WEEK IN WASHINGTON.

SUNDAY, FEB. 9.—Through Senor Andrade, its Minister here, the Government of Venezuela notified Secretary Olney that it will respond affirmatively to the invitation of the Venezuelan Boundary Commission to submit all of the evidence in its possession touching the location of the true boundary line. Senor Andrade also stated that officials of the Government of Venezuela are now at work compiling this record, and it will be forwarded to the Commission at Washington as soon as possible. Presumably, the Venezuelan Government will be represented before the Commission by an agent, or Counsel, as suggested in the invitation, as the Minister has strongly recommended this course.

MONDAY, FEB. 10.—It was stated to-day that Ambassador Eustis has been instructed to accept the offer of the French Government to release ex-United States Consul Waller from further imprisonment and pardon his offense on condition that the affair be thereby terminated as between France and the United States, and that the latter make no claim in behalf of the prisoner based upon his arrest, conviction or imprisonment. Waller may, however, sue in the French courts for damages for ill-treatment. These facts appear in the correspondence sent to both Houses of Congress by the President in answer to resolutions of inquiry upon the subject. In his message, transmitting the Waller correspondence, President Cleveland says: "It will be seen upon examination, as would of course be expected, that there is slight conflict of evidence upon some of the features of Mr. Waller's case. Nevertheless, upon a fair and just consideration of all the facts and circumstances as presented, especially in view of Mr. Waller's own letter, the conclusions set forth in the report of the Secretary of State do not appear to admit of any reasonable doubt nor to leave open to the Executive any other course of action than that adopted and acted upon as therein stated."

TUESDAY, FEB. 11.—In his annual report to the Secretary of State Clinton Furbish, Director of the Bureau of American Republics, urges that steps be taken to reconvene the representatives of the Nations party to the union, in order to arrange a line of work for the Bureau for the future. The plan adopted last year of selling the special publications of the Bureau at a figure just above the cost price has worked well, and the Director says that the business interests which are benefited make no complaint.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12.—The House Committee on Territories held a warm session to-day over the bills to admit Arizona and New Mexico into the Union. For several weeks it has been apparent that there was a disposition among some of the opponents of free silver on the committee to prevent favorable reports on those bills, at least for the present, to prevent the increase of the free silver strength in the Senate. To-day the fight culminated when, while the bill to admit Arizona was under discussion, the committee voted 6 to 5 to adjourn. Although the opponents of free silver were responsible for the postponement of action on the bill, all the opponents of free coinage on the committee were not in favor of deferring action. Mr. Scranton (Pa., R.), the Chairman, Mr. Perkins (Iowa, R.) and Mr. Turner (Va., D.), who voted against the motion to adjourn, are also opposed to free coinage.

THURSDAY, FEB. 13.—Encampment 23, Union Veteran Legion, had Maj. John A. Pickler as guest this evening. The eloquent and breezy Western Congressman talked to the boys for an hour and a half in a manner and with a spirit that stirred up their patriotism to the highest pitch. He was introduced by Comrade Geddes, who said that the mantle of soldiers' champion and friend had fallen upon worthy shoulders; that when the mighty John A. Logan fell, John A. Pickler took up the work, and was the most able, persistent, and consistent friend of the soldier in this country to-day. Maj. Pickler remarked that to be in any way the follower of the very embodiment of the ideal volunteer soldier, the great Logan, was the greatest praise that could be given any man.

FRIDAY, FEB. 14.—The World's Fair Board of Control, which is the Executive body of the Columbian Commission, met in session here transacting various odds and ends of business relating to the Chicago Exposition that yet remain undisposed of. One of the Board's duties is to officially promulgate the award of the 25,000 medals and diplomas that were awarded to exhibitors at the fair. The cases for the medals have been finished, and some kind of a tubular device will be prepared for the safe transmission of the diplomas. It is expected that everything will be ready in less than a month.

SATURDAY, FEB. 15.—The first poultry show under the auspices of the National Poultry and Pigeon Association began at Market Hall. The exhibit includes chickens, pigeons, cats, ducks, and pheasants. All together, it is an interesting aggregation, and the members of the Association have reason to feel gratified at the auspicious opening of their first exhibition. The judges are Sharpe Butterfield, F. J. Marshall, J. N. Bicknell, Henry S. Ball, Theodore Howes, D. M. Owen, and John M. Kuhn. Mr. T. Farrar Rackham is the Superintendent. The Secretary of the Association is George E. Howard, of this city.

CHAT OF THE CORRIDORS.

One member of the House is in a regular stew just now. He is telling the story on himself: "I was slightly surprised a few days ago to receive a letter from a constituent asking for some fish, if the Government gave them away. 'The only kind we get here,' he said, 'are in half-pound packages, called boneless cod, and they are no account, and, then, they make you thirsty. If they give away any fishhooks I wish you would send me some, for the Major, Ransom Brown, Judge Kaufman, and I have planned to go fishing as soon as the weather opens up. You know, they all worked well for you last time.'

"For the sake of the joke, I dropped into a sporting-goods store," continued the Representative, "and bought a tin box of hooks for $1.50; sent it to my friend with a note saying that I was very glad that I had some fishhooks still left from my quota, though there had been a great demand for them and the horse book; the supply of fish had run out, and the President had been so occupied with bonds, and had Congress on his hands so long, that our supply was exhausted. I regretted, also, that the ducks had been wild, or could maybe have got some, but last trip Grover only got 13, and he needed most of those himself.

"The result was 14 requests for fishhooks within a week, and they are still coming. It is no use saying that Uncle Sam does not handle fishhooks, as here are the hooks and there is my letter, and if I don't send them every last man that I refuse will sharpen a knife for me next campaign, and if I do I will go broke. Don't fool with the granger."

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The Legion of Loyal Women of Washington, D. C., will celebrate Washington's Birthday with a grand celebration at their headquarters, 419 10th street. Mrs. Ellen Spencer Mussey will deliver an oration, and speeches will be made by Representatives J. A. Pickler, of South Dakota, and Henry M. Baker, of New Hampshire.

★

Ex-Senator Omar D. Conger has been having much trouble securing an allowance for his support from his dead wife's estate, such as she intended him to have. Last week Judge Hagner granted a rule against the executor requiring him to pay Mr. Conger $1,100 for arrears.

★

A shrewd boy in a down-town office has made $6,000 on an expenditure of two cents. The lad took advantage of Secretary Carlisle's bond-issue notice, and now he is wealthy, according to the small boy's standard. When he read the bond notice he saw his opportunity, and put in a bid for $150,000 of the bonds at a price which assured an award to him. He sold his right to receive the bonds for $6,000. The only expense he incurred was two cents for a postage-stamp to send his bid to the Treasury.

★

Thomas J. Murrey, who had the House restaurant in Washington for several years, has announced that he is making ready to write a book. "My experience has taught me," said he, "something more than when eggs have passed the poaching period and got into the omelette class. While I was in the House restaurant I was a close student of the diet of Congressmen who used to frequent my tables. I kept tab on the meal checks, with the idea of discovering what effect eating had on legislation. I am sure I have established a relation between diet and legislation, and that is what I am going to treat on in my book. Take the case of the Wilson Tariff bill. Could you expect a tariff measure that would be true to the declarations of the Demoratic platform to emanate from a man who lunched on custard pie and a bottle of beer? That man's meal checks made me a protectionist. This is a great subject. By the application of my theory I can tell just what it was a certain Representative put into his stomach which made him go on to the floor of the House and introduce a bill for the erection of a serpentine flagpole on every Government building in the land. This is merely a suggestion of the plan and scope of the work."

★

When Joseph H. Choate was in Washington recently to argue the California irrigation cases before the Supreme Court, he attended a dinner where he met several public men who themselves enjoy a high reputation for wit. A few of them were chatting together after dinner, when Mr. Choate surprised them with the statement that he had never seen a game of poker played, never attended a horse race, and never traveled on a pass. A Senator in the group regretfully said: "I wish I could say that." "Why not? Choate does," quickly replied Speaker Reed, and all the party, including the Senator, saw the point of his joke.

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The friends of Embassador Eustis claim that the full report of his course in the Waller case shows an unusually bright piece of diplomatic work, reflecting much credit upon him and the country, and strongly contrasting with many of our recent diplomatic failures.

★

Representative Blue, of Kansas, is making a fine record. He attends closely to his legislative duties, informs himself on all subjects likely to come up; speaks pertinently, and dodges nothing. Whenever he rises he is listened to with marked attention, for he has always something to say worth hearing.

★

The resolution censuring Embassador Bayard will come up as soon as the Appropriation bills are out of the way.

★

The resolution which the Foreign Affairs Committee will report will probably declare that a state of war exists in Cuba, and call upon the President to recognize the insurgents as belligerents.

★

The House will probably take up this week the report of the Committee on the Tarsney-Van Horn election case, and adopt it, declaring that Van Horn is entitled to the seat on account of gross frauds practiced on behalf of Tarsney. This will remove one particularly offensive soldier-hater from a place where he has done the soldiers immense harm.

★

It turns out that Senator-elect Wellington is a German, and, very oddly, the only German in the Senate. In that body there are three English-born, one Irish (Sewell), two Canadian, and one Norwegian. Nine of the Senators are natives of Ohio, and eight of New York.

★

Wisconsin, which has a larger proportion of German voters than any other State, is represented in Congress by six native Americans, two Canadians, one Englishman, and one Irishman.

★

The struggle for the Georgia Senatorship entered into the debate in the House on Free Silver coinage. Ex-Speaker Crisp, who is a candidate for Senator Gordon's seat, led the Free Silver forces, and Judge Turner, whom the Administration favors for the position, made a strong speech against free silver, which closed the debate. Both Crisp and Turner made speeches which their supporters declare were the best of their lives.

★

The decisive defeat of Free Silver in the House is regarded as settling the question for this session.

★

By the new assignament for circuit duty of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, consequent upon the accession of Mr. Justice Peckham, an important change is made in the Chicago circuit. Mr. Justice Harlan, who has for nearly 20 years been allotted to this circuit, goes to the Sixth Circuit, and Mr. Justice Brown succeeds him.

★

Every time there is a vacancy as Chaplain in one of the regiments there is a scramble among the ministers for the place. A Chaplain has an easy enough time of it, which fact is duly appreciated, judging by the fact that for a vacancy now existing there are more than 200 applicants. The salary and perquisites of the office are fair. The Chaplain has the rank of Captain on entering, and if he behaves himself he will be privileged to retire on reaching 62 years of age on three-quarters pay. For a number of years the cases of Army Chaplains who have been in trouble with the authorities were remarkably large, and probably more so in comparison to its strength than in other branches of the service. One or two were court-martialed and one was dismissed the service. Secretary Lamont has considered the various applications in the present case and their indorsements, and will make a recommendation to the President shortly.

Twice each day, the year through, the flag is saluted at every Army post in the country where there is ordnance. To fire this salute costs the Government just $20,000 a year, and, but for a large supply of old war powder in stock and useless for other purposes, the cost would probably have been much greater in the past 30 years. Now this reserve supply has become practically exhausted, and the authorities have been looking around to find some cheap powder capable of making a great noise, but not necessarily having great velocity-securing properties, that will answer for saluting purposes. The old war powder cost 20 cents a pound, but the new prismatic powder used in the heaviest ordnance is far more expensive. An inventor of a cheap brand, to cost not over eight cents a pound, has been found in New York City, and the Department will order a large supply of this powder to be sent to the various Army posts where the sunrise and sunset guns are fired each day.

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There is a certain Senator from a Western State who dined with the President one night not long ago. He wore on that evening what he always wears on full-dress occasions, a coat made after a design of his own; a coat which combines the elegance of a dress coat with the lines of a cutaway, but is neither one nor the other. When the Senator was ready to start for the White House some busybody bustled up to him and said: "Why, Senator, aren't you going to put on a dress coat?" The Senator drew himself to his full hight. "What! I dress like a waiter?" he said.

GEN. MILES REPORTS.

Gen. Miles has sent to Congress with the new Army reorganization bill a report in which he advocates an immediate increase of the artillery branch of the service, an addition of 4,000 men to the Regular Army and about 60 additional officers. The artillery requires, he shows, more attention than any other department of the Government, and if Congress proposes making large appropriations for fortifications and coast defenses, it will be necessary to greatly augment the artillery, which will be charged with their care and operation. The three-battalion system, which admits of modern tactical drills, is urged, and a reduction in the number of First Lieutenants of artillery, who, Gen. Miles states, are responsible for the stagnation that has existed since the war.

Gen. Miles, in discussing the needs of the Government from a standpoint of defenses, both on sea and land, said it is perfectly well known there is absolute necessity for the increase of the artillery branch for the purpose of manning, protecting and caring for these valuable weapons of war.

As the Government, he continued, has now at great expense established mortar batteries and high-power guns at Fort Hancock, New York Harbor, it is necessary that barracks be erected there for a suitable garrison, protecting and manning the batteries now in position at that point.

In addition to the artillery school at Fort Monroe, Gen. Miles urges that details be made from all the artillery regiments, especially from among the subaltern officers, to be stationed at Fort Hancock, or the adjacent forts—Hamilton, Wadsworth and Governor's Island—where they can go down every day to Fort Hancock and witness the testing of the high-power guns and mortars.

Concerning the defenses of the country, Gen. Miles shows that on the line of the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean the important cities of Galveston, New Orleans, Mobile, Savannah, Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia are entirely without modern guns. The few guns that are in position are obsolete and of little value, and it cannot be expected that any one of these batteries could stop a single first-class battleship, much less a fleet equipped with the modern appliances of warfare. From an inspection of the old batteries on the Southern seaboard, the General has concluded that they are worse than useless, and their removal alone will require a large appropriation.

Gen. Miles does not believe the safety of the country can depend on any one branch of the military establishment alone, and is an advocate of a formidable navy, as well as a modern standing army and complete system of coast defenses.

CONTRACT FOR HEADSTONES.

How the Graves of Union Soldiers Are Marked.

The Quartermaster-General of the Army has contracted with William H. Gross, of Lee, Mass., for 10,000 headstones, to mark the graves of soldiers and sailors. The headstones provided by the Government are by no means pretentious. Their average cost of late years has been about $2 apiece. The contract price for the coming year is $1.85 for each stone, being the lowest rate at which they have ever been secured.

When application for these headstones is made by the friends of the dead veteran to the officers of the military department in which they reside, the records are carefully examined to make sure that the deceased is entitled to the benefit of the appropriation. In case the examination is satisfactory, the stone is shipped to the railroad station or steamboat landing named by the applicant.

The expense of erecting the stone must be guaranteed by the persons who apply for it. This, of course, only applies to men who have been honorably discharged. Men who die before they have retired from the Army or Navy are entitled to burial in a National Cemetery at the Nation's expense, as honored servants of the country.

Bids for these head-tones are called for every two years, in lots of about 10,000. This number is by no means an indication of the exact mortality, inasmuch as many men who die after having been honorably discharged from the service are buried without any application having been made for the erection of the National headstone.

WATCH PRESENTATION.

Kit Carson Post, No. 2, G.A.R., Department of the Potomac, last week presented to Past Commander George E. Davis a handsome hunting case gold watch as a mark of their appreciation of his services. The presentation remarks were made by Past Commander Geo. H. Slaybaugh. Later a handsome gold watch was presented to Post Chaplain E. C. Stevens as a mark of love and respect for him.

Over Thirty Years Without Sickness.

Mr. H. WETTSTEIN, a well-known, enterprising citizen of Byron, Ill., writes: "Before I paid much attention to regulating the bowels, I hardly knew a well day; but since I learned the evil results of constipation, and the efficacy of

AYER'S Pills, I have not had one day's sickness for over thirty years—not one attack that did not readily yield to this remedy. My wife had been, previous to our marriage, an invalid for years. She had a prejudice against cathartics, but as soon as she began to use Ayer's Pills her health was restored."

AYER'S Cathartic Pills

Medal and Diploma at World's Fair.

To Restore Strength, take Ayer's Sarsaparilla

"THE BETTER HALF."

THE PURPLE EAST.

[*New York Times.*]

Open your hearts, ye clothed from head to feet,
Ye housed and whole who listen to the cry
Of them that not yet slain and mangled lie,
Only despoiled of all that made life sweet—
Only left bare to snow and wind and sleet,
And roofless to the inhospitable sky;
Give them of your abundance, lest they die,
And famine make this mighty woe complete.
And lest if truly, as your creed aver,
A day of reckoning come, it be your lot
To hear the voice of the uprisen dead:
"We were the naked whom ye covered not
The sick to whom ye did not minister,
And the unhungered whom ye gave not bread."

WILLIAM WATSON.

English poetry is now a topic of general interest. Ever since the appointment of the poet-laureate, literary gossip has been stirred up. William Watson, a Londoner and a writer of verse, has a host of friends and admirers who continually do insist upon comparing him with Austin, to the Laureate's manifest disadvantage. Watson's poems in "The Purple East" have been talked of a great deal. This is a series of sonnets setting forth the despair and pain of Armenia and bewailing England's faithlessness to her trust in that oppressed country. They are not particularly glorious verse—but only Petrarch, Elizabeth Barret Browning and Shakspere have written glorious sonnets—but they have the ring of true humanity, and are dignified in thought and wording, and sometimes there is a bit of glow to thrill one through and through. They are not to be despised in the works of our day. Americans seem to like him very much indeed. He is often quoted here, which means that he is often and carefully read.

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A recent writer—a woman—has declared that a man can't converse until after he is 35. When he is younger he only talks, and is satisfied if the woman with him be tailor made.

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Mary Ellen Lease, of Kansas, will henceforth have to be called The Reverend Mary Lease, because she has entered the ministry. She will preach her first sermon from the pulpit next Sunday.

* * *

At a very pretty wedding at St. Paul's here in Washington, the bride wore a dainty frock of pale pink moire, with a long vail of tulle, of the faintest pink, caught to her dark hair with peach-blossoms and pearls. The vail was not worn over the face at all. The bride carried her favorites, La France roses. The bridesmaids' frocks were of white organdy made up very simply, with pointed berthas of lace and ribbon. They wore white vails, caught to the hair with pink and white blossoms, and held away from the face. They carried carnations of the bride's color, tied with long pink ribbons. The ceremony had a particularly pretty movement in it. There were the two services, as the ritual allows; a betrothal service at the steps of the chancel, and the wedding service at the altar. It is really only a division of the regular service, and the effect is very pretty. Another picturesque feature was the procession of the bridesmaids from the chancel to the church doors to meet the bride. Then they walked back with her and out again with the ushers in the usual fashion. All together, the wedding was one of the prettiest that Washington has ever seen. The bride's color made the prettiest of rosy touches, and in and out in the processions the ushers wore pink carnations too; and the bride herself, with her dark hair, pink cheeks, and bright eyes, was as fresh and sweet as one of her own roses.

* * *

Ruffles, ruffles, ruffles—ruffles everywhere. Ruffles for the shoulders, for the wrists, for the throat; ruffled bretelles, ruffled capes, ruffled collars, ruffled lapels, and ruffled fichus—even ruffled handkerchiefs and ruffled muffs, with occasional ruffles on the hats, and petticoats nearly ruffled to death.

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Some of the new dimities have a moire effect that is quite dainty.

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Flowered ribbons which are being exhibited in the shops are bought up immediately. Everybody seems eager to get a supply of crisp, flowery ribbons for the Summer frocks and hats.

* * *

A Boston woman, Mrs. Leonard B. Tobey, is making a success with her talks on "Oekology," which is the name she gives to household economics. She talks about sanitary arrangements, the ventilation and heating of a house. She also warns against bacteriological enemies in milk and water, and is trying to make "homecomfort" a scientific study.

* * *

Sorosis is 27 years old, going on 28.

* * *

Ginghams with silk dots, crinkled crepe ginghams, and ginghams with loose knotted threads, making the surface rough, are some of the curiosities in the shops.

* * *

Make ready for June in January seems to be the motto nowadays.

* * *

Grape-fruit is always being recommended, and always being overlooked, notwithstanding its health-giving properties and, its still greater claim for popularity, its goodness. The grape fruit—or shaddock or pumelo—has a sweet, sour flavor, with a suspicion of bitterness that but adds to its delicacy. A recipe taken from the New York *Sun* suggests a simple way of preparing it, for it is one fruit that always should be prepared beforehand.

SUGARED GRAPE-FRUIT.

Wash and wipe the grape-fruit, rub a few pieces of loaf sugar over the skin of the fairest to absorb some of the aromatic oil, in which it abounds, and lay them aside to dissolve with the fruit juice. Peel the fruit with a silver knife, like an orange, and entirely separate the pulp from the white portion, leaving it in rather large pieces, and carefully saving all the juice by peeling away the white pith over the dish containing the juicy pulp. When all the white is removed put the lumps of loaf sugar into the pulp, and then cover the surface thickly with powered sugar, using about as much sugar as fruit. Put the grape fruit in a cool place over night. In the morning it will be covered with a rich syrup, the taste of which will resemble strawberries and orange juice, with a dash of the Seville or bitter orange flavor. This bitter substance is an admirable tonic, and has the property of counteracting the languor of malaria and overcoming the sense of lassitude known as "Spring fever." On a sultry Spring morning it is one thing more refreshing than oranges.

* * *

DISCONTENTED WOMEN.

At the Chicago Fair, and at other convocations, it has been proved that the strongest-minded women, though familiar with platforms and deep in the "dismal science" of political economy, when it comes to disputing, were no more philosophical than the simplest housewife. Tears and hysteria came just as naturally to them as if the whole world wagged by impulse only; yet a public meeting in which feeling and tears superseded reason and argument would in no event inspire either confidence or respect. Women may cease to be women, but they can never learn to be men, and feminine softness and grace can never do the work of the virile virtues of men. Very fortunately, this class of discontented women have not yet been able to endanger existing conditions by combinations analogous to trades unions; nor is it likely they ever will, because it is doubtful if women, under any circumstances, could combine at all. Certain qualities are necessary for combination, and these qualities are represented in women by their opposites.

Considering discontented women of all kinds individually, it is evident that they must be dull women. They see only the dull side of things, and naturally fall into a monotonous way of expressing themselves. They have, also, the habit of complaining, a habit which quickens only the lower intellect. Where is there a more discontented creature than a good watch-dog? He is forever looking for some infringement of his rights, and an approaching step or a distant bark drives him into a fury of protest. Discontented women are always egotists; they view everything in regard to themselves, and have, therefore, the defective sympathies that belong to low organizations. They never win confidence, for their discontent breeds distrust and doubt, and, however clever they may naturally be, an obstrusive self, with its train of likings and dislikings, obscures their judgment, and they take false views of people and things. For this reason, it is almost a hopeless effort to show them how little people generally care about their grievances; for they have thought about themselves so long and so much that they cannot conceive of any other subject interesting the rest of the world.—*North American Review.*

* * *

A pretty frock is shown of cloth and silk and fur. The main point in its design is the bertha-like trimming over the shoulders and front. This must be cut after some sort of a pattern; but most of the reliable pattern firms have similar designs for pointed "bretelles"—they generally call them "bretelles" for want of a better name. These bretelles are of heavy silk, brocaded or braided or jetted, and are edged round about with narrow fur. A combination of browns or dark-blue with black or gray, and black or tan-color with dark fur, and a fancy silk of dark and light shades of brown for the bretelles is pretty. Heliotrope, also, in its several shades with mink or dark-brown fur is handsome, and green with black and mink is exceedingly artistic.

* * *

The servant-girl problem continues to bother housekeepers and economists. In Philadelphia the good matrons have banded themselves in a league 2,000 strong. They propose to settle the question by agreeing to certain standards of work and wages, and by establishing a training school to raise the standard of intelligence of cooks, maids, and nurses. There are two or three splendid points about this plan, and two or three that will work it harm. The definite standard of wages, and the clear, explicit definition of duties will do much good, and the training school ought to be a good feature. The trouble with it is, that the girls may find it profitable to be trained at the expense of the league, and then on consideration of a little raise in wages to go to the house of some outsider who is pledged to no standard of wages, and who knows that a well-trained servant is a jewel. One great point that is so often overlooked in these plans for solving this distressing problem, is the servant girl's liberty—her personal freedom. Few employes in any labor have less real liberty than the average servant girl. If she could work a certain number of hours a day or night, then be free to work or study or play for herself, as a bricklayer, carpenter, mason, clerk, street-cleaner, or even street-car driver can, she might be more satisfied with housework. If she live in the house of her employer, then she is limited in the evenings that she can go out, and that she can have friends come to see her. Her morals, her religion, her frocks, her flirtations are all criticised and invaded by her mistress. She really has no individual life. Again, her methods of working, no matter how sensible they may seem to her, must always be set aside, and her mistress's adopted. It is difficult for an intelligent woman to do her work and keep at peace in domestic service. Servant girls frequently abuse whatever privileges have been extended to them, and they frequently are ignorant of daintiness or appropriateness, and must be taught the ways of the household, but mistresses are not entirely blameless in the troubles. When a cook or nurse or maid is treated as fairly and in as business-like a manner as the average merchant treats his clerks or the contractor his workmen, the problem will be partly solved—it will probably not be entirely straightened out until humanity is evolved to greater nobility and intelligence, and evolution is but slow work.

ELSIE POMEROY MCELROY.

Capt. Spink Circle, Chicago.

The "Hard Times" euchre party given by Capt. John W. Spink Circle, 27, Ladies of the G.A.R., at Custer Hall, Jan. 29, was a grand success financially and socially. The ladies of Spink Circle are noted for their generous hospitality; in fact, no one visits this Circle without being made to feel at home.

Grand reception and "Leap Year Party" will be given by Capt. John W. Spink Circle at Coronudo Hall, Western avenue and Lake street, Friday evening, Feb. 14. Every preparation is being made by the committee to make this party the event of the season, and all are sure of a good time, good music, good floor and plenty of room.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

POLITICAL NOTES.

The Matthews men are making an effort to capture Arkansas. They have established a literary bureau at Little Rock, which is industriously informing the people as to Gov. Matthews's services, abilities, and his talents as a farmer.

The Texas Sound Money Democrats are organizing for an aggressive fight.

Cornelius N. Bliss, Gen. Wager Swayne and Gen. A. G. McCook are at the head of the bolting anti-Platt Republicans of New York.

Last week the friends of Senator Blackburn in the Kentucky Legislature forwarded a petition to Secretary Carlisle asking him to use his influence to have the five gold-standard Senators cast their votes for Senator Blackburn. The Secretary has not yet replied to the petition, but the five Senators say that nothing can influence them to vote for Blackburn.

Representative Berry, of Kentucky, is out with an article urging the nomination of Secretary Carlisle for the Presidency.

The St. Louisians have decided to build an auditorium for the National Republican Convention capable of seating 12,000 people.

Maj. C. W. Watkins, of the Grand Rapids (Mich.) *Herald*, says that "Maj. Wm. McKinley is the overwhelming choice of the Republicans of Michigan."

Capt. R. F. Kolb, of Alabama, says that the election this year in his State will result in the overwhelming victory of the elements opposed to the Democratic ring rule.

The W. R. Morrison boom seems to be growing more rapidly than any other at the present date. It is expected that he will give pledges which will solidify all the Free Silver men, North and South, upon him, and they will go to the Democratic Convention determined to nominate him or bolt. The supporters of the boom so far are principally from Arkansas, Georgia and Tennessee.

New York politicians think that Quay's strategy is destined to be most harmful to McKinley.

Senator Jones, of Arkansas, has managed to completely defeat Gov. Clark, his principal competitor for re-election.

Senator Pettigrew has precipitated the financial issue in South Dakota by a letter announcing that he wants to head the delegation to St. Louis on a square contest in favor of Free Silver.

The managers of the Whitney boom have made a big stroke by getting the Mississippi Democrats to unite in an appeal to the Democrats of the country to come together upon W. C. Whitney.

The Indiana Republicans have decided that the best way out of the apportionment muddle in that State is to try and induce Governor Matthews to call an extra session of the Legislature by pledging the Republican members to pass an absolutely fair apportionment bill, and if the Governor refuses to accept these terms to bring suit in the courts against the apportionment law of 1885, which the court recently decided was the one now in force.

Senator Tillman has come out with a specific statement of his position. The State will send a delegation to Chicago "in order to preserve the unity of the white Democracy of South Carolina," but it will be prepared to bolt at any time and unite with the free-silver men of the West."

Both parties in Pennsylvania are torn up over the representation to the National Conventions. Senator Quay claims to have 50 of the 61 Republican Delegates behind him, but he wants all, and has announced his candidacy for the Presidency, everyone believes, merely to solidify the delegation and give him control of it. Harrity is playing something of the same game with the Democratic delegation, and there is strong opposition in both parties to the program.

It is alleged that the Anti-Platt Republicans are working for McKinley, and Mayor Strong for Vice-President.

McKinley is developing some strength in Iowa.

Warner Miller has been making a missionary tour through the Interior, and it is reported that he has secured some votes for Morton in Illinois.

The fight in Arkansas over Senator Jones's seat is growing very bitter. Gov. Clarke is Senator Jones's principal competitor, and he lashes the Senator unsparingly in the joint debates, denouncing him for being a toady of President Cleveland.

Ex-Senator Sawyer thinks that McKinley is strongest in Wisconsin, though Allison, Cullom, Morton, Davis and Reed do not lack for friends there.

An Asthma Cure at Last.

Medical science at last reports a positive cure for Asthma in the remarkable Kola plant, a new botanical discovery found on the Congo River, West Africa. Its cures are really marvelous. Rev. J. L. Combs, of Martinsburg, W. Va., writes that it cured him of Asthma of fifty years' standing, and Hon. L. G. Clute, of Greeley, Iowa, testifies that for three years he had to sleep propped up in a chair, being unable to lie down night or day from Asthma. The Kola Plant cured him at once. To make the matter sure, these and hundreds of other cures are sworn to under oath before a notary public. So great is their faith in its wonderful curative powers, the Kola Importing Co., 1164 Broadway, New York, is sending out large trial cases of the Kola Compound free to all sufferers from Asthma. Send them your name and address on a postal card, and they will send you a large trial case by mail free. It costs you nothing, and you should surely try it.

Ladies' Aid Society, Dexter, N. Y.

Ladies' Aid Society, 9, Dexter, N. Y., has elected the following officers for 1896: Pres., Frances Wood; V.-P., Lavinia Anderson; Sec., Emma Dowdell; Treas., Mary L. Wrenn; Chap., Eunice Whitney; G., Glennie Christie; Ass't G., Carrie Whitney; I. G., Mrs. George W. Walters; O. G., Emma Van Allen; Trustees, Mrs. A. Christie, Mrs. J. Berry and Mrs. J. James; Delegate, Mrs. George W. Walters.

Red Jacket Circle.

Red Jacket Circle, 16, Ladies of the G.A.R., Irving, N. Y., has elected the following officers: Pres., Minnie Washburn; First V.-P., Lucinda Lay; Second V.-P., Susan King; Treas., Cora Jemison; Chap., Susan Turkey; Con., Lillian Silverheels; Sec., Susan Stafford; G., Minnie King.

Ladies' Aid in New York State.

Hayward Porter Circle, 12, Buffalo—Pres., Mrs. Anna Williams; First V.-P., Mrs. Anna Barber, Second V.-P., Mrs. Charlotte Strang, who is also Deputy Chaplain; Chap., Mrs. L. C. Brainard; Treas., Mrs. Anna Cronan; Sec., Mrs. Mary E. Belcher; Conductress, Miss Tenna Van Altor; Guard, Mrs. Henry Rimbauch.

MONEY EASY MADE BY HUSTLERS.

Dear Editor:—My experience may interest others who need money. Fifteen years clerking, farming, hustling, trying to sell books, wringers and every contrivance made me discouraged and mad when I met my cousin in Iowa making $45 a week, plating tableware and jewelry. I got a complete outfit from Gray & Co., Columbus, O. They send materials, instructions, receipts, trade secrets, and teach the agent, and have treated me elegant. I plate gold, silver, nickel and white metal, get all the knives, forks, and other goods I can plate; make from $45 to $75 per week plating and sell some platers besides. Anyone can get a good plating outfit by writing them. J. RYAN.

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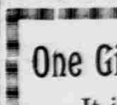

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