

# St. Tammany Farmer.

"The Blessings of Government, Like the Dew from Heaven, Should Descend Alike Upon the Rich and the Poor."

W. G. KENTZEL, Editor.

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## THE SHIPMAN'S TALE.

Listen, my masters! I speak words but truth. From dawn to dawn 'till 't was dark and on. Not knowing whether or to what dark end. Now the North from them, now the hot South scorched. Some called to God, and found great comfort so: Some gnashed their teeth with curses, and some laughed. An empty laughter, seeing they yet lived. No sweet was breath between their foolish lips. Day after day the same relations run. Night after night the same snuffing stars. At intervals fierce lightnings tore the clouds. Showers of hot boiler steam, and the steam hissed, and the torments of the sky were loosed. From time to time a hand relaxed its grip. And some pale wretches slid down into the dark. With stifled moans, and transient horror seized the rest who waited, knowing what must be. At every turn strange shapes reared up and clutched. The whirling wreck held on awhile, and then slipped back into that blackness whence they came. Ah, hapless folk, to be so tost and torn. So racked by hunger, fever, fire and wave. And swept at last into the nameless void. Frail girls, strong men, and mothers with their babes! And were none saved!

My masters, not a soul!

Oh shipman, woe! woe! is thy tale! Or hearst thou any word of our fate? What ship is this that suffered such a doom? What ship, my masters? Know ye not?—The World! —Thomas Bailey Aldrich, in Harper's Magazine.

## STORIES OF THE SHARK

### Which Flavor Decidedly of Munchausenism

But Are in the Main Undoubtedly True—Some Dreadful Encounters—What Has Been Found in the Fish's Stomach.

Shark stories have so long formed the staple of sailors' "yarns" that, like the proverbial legends regarding snakes, they have in most cases come to be regarded by untraveled people as somewhat mythical. Indeed, in the recently issued history of American fishes, prepared by a Government commission, the writers give it as their deliberate opinion that the cases in which men have been attacked by these sea wolves are extremely rare. This, we fear, will not be the verdict of those who have a familiar acquaintance with the tropics, and it is assuredly not the view entertained by a correspondent whose letter was recently published in the London Telegraph, says that journal. A few weeks ago a sailor engaged in scraping the sides of a troop ship in the harbor of Sierra Leone was dragged into the water and promptly devoured by one of the swarm of sharks which infest that locality. A boatman had been bitten in the short time it took to dip up a pitcher of water while his craft was under full sail, and he is assured that it is nothing uncommon for these ravenous fish to spring a foot out of the sea to secure their prey. For miles they will follow a vessel, on the outlook for any stray unfortunate who may tumble or be thrown overboard, and yet so deeply do they swim under the surface that it requires the practiced eyes of the natives to detect their presence. Many of the West India harbors are so haunted by the white and hammer-headed sharks—the least amiable of one hundred and fifty different kinds known to zoologists—that it is dangerous to bathe even a few yards from the shore without an outlook being posted. Hence, the well known tradition of "Port Royal Tom" being on the pay-roll of the flagship in that harbor may be founded on fact; for as no seaman would dare to swim ashore with a watch-dog of this kind in the vicinity, a few pieces of junk might have been judiciously expended to keep such a deterrent against desecration around the vessels. Escape is almost impossible, clumsy as the fish is, and once in the grasp of its rows of lancet-like teeth, the victim who purchases life with the loss of an arm or a leg may regard himself as unusually lucky.

### SLIDING IN EARNEST.

Some of the queer ways of the Equimauz of North America.

Down ordinary descents, and quite steep ones, too. It is the custom to allow the reindeer to trot and increase the rapidity of their motion as the sled pushes upon their heels, until at last they gallop at the top of their speed. Near Bulun, which is two days' journey from the mouth of the Lena river, there are several very steep grades, and the reindeer scampering down like the wind, the drivers shouting at the top of their voices, and the sleds bounding over the rough places, make up a scene well worth witnessing. The Equimauz of North America on land journeys often encounter hills where it would be very dangerous to attempt a descent with a heavily loaded sled drawn by dogs. When such a place is reached they unhitch the dogs and let the sled descend by its own weight. All the men set on brakes to prevent, if possible, a descent so rapid as to land the equipage a complete wreck at the bottom. The two strongest of the drivers take their places on the front of the sled, and the others hold on where they can; all pull back as strongly as possible when the speed increases. Some plant their feet straight in front of them and send the sled flying as if from a snow-pile. Others find themselves taking leaps that would astonish a kangaroo, are dragged furiously along, or, may be, come rolling to the bottom after the sled. The dogs regard the whole affair as a joke, and with their tongues tied together come dashing along in the wild chase, some barking joyously, others yelping distressfully, as caught in the traces, they are dragged to the foot of the hill by their reckless companions. It often seemed a wonder when, even with all our exertions, we could lead sled and party at the bottom in safety.—W. E. Gilder, in St. Nicholas.

## THE AMERICAN GIRL.

Her Two Chief Qualities Are Self-Respect and Self-Reliance. A pleasing and constant topic of English writers is the American girl. One of the later commentators says of her: "American girls have shown that they can receive, travel and live without chaperons, escorts or husbands and are fast developing a bright, clear, intelligent, self-reliant, courageous and refreshing variety of the human race." And again: "Even in its future years the slender Yankee belle is hidden behind the ampler beauty of the English matron, we may still hear from her lips the wit and shrewdness, the acute accent, the intelligent question and the rapid repartee that proclaim her original nationality." The "society" pictures in the papers and magazines represent the diamary of the British matron with marriageable daughters as she surveys the avator of the American divinity and rival. The essential differences of race in the two countries are at once suggested and the alarm of the watchful parent is justified.

The passages that we have quoted apparently describe by contrast, which is a fact which does not seem to have occurred to the writer. Doubtless to heart he is loyal to the English girl, and does not admit even in debate that her supremacy of maidenhood can be disputed. When he says that American girls have shown that they can receive, travel and live without chaperons, escorts or husbands he seems to mean that they have shown this distinctively as compared with other girls. When he adds that they are fast developing a bright, clear, intelligent, self-reliant, courageous and refreshing variety of the human race, can he mean that it is a new variety of girl, and that it is not perfectly familiar in England? So in the other passage, when, supposing the American girl transformed into the British matron, he remarks, with evident admiration, "we may still hear from her lips the wit and shrewdness, the acute accent, the intelligent question and the rapid repartee that proclaim her original nationality," would he have us understand that these are not the characteristics of the British matron of to-day? Or does he intimate only that the coming of the Americans will but enlarge the number of these delightful ladies?

The writer certainly seems to describe by contrast, but he has enveloped a little cloud in which to enshroud his retreat in case of emergency. Certainly we need not press him. What- ever he may think or say of the English girl, he has spoken well and truly of her American sister. His description applies to the girl who grows up amid the average conditions of American life, the girl who is portrayed in her more joyous condition in Henry James' Daisy Miller. The two chief qualities of that young woman, public spirit, are self-respect and self-reliance. The perplexity of the phenomenon to the foreign reader lies in the fact that she does what the European girl without self-respect does.—George William Curtis, in Harper's Magazine.

## AN INTELLIGENT DOG.

Some of the Very Remarkable Feats Performed by a Clever Setter.

In the southern part of Sumner County, Kan., close to the line of Indian Territory, lives an old pioneer by the name of I. L. Burdick, who is known throughout all that section of country as "I. L." The rest of the name being considered superfluous or too formal to accord with the character of the individual whom it adorns. I. L. is truly a character, kind-hearted and hospitable, but rough and uncouth, and given to blowing his own trumpet. But with all his notoriety he is not nearly so much of a character as his old setter, Frank. Frank was a large, powerfully-built dog, with no extra lumber, but with bone and muscle enough to defend himself against all on-laughs from his canine acquaintances, and with a sufficient quantity of that useful article commonly called "sand" to carry his ideas of right and justice to a successful issue. The first dash of five miles would not be characterized by the high-ended race-horse speed of a Rodrigo, Bob Gates, or Gath's Mark, but for a month's hunt in the heavy covering of the Territory prairies he would hold his own against the best in the land. He did not hunt on the quartering plan, but after surveying the country would select the most likely bird cover, and without any extra ceremonies or graceful wavings of the flag would "go for 'em" in a common-sense, business-like manner. When hunting for quails, chickens, turkeys or deer he would let all other game alone for the kind wanted, and he was equally good on all. On one occasion, after slow-trailing a buck with Frank for several hours, I. L. came upon the deer, which was remarkable for its size. In a deep ravine, where it was breeding, Tail-lag deliberated a while, and the steady old fellow dropped, apparently dead, about the neck. Sliding down the steep side of the ravine I. L. proceeded to cut the throat of his prize, when at the first slash of the knife the buck sprang to his feet, throwing the hunter to one side—luckily near to where the discharged gun was lying—and as soon as it partially recovered from its dazed condition caused by the bullet which had "creased" its neck, showed fight. I. L. had just time to throw the lever of his Winchester when the maddened beast was upon him. He fired, but at such close quarters that the bullet only en-

## OLD NEWSPAPERS.

Some of the Uses to Which They Can Be Applied by Housekeepers.

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## POLITENESS DEFINED.

A School Boy's Instructive Competition on an Interesting Subject.

I give Martin's exercise on "Politeness," copying it exactly from the lad's own writing: "Politeness is a rather difficult thing, especially when you are making a start. It means having the sense to sometimes think of others as well as of ourselves. Many people have not got it. I don't know why, unless it's the start. It is not polite to fight little boys except they throw stones at you. Then you can run after them, and when you've caught them just do a little bit at them, that's all. Remember that all little boys are simpletons, or they wouldn't do it. It is not the thing to make fun of a little chap because he is poorer than you. Let him alone if you don't want to play with him, for he is as good as you except in clothes. When you are in school and a boy throws a bit of bread or any thing at you over the desks it is not polite to put your tongue out at him or to twiddle your fingers in front of your nose. Just wait till after school, and then warn him what you'll do next time; or if you find you are bound to hit him, be pretty easy with him. Some boys are very rude over their meals. Don't keep on eating after you are lightning and you will be far happier. Never eat quickly or you might get bones in your throat. My father knows of a boy who got killed over his Sunday dinner. The greedy boy was picking a rabbit's head in a hurry and swallowed one jaw of it, and my father says he was choked to death there and then. Be very polite over your meals, then, especially when it's rabbits. Since my father told me that, I have always felt rather queer over a rabbit dinner. I don't talk much, and I don't ask for any more. It is not polite to leave victuals on your plate, especially any thing you don't like. If you don't like turnips, it is better to eat well into your turnips first while you are hungry, and you'll eat the meat and potatoes easy enough after. This is much better than being impolite and leaving a lot of turnip on the edge. It is not polite to tell tales of boys. When a boy tells a tale always call him 'Tell tale bit.' Your tongue shall be split. All the dogs in town shall have a little bit.' You'll see how red he will turn, and can't look you and the other boys in the face. Boys should always be polite to the girls, however vexing they may be. When anybody is giving you any thing away, always let the girls have their turn first. They like it. Girls are not so strong as boys, their hair is long, and their faces are prettier; so you should be gentle with them. If a girl scratches your cheek or spits in your face, don't punch her, and don't tell her mother. That would be mean. Just hold her tight by her arms for a minute or two, till she feels you could give her if she will have a mind to. Then say to her kindly, 'Don't you do it again, for it is wrong.' Give her a shake or two, and let her go. This is far better than being unkind to her, and she will thank you for your politeness if she's any thing of a girl.'—Longman's Magazine.

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## AN AUSTRIAN CEREMONY.

The Emperor and Empress Washing the Feet of Twenty-Four Paupers.

The twelve old men and twelve old women who have their feet washed by the Emperor and Empress of Austria on Maundy-Thursdays are selected from the ranks of the Vienna poor. On the particular morning they assemble at the palace gates and are escorted by a Chamberlain to the Hall of Thrones. Certain clothes were, however, sent to their places of abode, so the men wore black tunics with broad white collars, knickerbockers, and shoes, and the women black dresses, with close-fitting starched caps. These poor people take their seats at two long tables set on opposite sides of the room, and punctually at ten the Emperor and Empress arrive, attended by the Archdukes and Archduchesses, a throng of court officials and the clergy of the metropolitan of Vienna. A priest ascends to a lectern and intones a prayer, after which the serving of a sumptuous meal to the almshouse is at once proceeded with. Four-and-twenty stalwart life-guardsmen, in gold-laced scarlet coats and plumed helmets march in, carrying trays, on which stand a tureen of soup and two plentiful dishes of fish. The trays are cleared at the men's table by the Emperor and eleven Archdukes, and at the women's table by the Empress and many Archduchesses. This ceremony is repeated three times more, for a tray with three entrées follows the first; then comes a tray with three sorts of roasts and vegetables and, lastly, a tray with sweets and fruits. The almshouse, however, do not touch these dainties. The Emperor and Empress ask them if they desire to eat and by a negative sign being made the tables are cleared in the same order as the serving, that is, the life-guardsmen come in and go out four times with their trays. After this they enter once more to remove the jug of wine, silver goblet, plate, knife, fork, spoon and napkin which form each "cover." All these articles, along with the

## FANCIES IN FURNITURE.

Changes in the Popular Demand for Certain Woods or Designs.

"Styles come and go in furniture almost as rapidly as in military," said a leading manufacturer, in reference to the trend of taste in house-furnishing. "Every little while there is a popular craze for some particular wood or design, and even though there be no pronounced demand of this sort there is always a seeping out after novelties. In the new styles of furniture the designs are simple, and the ornamentation less elaborate and more chaste. The same principles are now followed in cabinet-making as in architecture. Barring special cases, which may be regarded as exceptions, there is a growing disuse of ornamentation, purely as such. Designers are seeking more and more the beauty that results from simple, even styles, lines and fine finish. In some styles, especially of tables and bed-room sets, this is almost carried to excess. The aim, of course, is to produce striking effects without such an expenditure of labor in manufacture as to prohibit sale, and in so far as designers now sin in this respect I think they sin on the right side. "Taste is now gravitating toward the antique. With the exception of a few patent devices, such as folding-beds, office furniture and revolving book-cases, nothing really new has been got out for years. The Eastlake patterns, so popular some time ago, were nothing but a crude adaptation of the Gothic. Stained furniture, once so popular, was not only in its finish; so, too, with stained woods, which are used only for cheap goods. All these are now out of date, and designers are busy working over Romanesque, renaissance, Louis XV., and colonial patterns. We adapt and unite the different types just as modern architects combine different styles of architecture, and many of our most pleasing effects are obtained in this way. The popular taste keeps us within the leading strings of the antique, and so far as the requirement is met we are free to make as many violations or combinations of art principles as we choose. "In the matter of woods, oak has precedence. Cherry probably follows next. Birch and curly maple are much used, since they give a pleasing, dainty effect. Walnut, which for some time has been out of favor, is gradually coming back again. Oak and cherry are now what walnut used to be—the staple goods—and I presume it will not be long before they, too, will yield to the popular fancy and take the obscure corners of retail establishments. "Good furniture to-day is cheap cheaper than the same quality of goods was a few years ago. The secret of the matter is not because wood or labor is cheaper, for materials are actually more expensive and labor not essentially changed, but because machine-work is more largely taking the place of hand-work, even in the best goods, and because, as I said before, beauty is sought on different lines. A large share of the carved work now seen on furniture is done quickly and cheaply by machines which are little less than a curiosity in the way they work out designs. There are some classes of furniture, of course, such as upholstered chairs and sofas, in which there is not so noticeable a change either in style or price. Tapestries and plushes are now in vogue, as heretofore, and there is no difference in these radical enough to deserve notice. Leather is used chiefly for library and dining-room furniture. Brass trimmings are on the wane."—Chicago News.

## DRUGS FOR THE NERVES.

What a Brooklyn Apothecary Says Regarding Their Use.

An elegantly-dressed woman of middle age, whose face bore traces of great beauty, entered one of the largest drug stores in Brooklyn one evening last week, and walking quickly to the rear of the store, where one of the proprietors was busy mixing prescriptions, handed him a slip of paper. Before she had reached him the proprietor had seen her coming and, stopping his work, had reached almost mechanically for a large bottle which stood on a shelf behind him and which was filled with some white substance. As he took the slip of paper, which was evidently a prescription, he simply glanced at it and proceeded to weigh out a certain portion of the contents of the bottle, which he wrapped around handed to the lady. When she was gone a reporter, who had been standing by, asked the proprietor what it was he had given her. "Bromide of potassium," was the laconic reply. "What is it used for?" was then asked. "Nerves," replied the proprietor. "You have no idea, young man," he continued, "how much we sell of that and kindred hypnotics every day. It is simply awful. No one outside of this business and the medical profession has any idea of the number of educated, well-to-do people who use bromide of potassium, bromide of sodium and chloral every night to induce sleep. Morphine and opium are perhaps not used as much as they were, for the law is that none shall be sold by druggists unless on prescription. We have regular customers, though, for opium, who obtain prescriptions for the deadly drug in some way. One man comes here every second day for his regular allowance. He is a poor man, too, and I asked him the other night what he would do if he should finally find himself in a position where he had no money to buy what to him is the staff of life. 'Do,' he exclaimed, with a look of despair, 'God only knows what I should do. Kill myself, I suppose.' "How did that man get into the habit?" "He was severely injured and taken to the hospital. While there his severe paroxysms of pain were relieved by morphine. When he was discharged as convalescent at intervals he had recurring spells of this pain, and naturally he turned to the same drug for relief. It is quite impossible for him to break off the habit, for he can not work unless he has his usual dose, and he is dependent upon his trade for a livelihood. "What is the latest fad in hypnotics?" "Solfonal, a product of petroleum. Before solfonal, antipyrine was all the rage, the latter also coming from petroleum. There is a peculiar fact about people who use nerve quieting drugs and that is the moment a new one is discovered, although it may have scarcely become known to physicians, there is a call for it immediately. I suppose that such persons are constantly on the outlook for something, and when one discovers a new drug he tells the rest. Now this solfonal is a very recent discovery. Even physicians do not fully understand its effects and use it with great caution, yet people will send for and take large doses of it. It is known that five grains will quicken the action of the heart and still I have customers who in their ignorance think nothing of taking fifteen grains. It's a wonder that some of them don't kill themselves, but perhaps they do, for all I know. "What are the after effects of this new discovery?" "Now, so far as can be determined, unlike opium it has apparently no deleterious reactionary effect upon the system, but it is almost too early to judge of the properties of solfonal. It is of such recent birth."—Brooklyn Eagle.

## THE BLESSINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

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## OLD NEWSPAPERS.

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The large, heavy papers are excellent for laying under carpets, many preferring them to the patent carpet lining. The latter, unless some preventive is put under the carpet, will in close weather, breed moths, but with the newspaper there is little danger from these pests, as the printer's ink is very obnoxious to them, and they much prefer keeping at some distance away. We have used both papers and lining under carpets, and our experience enables us to prefer the papers for general use. These heavy, large papers are nice for cutting out patterns, more especially of children's garments. If one paper is not large enough in itself for an extra-sized pattern, fasten two together, using flour paste, put aside, and when dry cut out the pattern wanted. Mutilation can be used for this purpose, but it is not so good as the paste, as it does not leave the jointure as smooth. Many home dressmakers use these papers together for their cutting. For closet shelves and to lay in the bottom of bureau drawers they are excellent, and when packing a trunk always begin by laying one of these heavy papers at the bottom of the inside. The soft papers can be used more generally, as every day they may figure in some part of the housework. After scouring the tin thoroughly, they can be made to look very nice by rubbing briskly with soft newspaper, which gives a polish that nothing else will. Lamp chimneys after being washed and dried may be rubbed with newspaper for the final gloss. Many women wash their lamp chimneys very seldom, keeping them looking nice by breathing into them and wiping with soft newspaper. After steel knives have been cleaned, they can be given an added gloss by rubbing hard with newspaper. For sweeping carpets there are few things that will take up the dust as thorough as dampened newspaper. First wet the paper thoroughly, then squeeze out as much of the water as possible. Pick the damp paper into small bits and scatter over the carpet to be swept. These particles of paper, when sweeping, will collect the dust and prevent it flying about the room. A soft piece of newspaper is just the thing for rubbing over the top of the range after cooking, burning the paper when through with it. Persons suffering from bronchial affections are much benefited by wearing a layer of newspaper across the chest when going abroad in severe weather. Many who are habitually annoyed with cold feet during the winter season to suffer very little, even in the coldest days, when their feet are encased in newspaper. To be sure, the shoes will need to be large enough to admit of the paper being wrapped around the stockings feet, or the treatment will not be efficacious. Newspaper is not to be recommended in polishing mirrors or fine window glass, as it is apt to scratch the surface. When filling a lamp and by accident it overflows, wipe off the superfluous oil with a piece of newspaper, burn the paper and there will not be any danger of fire from keeping lamp cloths around. These are some of the uses to which old newspapers can be applied, and the housewife who adopts them will find other uses suggested that will help her in her daily round of labor.—Boston Budget.

## FANCIES IN FURNITURE.

Changes in the Popular Demand for Certain Woods or Designs.

"Styles come and go in furniture almost as rapidly as in military," said a leading manufacturer, in reference to the trend of taste in house-furnishing. "Every little while there is a popular craze for some particular wood or design, and even though there be no pronounced demand of this sort there is always a seeping out after novelties. In the new styles of furniture the designs are simple, and the ornamentation less elaborate and more chaste. The same principles are now followed in cabinet-making as in architecture. Barring special cases, which may be regarded as exceptions, there is a growing disuse of ornamentation, purely as such. Designers are seeking more and more the beauty that results from simple, even styles, lines and fine finish. In some styles, especially of tables and bed-room sets, this is almost carried to excess. The aim, of course, is to produce striking effects without such an expenditure of labor in manufacture as to prohibit sale, and in so far as designers now sin in this respect I think they sin on the right side. "Taste is now gravitating toward the antique. With the exception of a few patent devices, such as folding-beds, office furniture and revolving book-cases, nothing really new has been got out for years. The Eastlake patterns, so popular some time ago, were nothing but a crude adaptation of the Gothic. Stained furniture, once so popular, was not only in its finish; so, too, with stained woods, which are used only for cheap goods. All these are now out of date, and designers are busy working over Romanesque, renaissance, Louis XV., and colonial patterns. We adapt and unite the different types just as modern architects combine different styles of architecture, and many of our most pleasing effects are obtained in this way. The popular taste keeps us within the leading strings of the antique, and so far as the requirement is met we are free to make as many violations or combinations of art principles as we choose. "In the matter of woods, oak has precedence. Cherry probably follows next. Birch and curly maple are much used, since they give a pleasing, dainty effect. Walnut, which for some time has been out of favor, is gradually coming back again. Oak and cherry are now what walnut used to be—the staple goods—and I presume it will not be long before they, too, will yield to the popular fancy and take the obscure corners of retail establishments. "Good furniture to-day is cheap cheaper than the same quality of goods was a few years ago. The secret of the matter is not because wood or labor is cheaper, for materials are actually more expensive and labor not essentially changed, but because machine-work is more largely taking the place of hand-work, even in the best goods, and because, as I said before, beauty is sought on different lines. A large share of the carved work now seen on furniture is done quickly and cheaply by machines which are little less than a curiosity in the way they work out designs. There are some classes of furniture, of course, such as upholstered chairs and sofas, in which there is not so noticeable a change either in style or price. Tapestries and plushes are now in vogue, as heretofore, and there is no difference in these radical enough to deserve notice. Leather is used chiefly for library and dining-room furniture. Brass trimmings are on the wane."—Chicago News.

## DRUGS FOR THE NERVES.

What a Brooklyn Apothecary Says Regarding Their Use.

An elegantly-dressed woman of middle age, whose face bore traces of great beauty, entered one of the largest drug stores in Brooklyn one evening last week, and walking quickly to the rear of the store, where one of the proprietors was busy mixing prescriptions, handed him a slip of paper. Before she had reached him the proprietor had seen her coming and, stopping his work, had reached almost mechanically for a large bottle which stood on a shelf behind him and which was filled with some white substance. As he took the slip of paper, which was evidently a prescription, he simply glanced at it and proceeded to weigh out a certain portion of the contents of the bottle, which he wrapped around handed to the lady. When she was gone a reporter, who had been standing by, asked the proprietor what it was he had given her. "Bromide of potassium," was the laconic reply. "What is it used for?" was then asked. "Nerves," replied the proprietor. "You have no idea, young man," he continued, "how much we sell of that and kindred hypnotics every day. It is simply awful. No one outside of this business and the medical profession has any idea of the number of educated, well-to-do people who use bromide of potassium, bromide of sodium and chloral every night to induce sleep. Morphine and opium are perhaps not used as much as they were, for the law is that none shall be sold by druggists unless on prescription. We have regular customers, though, for opium, who obtain prescriptions for the deadly drug in some way. One man comes here every second day for his regular allowance. He is a poor man, too, and I asked him the other night what he would do if he should finally find himself in a position where he had no money to buy what to him is the staff of life. 'Do,' he exclaimed, with a look of despair, 'God only knows what I should do. Kill myself, I suppose.' "How did that man get into the habit?" "He was severely injured and taken to the hospital. While there his severe paroxysms of pain were relieved by morphine. When he was discharged as convalescent at intervals he had recurring spells of this pain, and naturally he turned to the same drug for relief. It is quite impossible for him to break off the habit, for he can not work unless he has his usual dose, and he is dependent upon his trade for a livelihood. "What is the latest fad in hypnotics?" "Solfonal, a product of petroleum. Before solfonal, antipyrine was all the rage, the latter also coming from petroleum. There is a peculiar fact about people who use nerve quieting drugs and that is the moment a new one is discovered, although it may have scarcely become known to physicians, there is a call for it immediately. I suppose that such persons are constantly on the outlook for something, and when one discovers a new drug he tells the rest. Now this solfonal is a very recent discovery. Even physicians do not fully understand its effects and use it with great caution, yet people will send for and take large doses of it. It is known that five grains will quicken the action of the heart and still I have customers who in their ignorance think nothing of taking fifteen grains. It's a wonder that some of them don't kill themselves, but perhaps they do, for all I know. "What are the after effects of this new discovery?" "Now, so far as can be determined, unlike opium it has apparently no deleterious reactionary effect upon the system, but it is almost too early to judge of the properties of solfonal. It is of such recent birth."—Brooklyn Eagle.

## THE BLESSINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Like the Dew from Heaven, Should Descend Alike Upon the Rich and the Poor.

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