs, stuffed; long woolly hair, on base with wheels, 9 inches high. Special price, 25c each.

Water Sets in colored mounted glass; colors green, yellow and red; six glasses and pitcher to set. Special price, 50c set.

Colored Glass Vases, 5 inches high, nicely decorated in floral designs. Special price, 15c each.

Fine line of China Cuspidors, good size, neatly decorated in floral designs. Special price, 25c each.

HALE BROS. & CO., 825 to 835 K Street.

NUTS—New Walnuts, 15c per lb; New Almonds, 12½c; New Brazils, 12½c; Pecans, 15c; Filberts, 15c.

DAIRY PRODUCE—Butter—Pickle, 20@21c per lb; Mountain, 20c; Valley Roll, 18@20c; Petaluma, 40c per roll; Creamery, 60c per roll. Cheese—California, 15c per lb; Young America, 17c; Eastern Creamery, 15@20c; Genuine Swiss, 40c; American Cheese, 20c; Neufchatel, 10c.

VEGETABLES—Tomatoes, 2½c per lb; Celery, 10c per head; Cauliflower, 10c per head; Artichokes, 75c per dozen; New Potatoes, 2½c per lb; Turnips, Beets, Parsnips, Carrots, Lettuce, Radishes, Leek and Green Onions, 12½c per dozen bunches; Onions, 3c per lb; Peppers, 5c per lb; Sweet Potatoes, 2½c per lb.

MEATS—Beef—Prime Rib Roast, 12½@15c; Loin Steak, 12½@15c; Rump Steak, 10c; Chuck Roast, 10c; Rump, 8c; Brisket, 8c; Chuck Steak, 10c. Veal—Loin and Rib Chops, 15c; Roast Veal, 12c. Mutton—Leg, 11@12½c; Loin and Rib Chops, 12½c; Mutton Stew, 8c; Shoulder Chops, 8c. Pork—8@12c per lb; Corned Beef, 8@12½c; Sausage, 12½c; Vienna Sausage, 15c; Bacon, 8@13½c; Ham, 12½@13½c.

POULTRY—Hens, 60c each; Spring, 50c each; Broilers, 25@40c each; Tame Geese, $1 50 each; Tame Ducks, 75c each; Turkeys, 15c for live and 17c for dressed per lb.

GAME—Quail, 25c per pair. Ducks—Canvasbacks, $1 per pair; Mallard, 75@85c; Sprig, 50c; Teal, 35c; Small Ducks, 35c; Geese, 50c per pair; Brants, 40c; Squirrels, 35c per pair; Cottontails, 35c per pair; Hare, 40c per pair.

EGGS—California, 40c per dozen; Eastern, 30@35c per dozen.

HAY AND GRAIN—Oat Hay, 70@85c per cwt; Alfalfa, Hay, 55@60c; Whole Barley, $1 20; Ground Barley, $1 25; Feed Oats, $1 20@1 50; Middlings, $1 20; Bran, $1 10; Straw, 60c; Corn, $1 35@per ctl; Cracked Corn, $1 45; Red Russian Oats, $1 50.

COAL OIL—Pearl (Cases), 15½c; Star, 15½c; Eocene, 17½c; Extra Star, 19½c; Elaine, 20½c; Water White (bulk), 10½c.

ELECTRIC LIGHT CANDLES—10 oz, 4½c; 12 oz, 5½c; 14 oz, 6½c; 16 oz, 7½c.

GRANITE MINING CANDLES—10 oz, 6½c; 12 oz, 7c; 14 oz, 7½c; 16 oz, 8½c.

SAN FRANCISCO STOCKS.

San Francisco, Dec. 9th.

Morning Session—B & B, 51c; Chollar, 41c; C Point, 11c; G & C, 44c; H & N, $1 30; Justice, 46c; Savage, 23c; S Nevada, 50c; Utah, 7c.

Afternoon Session—G & C, 42c; C C V, $1 35; Savage, 23c; Chollar, 40c; Potosi, 45c; Alpha, 7c; S Nevada, 49c; Bullion, 9c; Andes, 17c; Scorpion, 1c; Utah, 5c; Seg Belcher, 8c.

Closing Quotations—Alta, 4c; Alpha, 8c; Andes, 17c; Belcher, 18c; B & B, 51c; Bullion, 8c; Challenge, 28c; Chollar, 40c; Confidence, 90c; C C V, $1 30; Con Imperial, 1c; C Point, 11c; G & C, 44c; H & N, $1 30; Julia, 1c; Justice, 49c; Mexican, 28c; Occidental, $1 20; Ophir, 64c; Overman, 7c; Potosi, 45c; Savage, 23c; S Nevada, 50c; Silver Hill, 2c; Union, 26c; Utah, 5c; Yellow Jacket, 35c.

He Got the Position.

Small boy dashed breathlessly into a merchant's office. "Is the guv'nor in?"

"Yes; what do you want?"

"Must see him myself; most partickler."

"But you can't; he's engaged."

"Must see him immejit; most partickler."

The boy's importunity got him in.

"Well, boy, what do you want?"

"D'yer want a orffice boy, sir?"

"You impudent young rascal! No! We've got one."

"No, you ain't, sir; he's just bin run over in Cheapside."

Boy engaged.—Tit-Bits.

The Bishop Had An Excuse.

The late Dr. Wilberforce, Bishop of Winchester, when on a visit at a ducal seat, was persuaded to join a shooting party. His grace's headkeeper was a Scotchman and a Presbyterian, and the Bishop tried to engage him in a friendly chat, but, finding the keeper's replies were short and reserved, he said: "I suppose, Grant, you think a Bishop ought not to go out shooting?"

"Weel, ye'll find no warrant for it in the Screeptur. Did you ever read of the apostles going out shooting?"

"No! true," replied the Bishop; "they had no game in Palestine in those days—they went out fishing instead."

CITY OFFICIAL ADVERTISING.

ORDINANCE, NO. 455.

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 345, Entitled, "An Ordinance to Prohibit Gambling by Means of Automatic Quotation Exhibitors, Slot Machines, Wheels, or Any Similar Contrivance or Imitation Thereof, or by Any Other Device or Scheme," approved June 18, 1894, by Excepting From the Operation of Said Ordinance Such Slot Machines as Are Played for Articles of Merchandise.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE City of Sacramento ordain as follows:

Section 1. Section 1 of Ordinance No. 345, is hereby amended so as to read as follows, to wit:

It shall be unlawful for any person to open, set up, conduct, deal, play or carry on in any public or private place whatever in the city of Sacramento, any automatic quotation exhibitor or any similar contrivance or imitation thereof, whether operated by means of a clock or by any other device or any system whereby goods in name only and that do not exist are bought and sold on commission, or where by the rise and fall of price of goods are dependent upon automatic operation, the result of which are by chance or otherwise, whether called an automatic quotation exhibitor or grain and stock exchange, or any clock game, Ferris Wheel, nickel-in-the-slot machine or imitation thereof, or any device or scheme whatever for money, checks, chips, credit or any representative of value; provided, however, that any slot machine kept and played solely and alone for articles of merchandise shall be and is hereby excepted from the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage.

Passed January 4, 1897.

CHARLES E. LEONARD,
President of Board of Trustees.

Disapproved January 11, 1897.

C. H. HUBBARD, Mayor.

Passed over Mayor's veto January 18, 1897.

CHARLES E. LEONARD,
President of Board of Trustees.

ORDINANCE NO. 457.

An Ordinance Amending Section 7 of Ordinance No. 281, entitled "Concerning Plumbing and Drainage in the City of Sacramento," passed July 27, 1891, by Providing That When the Board of Trustees Sees Fit, Direct Connection With Public Sewers May be Made Without Intervening Vault or Cesspool.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE City of Sacramento ordain as follows:

Section 1. Section 7 of Ordinance No. 281 is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 7. Every house or building must have a water tight cesspool or vault between such house or building and the public sewer (where the public sewers are inaccessible, cesspools shall be constructed in conformity with Ordinance No. 208). Such cesspools shall be constructed of imperishable material, and in no case where practicable shall be placed at a less distance than ten (10) feet from the exterior walls of an inhabited building, or at a less distance than five (5) feet from the lines of adjoining property. Connection shall be made between cesspool or vault and the public sewer by a vitrified iron-stone pipe, four inches in diameter, laid with water-tight joints, in cement mortar, composed of one (1) part Portland cement to two (2) parts clean, sharp sand. It shall have a fall of not less than one-eighth (⅛) of an inch to the foot, and be so arranged at the cesspool or vault that only the liquids can escape. Each joint of the pipe when laid must be properly cleaned on the inside with a suitable scraper before the succeeding joint is put in place. Every cesspool shall have a separate ventilating pipe not less than four (4) inches inside diameter, extending at least three (3) feet above the highest part of the roof or coping; said ventilating pipe shall be constructed of cast iron above the ground, under ground the connections may be made of iron-stone pipe. No other pipes of any other description shall be connected with the ventilating pipe from the cesspool; provided, however, that any house or building may be connected directly with the public sewer, without any intervening vault or cesspool, whenever in the judgment of the Board of Trustees it is necessary and expedient that such direct connection be made. Before any such direct connection with the public sewer shall be made, application for permission to make the same shall be made to the Board of Trustees, who shall then pass upon the necessity or expediency of such direct conection, and if such permission be granted, that f