THE DAILY JOURNAL

MONDAY, APRIL 12, 1897.

Washington Office—1503 Pennsylvania Avenue

Telephone Calls.

Business office.......238 | Editorial rooms...A 86

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

DAILY BY MAIL.

Daily only, one month.........$ .70
Daily only, three months......... 2.00
Daily only, one year......... 8.00
Daily, including Sunday, one year......... 10.00
Sunday only, one year......... 2.00

WHEN FURNISHED BY AGENTS.

Daily, per week, by carrier.........15 cts
Sunday, single copy......... 5 cts
Daily and Sunday, per week, by carrier....20 cts

WEEKLY.

Per year.........$1.00

Reduced Rates to Clubs.

Subscribe with any of our numerous agents or send subscriptions to

THE INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL, Indianapolis, Ind.

Persons sending the Journal through the mails in the United States should put on an eight-page paper a ONE-CENT postage stamp; on a twelve or sixteen-page paper a TWO-CENT postage stamp. Foreign postage is usually double these rates.

All communications intended for publication in this paper must, in order to receive attention, be accompanied by the name and address of the writer. If it is desired that rejected manuscripts be returned, postage must in all cases be inclosed for that purpose.

THE INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL.

Can be found at the following places:

NEW YORK—Windsor Hotel and Astor House.

CHICAGO—Palmer House and P. O. News Co., 217 Dearborn street.

CINCINNATI—J. R. Hawley & Co., 154 Vine street.

LOUISVILLE—C. T. Deering, northwest corner of Third and Jefferson streets, and Louisville Book Co., 256 Fourth avenue.

ST. LOUIS—Union News Company, Union Depot.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Riggs House, Ebbitt House, Willard's Hotel and the Washington News Exchange, Fourteenth street, between Penn. avenue and F street.

"Blind pools" are bad enough, but they could not operate if there were not so many blind fools.

The Democratic leader in the House seems to have made the most of his reputation by refusing to wear a dress coat.

Those indignant citizens who have demanded of the Board of Public Works that it shall resign need not put themselves to any inconvenience to be at the mayor's office this morning to behold the resigning.

It would seem that if the 3-cent-fare act is in violation of any contract it must be that which the city made with the Citizens' Company whose officers reside in Indianapolis and not with a New York trust company.

The appearance of the so-called air ship which is reported to have been seen at different points seems to vary, according as it is viewed through a common tumbler, a champagne glass, a demijohn or a quart bottle.

It will be a case of very poor detective work and sleepy justice if the managers of the "E. S. Dean Company" swindle in New York are not discovered and arrested. It was one of the boldest yet simplest schemes of robbery ever planned.

There is reason to believe that a 3-cent-fare act would not have been passed by the Legislature if the officers of the Citizens' Company had not fought the bill to terminate its charter, and in fighting it dwelt upon the necessity of lower fares.

There are indications of British hostile preparations against the Transvaal Republic. See if the Salisbury government does not pick a quarrel with President Kruger and invade the Transvaal in force within six months. England wants that territory.

During January and February 50,209,882 pounds of wool were imported into the United States. During December, 1896, the importation was 25,399,525 pounds. Much of this wool, imported free of duty, has been hurried forward in expectation of a tariff which will impose a duty.

The net results of the concert of the powers to discipline Greece are a general dissatisfaction of the powers with each other and a probable war between Greece and Turkey. It will probably be a long time before the powers will be in a frame of mind to engage in another concert.

The most of the Southern Democratic Senators were present at the Gorman conference called for the purpose of fusing the Democrats, the silver State Republican and the Populist Senators into an obstruction party, but only two silver State Republicans and two Populists were present.

There has been no bank scandal in recent years that looked worse on its face than the one which connects ex-Governor Altgeld with the loss of nearly a million dollars by the University of Illinois through the failure of a bank of which the treasurer of the university was president and Altgeld a stockholder and director.

Mayor-elect Harrison, of Chicago, is showing that he knows how to take care of himself. Just as the ringmasters and office seekers were preparing to swoop down on him in great force he mysteriously disappeared from the city, and now has turned up at Hot Springs, Va., where he is riding a bicycle and bracing up.

One or two sound financial institutions in this city advertise to pay interest on small deposits, making themselves, in fact, the same as the savings banks of the East. They will not pay a high rate of interest, but when the depositor calls for his money he will receive it, with the interest, which makes them far preferable to the get-rich-quick companies, which pay neither principal nor interest.

It is doubtful whether that $2,000,000 of capital will be invested in beet-sugar plants in the Northwestern States to fight the Sugar Trust, as capitalists are not fond of fighting, but it must be evident that a much larger amount of capital could be profitably invested in beet-sugar factories in Indiana alone, judging from the results in every locality where a plant has been established in recent years.

Senator Mills, of Texas, has written a letter of considerable length regarding the operation of the rules of the Senate and the need of reform. Under the present rules he says a minority can block the will of the Senate, bills can be talked to death and legislation can be paralyzed. As a remedy he favors adoption of the previous question, "which would sweep away all obstructions and bring the Senate to a vote."

A Populist organization in Kansas advocates an amendment to the Constitution of the United States which shall impose a tax on "inordinate wealth." To make their proposition intelligible they should define what constitutes "inordinate wealth." If the provision had been inserted in the Constitution at the beginning, begging pardon of its framers for a supposition so insulting to their intelligence, it would have had a very different interpretation then from what it would have now. Even now scarcely any two persons would agree as to what constitutes inordinate wealth. Some one has defined a crank to be "a man who differs with you." Perhaps the best rule would be to let every person regard that wealth as inordinate which exceeded his own.

"THE TALL SYCAMORE OF THE WABASH."

This sobriquet was first applied to the late Senator Voorhees by the Journal away back in the fifties. The statement that he was so called by reason of his large and magnificently proportioned figure is erroneous. His height and straight figure, though they were unusual and impressive, had less to do with suggesting the sobriquet than another peculiarity in his personal appearance. This was his hair and the way he wore it. In early life and when by his political speeches he was laying the foundation of his future prominence in this State his hair was of a very pronounced auburn color, closely approaching red, rather stiff and bristly in character, and he wore it brushed in the style now known as pompadour. This red hirsute corona contributed to his striking appearance and suggested the comparison to a tall sycamore tree which, at a certain season of the year, is crowned with balls of about the same color that Mr. Voorhees's hair was. His height and figure might have suggested any other tree as well, but the color of the hair suggested the sycamore. That tree is common in all the river bottoms of central and southern Indiana, but as Mr. Voorhees came from the Wabash valley he became the "Tall Sycamore of the Wabash." The political warfare of those days was personal to an extreme, and the sobriquet was intended to be humiliating and offensive. No man likes to be twitted on a personal peculiarity, and Mr. Voorhees knew as well as others that the sobriquet referred primarily to the color and bushiness of his hair. At first and for many years the epithet annoyed him, as it was intended to do, but he never resented it and finally ceased to regard it. Eventually it became, as sobriquets often do, a distinctive and complimentary appellation, not only free from offensiveness but indicative of popularity.

The Journal has already alluded to Mr. Voorhees's addresses outside of politics. No other public man from Indiana, with the possible exception of ex-President Harrison, made as many literary addresses or special occasion addresses without any reference to politics as did Senator Voorhees. One other native Indianian in public life made more and better literary addresses than he, viz.: Senator Newton Booth, but he entered public life from California. Most of our public men have done but little in this direction. Mr. Voorhees's literary addresses do not show much originality or depth of thought, but they are in good literary form and show care in preparation. In 1860 he delivered an address before the literary societies of the University of Virginia on "The American Citizen," which was well received. Later he delivered an address on "Influence of the Physical Sciences on the Progress of Civilization" before the literary societies of the University of Missouri which was fully up to the average of such addresses. The address was of considerable length and gave evidence of no small amount of labor in its preparation. Readers of the Journal may like to see a specimen of Mr. Voorhees's style outside of politics. In enforcing the idea that the modern philosophy of utility and progress is the cornerstone of civilization, he said:

> The inventor of the plow which turns the deep soil of these fields, of the drill which plants them with grain at seeding time, and of the reaper and mower which glean their bountiful harvests, is more honored to-day than all the founders of all the most famous sects of antiquity. The humblest millwright has done more to endear himself to the human race than those who built the walls of Babylon, or wrought the columns of the Coliseum at Rome. The names of Arkwright, Hargreaves, Compton and Cartwright, for their inventions in the manufacture of cotton, rank as benefactors far above and beyond all the dazzling and blood-stained heroes of history. Far better and brighter, too, is the fame of Robert Fulton, whose genius walks the water of the world, than that of Alexander the Great. Franklin and Morse will live and shine as deathless as the eternal stars in the heavens when the shades of a gloomy oblivion have gathered around the memories of Caesar and Napoleon. Even that humble companion of the fireside, the family sewing machine, is entitled to more veneration and respect than the pyramid of Cheops, and its inventor has done more to advance the happiness of the human race than all the kings that lie embalmed in the catacombs of Egypt.

A subject like this, which did not require close study or hard thinking, was congenial to Mr. Voorhees because it gave scope for natural oratory and for the exhibition of his literary attainments, which were really considerable. When United States District Judge Huntington, of this State, died, in 1862, Mr. Voorhees made the principal memorial address at the bar meeting in this city. Judge Huntington was a lawyer of the courtly old school and had served as district judge twenty years. He had lived at Terre Haute since 1822, and, of course, Mr. Voorhees knew him well. His address on that occasion was a model of fine feeling and good form. The same might be said of a speech which he delivered at a meeting held in Representatives Hall in Washington, April 16, 1872, in honor of the memory of Morse, inventor of the electric telegraph. Speaker Blaine presided at the meeting and introduced Mr. Voorhees, then a member of the lower house, who delivered an admirable address. His address on Thomas Jefferson is said to have been a fine one, and if he had lived to deliver his lecture on "The Holy Sepulchre; or, a Lawyer's View of the Divinity of Jesus of Nazareth," it would probably have attracted much attention. A theme like that would have appealed to Mr. Voorhees's imagination and sympathy, and he was capable of handling it in a manner at once impressive and popular. He was too much absorbed in politics during the whole of his adult life to be really great in law or literature, but he achieved high rank as an advocate and did more and better literary work than most public men.

A PROTECTIVE TARIFF EXPECTED.

The attempt of a few newspapers to create the impression that the country does not desire a tariff which shall embrace the feature of protecting home industries will not succeed. It is so absurd that it is surprising that it should be attempted. The overthrow of the Democratic party in the election of 1894 was a protest against the Wilson-Gorman tariff, which had closed factories and crippled many industries. In the history of the politics of the country there was never such an emphatic condemnation of the free-trade theories of the Cleveland party and such a general demand for a renewal of a protective tariff. The campaign was made upon that issue to the exclusion of every other. The same would have been the case last year if the silver question had not come into the campaign.

The Dingley bill may contain provisions which should be changed. It is said that many of them will be changed by the Senate committee. In the main, it is undoubtedly a wise measure, but if it is to be assailed it should be on some other ground than that it is formulated on the theory of protection. The average of its duties upon the bulk of the merchandise imported may be higher than those of the McKinley law, but if this is the case it is due to the fact that there was no duty imposed by the McKinley law upon from $80,000,000 to $100,000,000 worth of raw sugars. The present tariff law imposes a duty of 40 per cent. upon raw sugar, but the treasury does not realize that amount of revenue, because the Sugar Trust is able to manipulate the markets to its own advantage.

The government must have more revenue. To obtain the best results in revenue, the experience of the country shows that a tariff embracing the features of a specific and protective duty has been most effective, while the two or three tariffs which have been based upon the theory of revenue only with ad valorem duties have not, when in full force, furnished the amount of revenue sufficient to meet current expenses. In view of these failures and of the failure and general disaster which attended the present tariff law, the majority of the people are in favor of a protective tariff and expect that such a tariff will be enacted.

TOO MANY CITY GOVERNMENTS.

The Journal has confidence in the members of the Park Board. If to the end of time the same citizens could hold their positions it would not be necessary to subordinate it to the City Council. Unfortunately there will be changes in the board in the course of a few years, and men will get on it whose patriotic desire to serve the city will be stimulated by the discovery that there is something in it for them personally. This should be guarded against now.

It is well to remember that the purchase, management and control of city parks have furnished in other cities more scandals than any other branch of municipal service. Land deals, contracts and other transactions involving the expenditure of large sums of money have been incentives to corrupt management. So long as controlled by the present board Indianapolis will probably escape the scandals and corruption which are a part of the history of the park systems of larger cities; but, as before intimated, its members are mortal and also subject to change by the expiration of terms. This being the case, the city officials and the City Council should provide every possible safeguard against extravagance and corruption.

The fewer city governments any city has the better. We now have two in Indianapolis—that composed of the mayor and City Council and the School Board. Those who recall the great increase of the school debt and school expenditure the past decade are very generally of opinion that one city government is all that it is safe to have. The School Board is necessary, but the power to levy taxes and to borrow money should be vested in the City Council as the legislative branch of the city government. The power to make every appropriation should be lodged in the Council alone. In making appropriations every one should be specific. If the Council is not to do this, it will be just as well to abolish it. If estimates and expenditures are not to be submitted to the city controller, that important official, who stands between the taxpayers and excessive expenditure, may as well be dismissed.

The department of public instruction should be subordinated to the mayor and Council, the same as the departments of safety and of public works. And, now that the matter is under consideration, the Park Board should be held in the same logical relation to the mayor and Council as are other boards. There is danger in too many city governments in the same city.

For some time before its failure the Globe Savings Bank, of Chicago, was advertising for depositors. Here is one of its advertisements:

> FLYING WITHOUT WINGS.
>
> Money is a queer thing. Without vocal organs it always talks and it can change hands without even having arms, and fly without wings.
>
> A savings account will clip your money's wings and keep it within reach.
>
> A dollar will do to begin.
>
> Four per cent. interest.
>
> GLOBE SAVINGS BANK.

This is the institution of which Governor Altgeld was a director, and in which, by his urgent advice, the University of Illinois deposited several hundred thousand dollars.

It is current gossip in London that there exists evidence in the shape of telegraphic correspondence to show that the British government knew all about the contemplated Transvaal raid of last year. A well-informed correspondent says: "This information comes at several removes, I am bound to say, from Jameson himself, but there seems to be no doubt that to his intimates, at least, he insists on Chamberlain's foreknowledge of the whole affair." This is quite within the bounds of belief. From the government's point of view the criminality of the raid was in its failure.

A Washington dispatch says that the Southern Republican politicians are annoying the administration. Some of them are good men, but the most of them are Republicans simply to hold office. The only campaign they make is to secure delegations to national conventions. If the President would take into his confidence the business men of the South who are for sound money and protection and put the men in office whom they suggest, it would be the best thing for the Republican party and for the South.

The amount of money in circulation March 1, 1896, was $1,528,742,057. March 1, 1897, the amount was $1,675,694,953. This means that during the year the amount of money in the country was increased $146,952,896. Add to this increase the increase in the treasury ($7,510,640), and the money stock in the country was increased $154,463,536 during the year which ended March 1, 1897. Still Senator Stewart mourned a contracting currency in the Senate one day last week.

Those Democrats who imagine that they see a reaction in the municipal elections of last week should carefully consider the results of the state elections in Michigan and Rhode Island for indications of reaction before they give themselves over to unbounded enthusiasm. The 40,000 Republican plurality in Michigan and the 12,000 in the little State of Rhode Island would seem to be reactions in the wrong direction for Democratic purposes.

Whether the women of Colorado will regard with favor the act of the Legislature of that State bestowing upon them the right to serve in the militia remains to be seen. Perhaps it is a natural result of the conferring of full suffrage upon women, which Colorado did several years ago. Still, the fact that a woman is a voter need not involve the necessity of being enrolled in the militia. Even with males the right to vote is not confined to those who are liable to military service.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Plenty.

"Do you know, I have half a mind to go out of party politics and become a mugwump?"

"Half a mind? That is quite sufficient for the purpose."

Juvenile Logic.

Mrs. Gigg—What kept you so late?

Tommy—Teacher kep' me in fer whisperin'. I guess she was mad 'cause she didn't know what I was talkin' about. Women always wants to know everything.

She Lost.

"How much did Dollie Footlites get in her suit against the city for throwing her from her wheel with a defective street?"

"Not a cent. The able attorney for the other side clearly proved that she was in debt to the town for advertising."

The Cheerful Idiot.

"I noticed a pair of little bootblacks working on the partnership plan this morning," said the Cheerful Idiot, "and it occurred to me that probably they were prompted by social aspirations."

"What is the answer?" said the seasoned boarder.

"They seemed to want to shine in company."

INDIANA NEWSPAPER OPINION.

One of the best things to prove the value of the Dingley bill to the American people is the disfavor shown it by foreign nations which want our trade for nothing.—Warren Republican.

The present Congress should either pass some laws bettering our money system or appoint a commission to confer with committees appointed by the Indianapolis monetary convention.—Greenfield Republican.

Bryan is still going around the country and asserting as vehemently as ever that the financial problem is not yet settled. But one good result of the late election still remains—the settling of Bryan.—Knightstown Sun.

The Republicans of the National House of Representatives are entitled to the greatest credit for having prepared and passed a tariff bill within a month after the commencement of the new administration.—Steuben Republican.

The slump in Indiana oil indicates that John D. Rockefeller is going to give somebody a university, a new church, or a few millions for something or other. It is very evident that he is not going to give it to the oil men.—Montpelier Leader.

In some counties of the State township trustees refuse to account to the commissioners under the new law. Such refusal is at least very suggestive of the need that commissioners audit their accounts. A trustee who objects to having his accounts examined is not to be trusted by his constituents.—Elkhart Review.

The greatest sufferer under the new Dingley law will be the Sugar Trust. Its framers were wise enough to avoid the criticism and the scandal which attached to the Wilson bill, and no man has successfully charged or can charge that the present bill is framed in the interests of the trusts.—Madison Courier.

Millions of capital are now awaiting the action of Congress on the tariff bill. Its enactment will be a signal for activity among the factories of the East, in the beet-growing sections of the West, in the cotton fields and factories of the South, in the manufacturing establishments of the Mississippi valley, and on the fertile fields of the Pacific slope.—Elwood Call-Leader.

When the Democratic party "for silver's sake" gave up the spare bedroom to the army of tramp politicians last fall, and required the old-liners to sleep in the woodhouse to accommodate the strangers it did a thing which it now seriously regrets. The newcomers without a household of their own are not in a hurry to leave, and, worst of all, they insist on bossing about the kitchen.—Frankfort News.

If the present conditions of our roads will not make our people see that something is necessary to be done nothing will. For the larger portion of several weeks they have been all but impassable and business of every kind has languished in every town and city of the county. Between now and the next session of the Legislature the subject should be thoroughly canvassed and debated, associations formed and plans devised for their betterment.—Gibson County Leader.

Captain Gowdy has advertised all his personal property to be sold at public auction before leaving for the gay Paree. This is not done for the purpose of raising the necessary funds, as the captain is pretty well provided in that way. He has decided, however, that it will not be necessary to keep a cow at the French capital, and his pigs and wheat and farm products would only be an incumbrance—hence he has decided to turn 'em into money.—Connersville News.

One of the most cheering indications as to the future of the nation is the steadily increasing interest in the public schools. Almost every Legislature that has met, this year or last, has passed bills intended to increase and improve facilities for free public institutions. In all the cities and in many villages new school buildings are being erected and the course of study revised, with a view to better results, and steps for compelling children to take advantage of these free and beneficent opportunities have been taken.—Attica Ledger.

The cutting away of timber and undergrowth and the under-draining of land facilitates the flow of water to the lateral streams, which in turn feed the larger ones and cause floods. If this process goes on steadily, inundations are likely to occur every few years. The remedy appears to be in the encouragement of forest growth. To this end, the planting of trees ought to be facilitated. Arbor Day ought to be generally observed. Every person should make a point of planting one or more trees and nurturing them into prosperous growth.—Evansville Journal.

If reports are true the Indiana gas belt glass factories will soon have glass sand unloaded at the factory at a greatly reduced price. A syndicate of Indiana capitalists are negotiating for the purchase of thousands of acres of glass sand in western Michigan. If the deal is consummated the consideration will be about $100,000 and the sand will be shipped by the train load to points in the gas belt. At present the freight rate on a carload of sand is almost equal to the price of the article, but with the material as near as Michigan with a direct route over the Big Four to the gas belt the freight would be small and would be a big saving in the glass manufacture.—Albany Journal.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Farthest North, Dr. Nansen's Interesting Story of Polar Research.

No other chapter in the world's history contains more of the romance and mystery of searching for the undiscovered than that which tells of the many expeditions in search of the north pole. Only one other, except that of Columbus, the greatest of all because of its outcome, as well as its daring, is comparable in interest and in its appeal to the imagination to some of the north polar expeditions. There have been many narratives descriptive of these interesting and perilous voyages, but none of more thrilling interest than that of the voyage of the Fram. Indeed, for intensity of interest, felicity of description and dramatic force Dr. Fridtjof Nansen's "Farthest North" easily surpasses all previous narratives of polar exploration and adventure, not even excepting those of Hayes and Kane. Nansen's expedition itself differed from all previous ones in conception, organization and aim. In a peculiar sense it was distinctly his expedition. He went to no one else for his theories, but thought out his own. He had pondered over previous expeditions, studying the causes of their nonsuccess and their sufferings, and, coming to the conclusion that the causes were preventable, he planned his own voyage, held to his views in the face of all the opposition he received from almost all earlier arctic explorers, and finally he has proved the substantial truth of every detail of his theory but one. He believed, in common with all former explorers in the hypothesis of a shallow polar sea, with considerable land masses in the neighborhood of the pole. Instead the water was found so deep that the sounding lines taken by the Fram were much too short to reach bottom, and before the depth of the polar ocean could be ascertained a new sounding line had to be improvised. In Dr. Nansen's opinion the pole itself lies, in all probability, in this deep sea area, but he admits that "the extent of this deep sea is a question which it is not at present easy to answer." What we do know is that "it extends a long way north of Franz Josef Land and eastward right to the New Siberian islands." How far north it extends is one of those problems still awaiting solution, but Dr. Nansen gives his reasons for believing that for a considerable distance to the northward of the route followed by the Fram, there is an area of deep sea, with no land protruding to affect the movement of the ice. It took him a long time to reach his conclusions and form his plans, and when, in 1890, he made them public most arctic authorities pronounced them visionary and impracticable, if not foolhardy. But the Norwegian government voted $132,000 for the expedition, and with nearly $50,000 additional, raised by Nansen and his friends, the expedition was organized. It consisted of only one ship, the Fram, and it was modeled after Dr. Nansen's own designs. It was built of exceptional strength, and with a hull so shaped that during a pressure, or "nip," the vessel, instead of being crushed, would be lifted by the ice sliding under it. This theory was laughed at by many while she was building, but things worked exactly as Nansen had predicted. The Fram was shut in by the ice for nearly three years, and came out as stanch as when she went in, the only injury her hull sustained being the rubbing of the paint. Besides Nansen, who commanded the expedition, and the captain of the ship, there were eleven picked men, selected for nautical skill and experience, or for some other special reason. These thirteen men, all animated and inspired by a common motive and a great purpose, constituted the personnel of one of the most remarkable expeditions on record. It sailed June 24, 1893. The Fram worked her way north till Sept. 25, when she was firmly frozen in the ice, where she remained locked until June 3, 1896. The ice in which the ship was imprisoned during this period drifted toward, or was driven back from, its goal. Now and then they experienced the terrors of the ice pressure, but in time those became familiar. What the ice pressure is Nansen vividly sets forth: "First you hear a sound like the thundering rumble of an earthquake far away in the great waste, then you hear it in several places, always coming nearer and nearer. The silent ice world re-echoes with thunders; nature's giants are awakening to the battle. The ice cracks on every side of you, and begins to pile itself up, and all of a sudden you, too, find yourself in the midst of the struggle. There are howlings and thunderings around you; you feel the ice trembling and hear it rumbling under your feet; there is no peace anywhere. In the semi-darkness you can see it piling and tossing itself into high ridges * * * and flung on the top of each other as if they were feather weights. But the ice splits in front of you, a black gulf opens and water streams up. * * * All around there is thundering and roaring, as of some enormous waterfall, with explosions like cannon salvos."

It would be impossible within the limits of a newspaper article to convey any adequate idea of the varied and thrilling interest which attaches to the narrative of this three years' voyage. The author's style is almost epic in its vividness, simplicity and force. At one point he says in his diary: "I laugh at the scurvy; no sanitarium better than ours. I laugh at the ice; we are living, as it were, in an impregnable castle. I laugh at the cold; it is nothing. But I do not laugh at the winds; they are everything; they bend to no man's will." This transports one to arctic life and one almost feels the roaring, unchained winds. The enforced inactivity of the long months when they were making little or no progress seems to have been very hard to bear. "At times," says the author, "this inactivity crushes one's very soul; one's life seems as dark as the winter night outside. There is sunlight upon no part of it except the past and the far, far, distant future. I feel as if I must break through this deadness and find some outlet for my energies. Can't something happen? Could not a hurricane come and tear up this ice and set it rolling in high waves like the open sea? Welcome danger, if it only brings us the chance of fighting for our lives—only lets us move onward!" He had named the ship Fram (Onward), and evidently this was the impelling spirit with him. The perils and adventures of the explorers were extraordinary while they remained on board the ship, but they were greatly multiplied in the overland journey of Nansen and Johansen. While the ship was ice-locked Nansen found she was drifting in the right direction, but not fast enough to suit him, so he determined to make a long overland journey to the north with sledges and dogs. As his sole companion on this perilous journey he selected Lieutenant Johansen. The two got ready, and finally set forth over the frozen sea with sledges, kayaks, dogs, a couple of thousand pounds' weight of food, some 250 cartridges, ball and shot, rifles and a few observing instruments. For six weeks they fought their way north against the fierce winds which blew from the pole, now driving the dogs, now helping them with straining muscles over snow, over ice; panting and frozen they would rest for a few minutes, sitting on the edge of the sledges, then forward once more till eventide. At night the dogs got a biscuit apiece, the men set up their tent, drank a brew of hot limejuice or whey grog, ate sparingly of lobscouse and biscuit, and then sought their common couch. When thus snugly abed they got warm for the first time in the fur-lined sleeping bag. The only luxury which they allowed themselves was a change of boots. Their water was melted snow or was obtained from fresh pools found amongst the the hills of ice. Thus they went slowly on, and every day the frozen sea got rougher and rougher. Yet they continued to make many observations with delicate instruments, frozen though their fingers were, to take photographs, and Nansen even sketched. Only death could kill his courage. At last they reached what was to be their last camp—the most northerly point yet attained by man — 86 degrees, 13 minutes, 6 seconds. Here, says Nansen, "the ice grew worse and worse, and we got no way. Ridge after ridge and nothing but rubble to travel over. We made a start at 10 o'clock this morning (April 8) and kept at it as long as we could, lifting the sledges all the time, but it grew too bad at last. I went on a good way ahead on snowshoes, but saw no reasonable prospect of advance, and from the highest hummocks only the same kind of ice was to be seen. It was veritable chaos of ice-blocks, stretching as far as the horizon. It was no good going any farther; it was no good sacrificing any more valuable time." So on April 9 they turned their faces homeward.

Then comes a marvelous record of what frightful horrors man's endurance can overcome. Dog after dog is eaten up by his fellows; the men themselves go dinnerless; one morning they even collect the blood of one of the dogs, and, mixing it with fish flour, call it porridge; day after day the same ceaseless toil; day after day of plowing through ice lanes deep in slushy snow. They do not even take a full breakfast now, no dinner, and for supper "we had two ounces of aleuronate bread and one ounce of butter per man, and crept into the bag to sleep as long as possible and kill the time without eating." But no outline of the narrative of this wonderful journey can convey an idea of its interest. It must be read to be appreciated. The march into the north, the turning back after camping on an ice field in 86 degrees, 13 minutes, 6 seconds north, the four more months of incredible hardships before reaching land, the ten months of existence on Franz Josef Land, the strange meeting with Frederick Jackson, the return to civilization, and, finally, the escape of the Fram and its crew, make a fitting climax to a narrative that must forever stand in literature as a monument to enlightened human heroism.

Although Nansen did not discover the north pole, he has given the world its first definite information of what the region immediately surrounding the pole is like. Since his journey the rest of the way to the pole is henceforth practically through a known region. The distance that intervenes between Nansen's "farthest north" and the spot where the polestar stands in the zenith is less than the distance from Chicago to St. Louis. The uniform drifting of the ice field is alone sufficient proof that no great unknown obstacle exists within that space, and yet it is doubtful if any human being will ever reach and locate the exact point. Certainly none will ever battle more bravely with a sea of dangers or will ever record his experiences in a more modest and interesting way. The work was, of course, written in Norwegian, but the English translation is excellent. It is copiously and beautifully illustrated, has excellent maps, and the publishers have brought it out in a style every way befitting its merits. It makes two large and handsome volumes. New York: Harper & Brothers.

Antonyms, Synonyms and Prepositions

Most Americans who are fairly well educated think they understand the English language, but they are mistaken. There are more things in the language than most persons dream of, and the majority even of well-educated persons only know it superficially. There is no more interesting or instructive line of study than that which leads one to investigate the origin, growth and development of the language, the relations and correlations of words and their fine shades of meaning. The value of this study as an essential part of educational work is receiving more recognition in this country than it formerly did. Many of our colleges, academies and high schools have added the English classics to their course of studies, and there is a tendency among all classes of intelligent people to cultivate a better knowledge of the language. A helpful work in this direction is "English Synonyms, Antonyms and Prepositions," by James C. Fernald. The English language is particularly rich in synonyms, as, with such a history, it could not fail to be. From the time of Julius Caesar, Britons, Romans, Northmen, Saxons, Danes and Normans, fighting, fortifying and settling upon the soil of England, with Scotch and Irish contending for mastery or existence across the mountain border and the channel, and all fenced in together by the sea, could not but influence each other's speech. In other ways, by importation and accretion, the English language has received additions from all parts of the world, until it results that there is scarcely a language ever spoken among men that has not some representative in English speech. The spirit of the Anglo-Saxon race, masterful in language as in war and commerce, has subjugated all these various elements to one idiom, making not a patchwork, but a composite language. It is obvious that in such a language there must be many so-called synonyms, and yet on close study it will be found that scarcely any two of such words are identical at once in signification and in use. They have certain common ground within which they are interchangeable, but outside of that each has its own special province, within which any other word comes an intruder. The ascertaining and defining of these fine shades of meaning, thus differentiating from each other words which are commonly thought to have exactly the same meaning, makes the study of synonyms particularly interesting. It is useful, also, in revealing the unsuspected riches of the language and supplying students, writers or speakers with a copious vocabulary. The present work is much the most comprehensive one that has been published on the subject, and excels also in other respects. It treats in 375 pages more than 7,500 synonyms, and upward of 3,700 antonyms. The latter are valuable as supplying definition by contrast or by negation. Of his method in the treatment of synonyms the author says: "The method followed has been to select from every group of synonyms one word, or two contrasted words, the meaning of which may be settled by clear definitive statement, thus securing some fixed point or points, to which all the other words of the group may be referred." As an illustration, take the word "grief" and its related words, sorrow, sadness, melancholy, affliction, mourning. "Grief," says the author, "is acute mental pain, resulting from loss, misfortune or deep disappointment. Grief is more acute and less enduring than sorrow. Sorrow and grief are for definite cause; sadness and melancholy may arise from a vague sense of want or loss, from a low state of health, or other ill-defined cause; sadness may be momentary; melancholy is more enduring and may become chronic. Affliction expresses a deep heart sorrow, and is applied also to the misfortune producing such sorrow; mourning most frequently denotes sorrow, publicly expressed, or the public expression of such sorrow as may reasonably be expected." This shows how very closely words may approach each other in meaning without being exactly synonymous. Thousands of synonyms or sets of synonyms are treated in the same manner. Young writers will find much help from the indication of the correct use of prepositions, the misuse of which is one of the most common of errors, and one of the most difficult to avoid. A set of questions and examples adds to the convenience of the work as a text-book, but it will be found of value to the individual student and to writers and speakers. Its value is enhanced by a copious alphabetical index. Cloth, $1.50. New York: Funk & Wagnalls Company.

The Middle Period.

Some time ago the well-known publishing house, Charles Scribner's Sons, of New York, announced "The American History Series." It was to consist of separate histories of distinct periods by different authors. The first was a history of "The Colonial Era," by Rev. George P. Fisher; the second, "The French War and the Revolution," by Prof. W. M. Sloane; the third, "The Making of the Nation," by General Francis A. Walker, and the fourth, now published, is "The Middle Period," by Prof. John W. Burgess. What the author terms the middle period extends from 1816 to 1858. There is no period of American history more difficult to treat satisfactorily to all parties than this. Besides being a formative period in the development of political parties and policies, it witnessed the beginning, growth and culmination of the anti-slavery movement and the counter movement for the extension of slavery which finally brought on the civil war. The author deals with his subject in a fair and judicial spirit. His style is clear, explicit and direct, and one feels that he is relating true history. The work carries an air of earnestness and conscientiousness that gives it weight. In his preface the author confesses to strong predispositions, but he says: "I have exerted my imagination to the utmost to create a picture in my own mind of the environment of those who held the opposite opinion upon these fundamental subjects, and to appreciate their processes of reasoning under the influence of their particular situation." In this spirit the author does not hesitate to lay the responsibility for the civil war where he thinks it belongs. "Any interpretation of this period of American history," he says, "which does not demonstrate to the South its error will be worthless simply because it will not be true, and unless we are men enough to hear and stand upon the truth it is useless to endeavor to find a bond of real union between us." It must not be supposed, however, from this that the author writes in a partisan or biased spirit, for the work is far removed from that charge. The author's analysis of the succession of events which, in the form of legislation and otherwise, led to the open rupture between the North and South is singularly able and clear, and his sketches of the statesmen and leaders who took chief part in them are well drawn. Other great issues and political movements of the period are treated in the same fair and candid manner, and the entire work shows very careful study of the history of the period, and especially of original authorities. Cloth, $1.75.

The Descendant.

One can never be sure of the motive of an author who publishes a novel anonymously. It may be one of many. The author may wish to conceal his or her sex; may have misgivings as to the merit or reception of the book, or may wish to conceal his or her identity, for personal reasons or for a limited time. "The Descendant" is published anonymously and belongs to the new school of novels. The hero, Michael Akershem, first appears in a farmer's family, where he is constantly upbraided with his illegitimate birth. The early chapters show him as a boy loving study with the minister, with a growing mind, but unhappy. He finally runs away and goes to New York, only to find it impossible to secure work. Finally, hearing of a new socialist paper, the Iconoclast, he applies at its office for a position. The story then jumps a few years, and Michael, grown to be a rabid socialistic writer, is discovered in a restaurant in New York. He sees here Rachael Gavin, an art student, becomes acquainted with her, and they agree upon a close friendship, which in the eyes of the world makes her his mistress. He does not believe in marriage. In fact, the keynote of the story is the belief of the man, who is socially ostracised by his birth, that all social laws are wrong, and his life proves not only his inability to keep to this belief, but the inability of any one to live contrary to the social laws of his time. He leaves his first wife or mistress for another, takes to railing against social laws and established customs, and goes from bad to worse till he kills a man and is imprisoned for manslaughter. After his release his first wife takes him back and he dies of consumption. It is a realistic and possible story, but not a pleasant one. Cloth, $1.25. Harper & Brothers.

Book and Heart.

In carrying forward their plan of "Contemporary Essayists," Messrs. Harper & Brothers publish "Book and Heart," by Thomas Wentworth Higginson. It is a collection of essays on social and literary topics which have appeared from time to time in the periodicals of the day. They are discussions in the literary rather than the strictly critical vein, treating books and life of the day in general, in a suggestive rather than an iconoclastic way. Each essay is distinct in itself, and their character may be inferred from the titles of some of them, as "The Foe to Eloquence," which is a complaint against the newspaper reporting of speeches on the ground that the necessity of furnishing papers with an orator's speech demands preparation beforehand and destroys inspiration and hence eloquence; "The Problem of Drudgery," a discussion as to what drudgery really is. Some of the essays are very short, there being thirty-five of them in the volume, but all are readable.

Literary Landmarks of Rome.

Mr. Laurence Hutton has made for himself a new place in literature by his works relative to points of literary interest in representative cities of the world, as London, Edinburgh, Jerusalem, Venice and Florence. The latest addition to the series is "Literary Landmarks of Rome." In this work the author describes not only the historic houses of ancient Rome and the places where they stood, such as Cicero's house and where he was assassinated, and the senate house, where Caesar was killed, but also some of the residences of men of modern times that have become famous, such as the Piazza di Spagna, where Shelley's house is situated and the house in which Keats died. The description of Tasso's garden is an interesting one, and the author furthermore speaks of Montaigne's place of residence in Rome, that of Milton and of Gray. The details of Keats's and Shelley's life in the Roman capital are particularly worth reading, and towards the close of the book the author has much interesting gossip as to the places of residence of Americans, such as Constance Fenimore Woolson, James Fenimore Cooper, Motley and Miss Helen Hunt. There are also interesting references to the material from which Hawthorne's "Marble Faun" was constructed. Harper & Brothers.

The Green Book.

Maurus Jokai, the Hungarian novelist, has added another to the list of his notable stories. "The Green Book" turns on the fortunes of a number of conspirators against Alexander I of Russia. Pushkin, the Russian poet, is loved by Zeneida Ilmarine, the prima donna, but as she is the head of the conspiracy and as she loves him, she drives him away in order to save his life. By order of the Tsar he plights his troth to Sophie Narishkin, the Tsar's illegitimate daughter, but when she dies he marries the Princess Bethsaba, a Circassian hostage. Around this love story are grouped the conspirators, the acts of the Tsar, the tyranny of Araktseieff and the life of St. Petersburg. These characters and their environments and doings furnish material enough for a story which shows thorough acquaintance with Russian life and customs and the hand of a master in construction. Cloth, $1.25. Harper & Brothers.

A Smaller History of Greece.

The first edition of Dr. William Smith's "Smaller History of Greece" was published over thirty years ago, and it has become a standard text-book in schools. Since that time many of the difficult problems of Greek history have been solved or made easier by the results of recent investigations and excavations, and notably by the discovery of Aristotle's important treatise on the Constitution of the Athenians. In the light of the new knowledge thus acquired it has been deemed advisable to publish a new and revised edition of the work. The plan has not been changed, and the original work has been considerably enlarged. Cloth, $1. Harper & Brothers.

The Voyage of the Rattletrap.

"The Rattletrap" was a prairie schooner, or covered wagon, and the voyage a trip from a town in Dakota to Deadwood and back. The voyagers were two young men and a boy. They have humorous adventures, finally bringing up at Deadwood, and then returning homeward after having traveled one thousand miles and having taken two months in which to do it. Incidentally, in the course of the story, the author, Hayden Carruth, gives much information of life in Dakota twenty years ago. Harper & Brothers.

Literary Landmarks of Florence.

On the same plan as "Literary Landmarks of Rome," by Laurence Hutton, is "Literary Landmarks of Florence," by the same author. In this work Mr. Hutton tells his readers of the houses, palaces and villas in Florence that have been made famous by literature or by literary men; and sometimes of houses that have become famous from having sheltered men who were renowned for other reasons—notably Amerigo Vespucci. Cloth, $1. Harper & Brothers.

Old Dorset.

Under the title, "Old Dorset," Robert Cameron Rogers has taken the traditions and odd characters of a New York country village and has brought them together in half a dozen tales which have at once the force of realism and the charm of imaginative fiction. Mr. Rogers has the true story-teller's art, the power to invest what would seem to the ordinary observer but commonplace happenings with an atmosphere and perspective that give them a new interest. The book is published by Putnam's Sons.

Publishers' Notes.

R. H. Russell, 33 Rose street, New York, will issue a volume by Richard Harding Davis on "Cuba in War Time." Illustrations by Remington.

"A Martyr to Love" is the leading story in Tales from Town Topics. It is of the usual Town Topics order and fairly well written. The customary number of sketches and verses is included: Town Topics Publishing Company, New York.

The Macmillan Company announces a new volume by Shailer Matthews entitled, "The Social Teachings of Jesus: An Essay in Christian Sociology." It also announces a new book by Mrs. Steel, whose recent novel of the great mutiny, "On the Face of the Waters," has had such a phenomenal success. The new book is a Scotch story entitled, "In the Tideway."

Captain Hinde's book on the "Fall of the Congo Arabs" will be published in New York by Mr. Thomas Whittaker. The author was attached to the expedition sent out by the Belgian government a few years since under the command of Baron Dahnis, and his is the only account thus far published of a long conflict that ended in the complete overthrow of the Mohammedan power in the Congo basin. The book is already in a third edition in London.

G. P. Putnam's Sons have completed an arrangement with the city of New York for printing in their Knickerbocker Press a limited edition of the "Records of the City of New Amsterdam." The set will be issued under the editorial supervision of Mr. Berthold Fernow, and will be comprised in six volumes of text and one volume of index. The records cover the entire period of the municipal life of New Amsterdam during the control of the Hollanders, that is to say, from 1653 to 1664.

"General Grant" is the title of a volume in the Great Commanders Series, which will be published shortly by D. Appleton & Co. The author, Gen. James Grant Wilson, has had exceptional opportunities for a knowledge of General Grant's military career. An acquaintance begun at Cairo, in the summer of 1861, was continued for almost a quarter of a century. In addition to this, General Wilson has had the advantage of consulting a war diary containing many interesting conversations and incidents of his service under General Grant in the Vicksburg campaign and in the West.

Peter F. Collier, New York, publishes Eben Phillpott's "Lying Prophets," the story of a village maiden who loved an artist of weak lungs and weaker morals. The characters are well individualized, and, barring the occasional lapses of the author into disquisitions on the merits of the English church, as compared with "ranting Methodism" and infidelity, the novel is entertaining. The same firm also issues "Dr. Darch's Wife," by Florence Marryatt. In this case the man is the victim and marries a lady who happens to have another husband all unbeknown to the infatuated lover.

The new series of military books to be issued by Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co., of London, entitled the "Wolseley," is to be brought out in this country by Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons. The first volume, to appear almost immediately, will bear the title, "With the Royal Headquarters, 1870 to 1871." It is a vivid personal account of the experiences of the staff of the Prussian army during the great Franco-German war. The second volume is to be entitled, "Letters on Strategy." Among the subsequent volumes will appear one on "Napoleon as a Strategist," and one on the "Art of War." Others also will follow.

In accordance with the expressed wish of a large number of teachers of literature, Houghton, Mifflin & Co. will soon bring out a students' edition of Bryant's translation of Homer's Iliad at the low price of $1, net (731 pages). No edition of Bryant's translation has ever before been published at a less price than $2.50. Speaking of Bryant's translation, the New York Independent says: "An American may fairly claim to have produced the standard English translation of Homer." There are published by the same house, at $1 each, students' editions of "Palmer's Translation of Homer's Odyssey," "Dodge's Birds-eye View of Our Civil War," and "Richard Grant White's Words and Their Uses."

They Take the Money.

Washington Post.

Whenever a New England Mugwump takes office he does so with a curled nose which tends to impress a political amateur with the notion that the place would be much more acceptable to him if it carried no salary attachment, but a careful examination of the records of the Treasury Department will show that every man who has entered the public service for the sole purpose of purifying it took the pains to draw every cent of pay to which he was entitled.

Reminded of Dwiggins.

Washington Post.

The failure of the E. S. Dean "brokerage" concern will serve to remind a great many people of Mr. Zimri Dwiggins, Indiana's famous one-night-stand financier. We believe Mr. Dwiggins picked up the largest collection of "come ons" that was ever acquired by this swift method of financiering.