

Aut inveniam viam, aut faciam.

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L. IV. NO. 18.

CURRENT TOPICS.

JOHN WAMMAKER is worth \$10,000,000. It costs the Sorbian people \$20,000 a year to support King Milan.

DE LEBERSER wot when his Panama scheme became too heavy for his shoulders.

It is said that ex-Empress Eugenie has expressed a desire to be cremated after death.

BALLOONS and parachutes have been sent to Sunkin for the use of British troops.

VICTORIA WOODWILL has given \$400,000 to a Paris school for the free education of women.

It is reported that Russia and Japan have entered into a secret treaty against England.

The total resources of the widow of the late Prof. Richard Proctor are stated to be only \$750.

The effect of color on patients afflicted with brain disorders is the latest thing in medicine.

It is said the Austrians are "catching on" to base-ball as played by the American players.

The richest woman in the world, Dona Isadora Cousins, of Chili, is coming to New York.

SOUTHBRIDGES, Mass., manufactured a million and a half of spectacles the past year.

MR. LINDBERGER, of Newark, has petitioned the New Jersey Legislature to change his name.

SEVENTEEN of the twenty-five cities in Massachusetts voted in favor of license at the recent election.

QUEEN VICTORIA and her daughter, Empress Victoria of Germany, spend much time playing chess.

The faculty of Dartmouth College has decided not to grant a scholarship to any person who smokes.

The New York board of aldermen has passed an ordinance requiring vegetables to be sold by weight.

It is unfortunately true that the leading ceremony of Christmas has taken the form of swapping gifts.

WOMEN'S waives are now characterized by their smallness. Some of them scarcely bigger than the thumbnail.

WILLIAM II. has no salary as Emperor of Germany, but his allowance as King of Prussia is \$1,500,000 a year.

COVENT MOULTON has at his home one of the finest flower gardens in the world. His favorite flower is the rose.

TEXAS doesn't like kindly to the proposition to carve her into several States. It breaks her all up, so to speak.

The White Caps are seeking popularity. They have sent out notices to coal dealers who give short weight.

This is the season when the base-ball umpire lives in peace, and the managers confine their fighting to themselves.

LITTLE FAIRBANKS, of New York, gets a verdict of \$5,000 or injures from a hot-ball street-car. The hotball must go.

ONE out of every five school children in Philadelphia is obliged to wear glasses, and the proportion is rapidly increasing.

FIRE CURT. W. E. claims to have the smallest living room. She is 17 years old, 28 inches tall and weighs 33 pounds.

The granddaughter of Abraham Lincoln, the daughter of his son Robert, will make her entrance into "society" this winter.

A GERMAN youth has been found for his preparation of wood for his spinning. Strong falls are made from this product.

—A young lady whom the Duke of Newcastle is about to wed is an English girl. For once the American girl has been outdone.

THE passion for green has brought the demand for emeralds up with a rush. Jewelers find the green stone is remarkably popular.

A NEW YORK paper says the latest thing in women's purses has a cash and candy compartment. It should contain a third for chewing gum.

SIX European cities have advertised the speedy arrival in their midst of Mr. and Mrs. Grover Cleveland. Journalism is in a very bad way over there.

FIVE of the cadets of the Virginia military institute, at Lexington, have been dismissed for "loazing" and others are to be tried for the same offense.

MISS DAVENPORT, an Irish lady, is the governess of the King of Spain. She gets \$5,000 a year salary, and will have a life pension, when her task is done, of \$2,500.

It is said that Saxony furnishes the largest percentage of suicides of any civilized State. The number last year was one to about every 3,000 of the population.

BOSTON CORRETT, who killed John Wilkes Booth, has escaped from the Kansas Insane Asylum, where he was confined, and at last accounts he was in Mexico.

BOLIVAR, the big elephant, was presented to the Philadelphia Zoo as a Christmas present by Adam Fropough, who says he is too much trouble to carry about the country.

The American newspaper men have tried to interview Lord Backville, who is now in Paris, but he sends down word that he wants no communication with the American press.

NOTORIETY is worth as much as money in these times, and if managed shrewdly is apt to bring money. Dr. Tanner, the faster, is about to marry the daughter of a Paris millionaire.

Thirty thousand dollars is a pretty price to pay for a young gelding, but that is the figure at which the three-year-old Proctor Knott was sold to Mr. J. B. Haggin the other day.

One woman in New York makes money by conducting strangers to the shops where bargains can best be secured in any specified line of goods, and giving her customers the best of her shopping experiences generally.

A NEW YORK minister said from the pulpit the other Sunday, that he would give \$150 if the young men in the gallery would take seats down stairs. They came, and the money was paid.

The new excise rules regarding the sale of liquor in New York provide severe penalties for selling to habitual drunkards, intoxicated persons, minors and Indians. La. poor Indian again!

STATISTICS in Illinois show a considerable falling off of the rural population and a corresponding gain to Chicago. The trend of the population in many parts of the country is towards the great cities.

WRECKED BY GRIEF.

Judge Robert A. Johnston Comments Amits Suicide.

Borrow Over the Death of His Wife, for Whom He Had an Almost Limitless Love, the Cause.

Robert A. Johnston, ex-Judge of the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas, shortly after arising from his bed, at his home, at Linden and Main aye, Avondale, O., on the morning of December 21, at 7 o'clock, fired a bullet into his brain and died instantly.

Judge Johnston was a man of strong physique, and possessed a keen, clear, judicial mind. A long experience at the bar and an enviable reputation as a jurist were his. He was fifty-three years of age, and looked forty. His children were bright, and two of them were married well and happily, and excellently situated in life. Judge Johnston, despite his surroundings, was a man of simple tastes, and his connections were all excellent. His children were bright, and two of them were married well and happily, and excellently situated in life.

"Why did he do it?" was the query which the startled police officers asked the first shock which the information of Judge Johnston's death created, had been in a measure dispelled. There was only one answer, and that was that he had killed his wife, which occurred October 27, under peculiarly distressing circumstances, had so preyed upon his mind that it resulted in acute melancholia, a severe attack of which befell him.

A few minutes before seven o'clock that morning, Mary Fox, an old and faithful servant of the family, had just left his chamber on the second floor and gone to the bathroom, as was his custom. He returned very shortly and took a glass of water from a pitcher standing in the hall near his door. He then retired to his own apartment. A moment later Miss Fox heard the muffled shot of a revolver. She went to the judge's door and knocked, but there was no answer.

She repeated the knock, but still no response. With many misgivings the door was pushed open, and the judge was lying on the floor, his body lying on his back, his head resting on the wall. The woman rushed forward. He was still alive, and in the agonies of death. With great haste she called the neighbors of the household and awakened Sheriff Johnston, a son, who crossed the street and summoned Judge Buchwater, while Miss Fox attended at once. But the sufferer was beyond the reach of a physician's skill. He died in the arms of his wife, and a revolver lying in his right hand. From a hole in the right temple issued his liquid life, but there was nothing about the calm features of the dead man which indicated that he was in his right mind.

He had gone to the bathroom, and on his return knelt down by the bed, placed the weapon at his right temple and sent the bullet crashing through his brain. The bullet passed entirely through his head.

Judge Johnston was being distraught for two months past. His melancholia was observed by his friends, and the lack of domestic comforts, during which Judge Johnston shot himself, was precipitated by the melancholy of his wife, who died of a heart ailment at Spring Grove cemetery Christmas day. The judge had been very gloomy in mind early Christmas day, and the gloom was increased by the fact that he had been unable to attend to his duties, and which he could see in the faces of his neighbors, bear the merry carols of Christmas being sung, and the innumerable things that on Christmas day are done.

He gave external evidence of joy and merriment. Mental contrasts of his sad Christmas day, and the contrast between his own life and the beautiful wife with whom he was married, and the contrast between the keenness of his melancholia.

Judge Johnston was unusually depressed. His children tried to cheer him up. It was in vain. All about him were the necessities of his wife. Every thing in the house was being sold to bring her out. Her portrait, standing on an easel in the drawing-room, was wreathed with waxen-leaved smilax. His wife's portrait, which was a young boy, more than ever, more than ever, more than ever, she cherished his memory, and made more poignant his grief. He tried to brighten up the picture, but when the carriage came to the door before noon to take him, his daughter, Miss Roberta, and his son, Robert A., Jr., to the Clifton home of John C. Sherlock, the son of his father, Thomas Sherlock, he was very despondent.

Christmas dinner at Mr. Sherlock's handsomely set table, with its bright and gaily, did not dissipate the despondency of the judge. After dinner he went out on the porch and into the bright, rare Christmas snow. He came into the house again, traces of tears were on his face, and there were tears in his voice. After dinner the carriage came, and he picked it out with a darning-needle. She caught cold in the wound, resulting in erysipelas, spreading over her entire body, causing death to-day under most excruciating circumstances. She was sixty-five years old.

A Professor Drowned. LEONARDTOWN, Md., Dec. 28.—Prof. Paul Combs, a member of the faculty of the Maryland Agricultural College, was drowned yesterday while ducking at Brenton's Bay, near here. His mother saw the accident from the shore, but having fainted, failed to render any assistance.

A Youthful Paicidic. LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 28.—News reached here this morning of the fatal stabbing of Dr. Holleman, a leading physician of Craighead County, by his son, aged fifteen. It appears that the boy was trying to chastise the boy when the latter drew a knife and stabbed his father in the heart.

Two Women Killed by Cars. CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Martin and Miss Kate Powers failed to notice the approach of a city-bound passenger train as they were crossing the Rock Island tracks, near Forty-seventh street, this afternoon. The two were struck by the engine and thrown fifty feet. Both were killed instantly.

Confesses on the Scaffold. BASTROP, La., Dec. 28.—"Pat" Overton, who was convicted in September last for the murder of Frank Hearney, on April 17, was hanged here to-day. He confessed his guilt. A woman was the cause of the trouble.

Saved by His Daughter's Shot. KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 28.—Peter Morris, residing near Jellico, attempted Wednesday to kill an old man named Higdon, near Cumberland Gap. Higdon's daughter Martha interfered, and fatally shot Morris.

Slain by a Shell. ROME, Dec. 28.—A shell burst in a powder magazine at Messina, Sicily, this morning, killing sixteen soldiers and injuring many others.

In a Paris Shop.—"My dear, don't you tell that girl behind the counter what you want?" Cultivated daughter—"I did, pa. I spoke to her in my best French." "Well, what did she say?" "She said she didn't understand Russian."

Divorced Couple Reunited. MARTINSBURG, W. Va., Dec. 27.—Dr. Geo. A. Hamill was married to his former wife at Chambersburg, Penn., at midnight last night. They had been divorced about one year. Two policemen acted as witnesses.

Party Dispersed by Dynamite. HARRISONBURG, Va., Dec. 27.—Last night the Orange Dignis is trying to cover part of a gambling debt of \$3,500 owed John Daly, of New York. In the Supreme Court to-day Referee George Gorham decided that Wm. S. Hollingshead could not recover the value of this note in a suit brought against Mr. Moulton's widow.

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GREEN-LOOKING.

But His Goods Were First-Class—Dangerous Counterfeit Coins Found on a Countryman in Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 28.—The other day the police arrested a verdant-looking chap, who was attempting to sell counterfeit silver dollars to two colored men. He gave his name as William Johnson, and the large number of coins which were found in his possession were so fine that it was impossible to distinguish them from genuine silver dollars. They weighed a trifle less than real coins, but their composition is still a mystery to the Government officers. A member of the United States Secret Service has just returned from Lorain County, where he went to investigate Johnson's record. Said he to-night: "I was in the village of Broadheim, where I found a pale and sickly woman living in a little house, and poorly furnished, and all the surroundings bearing evidence of abject poverty. This woman is the wife of Wm. E. Wetherlow, alias Wm. Johnson, the bogus coin shover." Mrs. Wetherlow bears a good name in the community where she lives, but her husband, who earns a scanty living during the summer season by a common labor among the farmers there, bears a bad name as a counterfeiter. When I told the wife her husband's arrest, she burst into a flood of tears, saying that he had been absent from home recently several days at a time, but she did not know where he was for what was his business. She said, also, that he never created her unkindly, although he drank sometimes. I searched the house and premises, but did not find any bogus coin, and I am satisfied the wife knows nothing about the business Wetherlow is engaged in, nor do I think he made the stuff he was selling." The opinion prevails that an expert counterfeiter is at work in this vicinity.

A Human Fiend's End. PARIS, Dec. 28.—Prado, thief, bel alphonse, human fiend incarnate on his own boastful admissions, died on the guillotine for the murder of Marie August, cocotte. The death was witnessed by two hundred artists, newspaper men, actors, lawyers and politicians who possessed influence sufficient to obtain admission within the sentry lines to the Place de la Roquette. Prado died with much the same bravado as Franzini, his former chum and counterpart. The scene was much more orderly, and not the slightest mishap occurred in the execution. A crowd of curious persons in his appearance at the prison gate his bleeding head lay in the basket.

Mixed Marriages. NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—A good deal of speculation has been created over the circular issued by Archbishop Corrigan requesting the priests of the diocese to report the number of mixed marriages at which they have officiated during the past ten years, the number of Protestants who married that have embraced the Catholic faith, and the religion in which the children of such marriages have been brought up. In some quarters it is believed that the Pope has in contemplation the issue of a decree absolutely forbidding mixed marriages.

Frisco Has a Democratic Mayor. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—The recount of votes cast for mayor in the last election was concluded last evening. At the close of the recount Judge Finn, of the Superior Court, declared E. B. Pond (Democrat), Independent candidate for mayor, and the man who had demanded the recount, made a total net gain of 309 votes, but not enough to elect him over Pond.

Spurrier and Darning-Needle. COLUMBUS, Ind., Dec. 28.—Mrs. Thos. Patram, a wealthy widow of this city, ran a splinter in her hand several days ago and picked it out with a darning-needle. She caught cold in the wound, resulting in erysipelas, spreading over her entire body, causing death to-day under most excruciating circumstances. She was sixty-five years old.

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New Coast Defense Vessel. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The plans for the contemplated new coast defense vessel are now ready, and are waiting at the navy department the inspection of prospective bidders for the contract. This vessel will cost the Government about \$2,000,000, of which \$1,700,000 will be paid to contractors, the balance being expended by the Government itself in preparing the armor of the ship.

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Spurrier and Darning-Needle. COLUMBUS, Ind., Dec. 28.—Mrs. Thos. Patram, a wealthy widow of this city, ran a splinter in her hand several days ago and picked it out with a darning-needle. She caught cold in the wound, resulting in erysipelas, spreading over her entire body, causing death to-day under most excruciating circumstances. She was sixty-five years old.

Has Been Going on for Years. BISMARCK, Dak., Dec. 27.—The examination of James Curran, the man arrested on the charge of smuggling opium from Canada into the United States, closed last night. Curran was held. He pleaded innocence of the nature of the packages which he transported across the border. It is believed here that the Curran examination will lead to the exposure of many wealthy men who have been in the business of smuggling over the line into Dakota for years.

New Coast Defense Vessel. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The plans for the contemplated new coast defense vessel are now ready, and are waiting at the navy department the inspection of prospective bidders for the contract. This vessel will cost the Government about \$2,000,000, of which \$1,700,000 will be paid to contractors, the balance being expended by the Government itself in preparing the armor of the ship.

Gambling Debt Not Valid. BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 27.—John F. Moulton, a prominent Buffalo man who died a few years ago, gave a note for \$30 to cover part of a gambling debt of \$3,500 owed John Daly, of New York. In the Supreme Court to-day Referee George Gorham decided that Wm. S. Hollingshead could not recover the value of this note