A GREAT SPEECH.

Masterly Address Delivered by Judge John Clegg of New Orleans, Before the Third Ward Jastremski Club of That City Enunciating the Issues of the Day.

"The democrats of this ward and the people of this state are assembling in this campaign in their primary or sovereign capacity, under conditions and auspices far better than the present generation has ever before seen or enjoyed.

"The managers of the party machinery, yielding to pressure, permit the democratic voters to name at a primary election, candidates for public office. This is a step forward—an upward movement most powerful for good and most inspiring, because it is an exhibition of returning loyalty to true democracy.

"In bringing about this condition I have had some small part, and I appreciate that the invitation to ad dress you tonight came not because of any ability, influence or eloquence but simply because for years, indeed, ever since it has been possible to do so, you know I have advocated constant, frequent and direct appeals to the people in all political matters.

"The convention system which had grown up in this State dominated as it was by bosses and the machine, had conferred upon individuals the power to obstruct good government, and gave them the liberty to further selfish and corrupt designs, and afford a wide field for intrigue and corruption. To such a pitch had this system contributed to the principle of self-election that it might be almost truly described in the famous sentence of the great Pitt, in which he set forth the evil system which prevented his country from ever having an honest ministry and honest ministers from remaining such, or doing their duty.

"The evils and injustice of the convention system were raised to the highest power when the constitutional provision was made that in all political conventions in this state the apportionment of representation shall be on the basis of population .

"In these two lines of the Constitution the purpose was expressed to bind the democracy of this state, hand and foot, and deliver it to the machine

"Under the operation of the system thus engrafted in the constitution it was possible for the handful of white men in one part of the state as voters to count for five times the same number in an other part of the state. Under the operation of this constitutional provision, by swaps and trade which you know were constantly made, it was possible for the machine of Orleans, combined with two or three small parish machines in the state, to absolutelly dominate the affairs of the state.

"For many years the idea of primary elections had lain back in the heads of many of the best democrats in the state. They had talked it over among themselves and discussed it with the voters and had suggested it in public print.

"Some of the newspapers in the state took it up. Then came the powerful advocacy of The Times-Democrat, with day after day convincing arguments which awakened the public sentiment and informed the public mind.

"There was then needed but the man. The hour had come. It was then that this gallant Confederate soldier announced himself as a candidate for the office of governor and demanded that a vote of the people be taken on the nomination. Neither he nor his friends for him make the silly claim that he invented the primaries but it is a historical fact that he was the first candidate to announce his allegiance to this method of party nomination, and to demand that the party machinery be put in motion to submit nominations to the people. There can be no greater tribute to the wisdom and the democracy of his course than the amusing efforts of Mr. Blanchard and his friends to claim that they were the first advocates of primaries .

"When Gen. Jastremski wrote his letter to Mr. Blanchard asking him how the justice stood on this question—was he in favor of a primary and would join he Gen. Jastremski and his friends in an effort to prevail upon the state central committee to provide for the holding of a primary election, Mr. Blanchard postponed the answer, and while admitting he was a candidate he would not say 'yes, I will go with you before the people.' As one of its adherents expressed it, he could not safely say this then, being engaged in the process of what he called 'smoking out Senator Foster.'

"At that time on this question Senator Foster himself was occupying a position best described by the anecdote that is told by one of his friends. It seems that Senator Foster was in Franklin last summer, and was asked by one of his friends was he supporting Price, Jastremski or Blanchard, and was he in favor of primary election. It is said that the Senator looked intently at the clouds and said: 'If these clouds bring a rain, the farmers are going to lose a lot of hay.' Until these gentlemen and their adherents discovered that the mass of the people were in earnets on this proposition, th[illegible]ld not have any [illegible] deci[illegible] [illegible]ions on the sub- [illegible]ions to give out; [illegible]most adherents [illegible] spoken partisans affect to doubt the wisdom of a primary election. They would prefer to see the political affairs in the old rut. They would prefer to have the political business of Louisiana attended to in two lawyers' offices in this city, free from the vexatious control by the people most concerned.

"Slate-makers and machine politicians have the same horror of a primary election that the horse-thief has of the vigilance committee. The justice that is administered may be swift and rude and not according to rule, but it is generally effective.

"So I say that in this campaign only good can come of the discussions and of the differences that have arisen. The educative value of such a campaign is enormous, but the best of it is that it brings home to each individual voter the knowledge and feeling that he is a part and parcel of his government, that his individual wish can be expressed, that the individual himself may have some part in the governing of his country.

"It ought to be possible, and it is possible that the campaign should be conducted so as to afford the best fruit.

"In a republic respecting governmental affairs the appeal ought to be made to the individual voter, and ought to be so made that in determing his course only the highest motives should enter.

"Among men who think and act for themselves there must be differences of opinion. Discussion must arise. It is right and wholesome that it should. It is well that they should get excited if they feel strongly.

"In a democracy where there is no discussion or division of opinion among the individuals its government is hastening to decay. Such discussions are most effective for good when carried on without rancor or bitterness. It is with this idea and under this spirit that I propose to say what little I have to say tonight.

"Some of the partisans of Judge Blanchard have indiscreetly written and said that there are no issues in this campaign and that there was simply involved a choice between two men.

"For my part I would be content to rest the decision on the choice of men, for as Renan puts the idea, human affairs are not always a mere play of abstractionsand oftentimes in them men are more than doctrines.

"In the candidates we support are embodied those virtues which made Southern influence the saving grace of the nation and in the possibility of their return to power lies the hope of the democracy and therefore a safe solution of governmental problems. Gen. Jastremski never dodged any issue or betrayed an interest. Without vain boasting he can invite scrutiny of his public service in the years of which there lurks no cloakroom incident. No act of his in public service or private life has brought gain to corporations and ruin and want to the poor and weak. No ream of paper or hours of speechmaking are needed to explain away what he has done or said. He makes mistakes, but he does not deceive nor disappoint a just hope.

"He may not have the graces a dancing master can teach, but as was said of another: 'He is honest—he speaks the truth—he faces his enemy and fights him if necessary; he is studiously kind—always courteous; he scorns a demagogue, but loves his people.'

"Judge Blanchard in one of his speeches has suggested that he ought to be elected because he thinks he can represent Louisiana at the St. Louis Exposition better than Gen. Jastremski. The governor, as governor, can have little or no business at St. Louis, but when the General goes there next year as governor, all who see or meet him will have no doubt they are looking upon a gentleman.

"Blanchard and the band-wagon present an entrancing issue. When, after the trumpeting and shouting, the band-wagon rolled out on the political avenue, no float in a Mardi Gras parade was ever half so gorgeous. But it si all spoiled now A few showers in the form of news from Caddo and Ouachita and St. Landry and Calcasiue ha[illegible]hed off the tinsel and glitter and we can see the same old paper mache giants and tigers—the same old red fire ,the same old machinery. There are a few new faces noted in the front seats of the wagon, and these must find themselves strangely uncomfortable—but they will not handle the ribbons. Parkerson and Fenner and Spencer and men of that character on the wagon with the bosses are not accustomed to being led—they are usually leaders, but this time they will be only allowed to beat the drum or play the fife, or more likely, just to beat time—they are just a part of the show—they are not running it.

"We all understand how they got caught and sympathize with them, Judge Blanchard is a great artist. He has not spent more than twenty years chasing office without learning the business thoroughly.

"Of course it will not do in the face of the Judge's denial and threats, for any of us to say that he has a trade on with the bosses I am afraid to do that, but I would submit the evidence to his calm judicial self, and ask him what would be the conclusion of an open mind.

"It was no secret for many months before the Judge publicly announced himself, that John Brewster was grooming him. Some of the bosses rather looked at this out of the corner of their eyes, for they have not greatly enjoyed some experiences with Brewster's candidates. But one cannot always know what a boss is thinking about, or what he says.

"They are all now in the band wagon, every one of them, and Dunenhefer is the Judge's chairman of committee on resolutions.

"The Judge says that he will only give them the consideration due their weight and influence in the party. You and I and the Judge may understand that in one sense, but the bosses will translate it freely, and if opportunity offers, will enforce their translation vigorously.

"The Judge should have Senator Foster tell him about the 'death watch' in 1896.

"It is a matter of concern to some of the Judge's friends how soon he will need the service of a nerve specialist for treatment of that facial paralysis which must result from the constant winking at Gilmore and Fitz when he is talking to Fenner and Parkerson.

"Many of these bosses are agreeable, lovable men; even more so than their candidates. For some of them I have sincere respect and esteem, and with more than one I claim the privilege of friendship.

"It is the system they stand for and the methods they practice in political affairs that I oppose, for these, I believe, tend to the destruction of character in the individual voter—they substitute for patriotic duty a lust for the spoils of office. They make the will of the bosses instead of the principles of the party, the standard of conduct. They increase in the public service the opportunity for graft and corruption, and make easy the exploitation of the people by the public service corporations. And their success cuts off and makes wellnigh impossible any education of the masses in political doctrines or in political action.

"We oppose Judge Blanchard, because to us his action means the entrenchment in power of these people and the further extension of their system and of the practice of their methods .

"That is one issue, and the Judge can only put it out of the campaign by declaring he will not appoint them to office or be guided by their counsel.

"If we can introduce and maintain in its integrity, the primary election within the party, the pernicious system of self-election is destroyed.

"It was no secret three years ago that the machine had named Blanchard and Sanders to the succession and the plan would have gone through without any consultation with the voters, if the lion of primary election had not arisen in the path. So, primary elections, the direct appeal to the people, the expression of his will by the individual voter ,is the paramount issue of the campaign, and the question is propounded, 'Shall we trust the direction and control of party management and party affairs to the men who favor primary elections and favor appeals to the people, or to the men who, in their hearts, dread and fear the primary election, whose lives have been spent and whose interests are bound up in the methods and practices utterly at variance with the idea of a primary election? All the rest follows as corollary.

"We can not hope to destroy the one man power; we can not hope to cut off sinecures, we can not hope for reform of taxation; we can not hope to widen and strengthen the base of out system of public education; indeed, we can expect no betterment in party affairs, or state affairs, until we have established beyond question the right of the people to chose their servants and control their own political business.

"Indeed, many of us who have no hope or desire for political preferment, are making this struggle so that it may be possible for some of the splendid young men of the state to seek public service ,to dedicate to the state their splendid talents, without the need of wearing any man's collar, or the loss of their self-respect.

"Under the prevailing system of party politics in this state, what earthly chance for the gratification of high and honorable ambition is offered the Fenners or Hunters, or the Burkes, or the Stubbs, or any of the young men of this state, whose qualities of mind and heart fit them for service, and whose attainments ought to be called into the service of the state?

"You know that some of these, heretofore, might have sought political preferment, unless they would place themselves in positions that lowered self-respect and stripped them of all power for good.

"If we venture to express the hope of amelioration of conditions; if we point to the mistakes and wrongs of the past and seek betterment in the future, we are reproached with charges of disloyalty to the party.

"Why, these candidates for office and their adherents, do themselves honor over much—they are not the party and this very much arrogance of heir's is the out-growth of the machine system.

"These men assume what is untrue, that there can be no perfection in human affairs. We have the right and it is sanctified as a duty to have part in that struggle which is the irrepressible conflict, the struggle to elevate, the struggle to better conditions, the struggle to make life more tolerable and to make politcal life freer and cleaner.

"These men who frown upon our efforts to make conditions better, seek to hide behind the great names of Nichols and McEnery and their fellows—those men who wrought so splendidly under the conditions and circumstances by which they were surrounded, who used the tools then at hand, and whose lives and services a grateful people have cushined in their hearts. But another time has come. New conditions have arisen and new duties present themselves. We deamnd that the right to choose their servants shall be restored their servants shall be restored to the people; we demand that there shall be cut off the sinecures and graft—jobs that have been created and—that the salaries and emoluments that go to these purely ornamental offices shall be devoted to the public schools.

"It is vain for M. Blanchard and his 'stand paters' to say nothing is the matter with Louisiana, when thousands upon housands of dollars, which are taken by taxation from the people are squandered upon useless offices, while the barefooted boy is turned away from the schoolhouse because there is no room for him. The actual figures on this subject are appalling. It is vain for Mr. Blanchard to say that everything is well with Louisiana, when we can see a corporation capitalized at eighty million dollars and seeking by the exploitation of labor to pay the dividends on fifty millions, while it pays taxes on less than twelve millions; while on the other hand a man who is possessed of a little home, worth one thousand dollars, may be compelled to pay taxes on an assessment of twelve hundred dollars.

"It is vain for Blanchard and his friends to say that it is well with Louisiana when the highest public officers seek to perpetuate and accentuate such conditions. So when he denies the existence of these evils, he denies himself the right to ask the people to vote for him. If he can not see these evils he is certainly not called on to remedy them.

"On the other hand, Gen. Jastremski, believing that time was opportune, has pointed out these conditions, has demanded that they be discussed before the people and has pledged himself, if elected, to advocate and to bring about these reforms. Other and better speakers will discuss these issues more fully before you.

"I would close, as began, with congratulations to you upon the promise of the future. That we will win in this campaign I do not doubt, but whether we win or lose, we have struck a blow for the right. But, understand this, that the election of Gen. Jastremski will not mean the completion of your duty. As electors, as citizens, as lovers of Louisiana, duty will be ever present with you, and you must be prepared for the continuance of the work and be content to sow the seed, though others reap the harvest."

Many men and women underestimate the value of expression; they take too many things for granted; they assume that their affections, or their gratitude, or their sense of obligation, is understood without words comments a writer in the Outlook Such people are often surrounded by those who are craving some word of approval, some kind of recognition. The best work is sometimes done with shut teeth and a fixed purpose, in dead silence, so far as the world is concerned, without a murmur of applause or a word of thanks; but this is not the way in which work ought to be done among intelligent men and women, and this is not the way in which, as a rule, the best work is evoked from the greatest number of people. The majority of men and women get the best out of themselves when they are in a congenial atmosphere. This is particularly true of those finer kinds of work which express individuality, quality and personal gift.

We seem to be in a cycle of wrecks explosions and fires that are heartbreaking in their immediate effect, but surely we shall learn lessons from them that will make life safer and more comfortable in the future, declares the Indianapolis News. It is hard for us now to realize the deficiencies of some of our systems of enterprise, and in our helter skelter existence we are blind to dangers that should be plain to us. It takes a severe blow to impress on us the necessity of reforming our ways, but when the blow falls, and it inevitably fails, we do learn and do improve. The grief of the present means the betterment of the future. This is cold comfort to the stricken, of course, but it prevents hope from dying, and helps us to bear up under burdens that would otherwise be crushing.

Engineers expect to be able to burn gas in such a continuous stream that it will be useful in the turbine form of engine. Already gas has been burned under mechanical conditions in laboratories which would indicate success in this direction. The gas engine operates by a series of explosions, one for each two revolutions of the flying wheel. It is, as a rule, a single-balancing machine, not double-acting like the steam engine, which has steam pressing alternately on each side of the piston. When the explosion which gives motion to its parts can be arranged—as in the turbine—to act upon a piston which moves always in the same direction, a great increase of power is obvious.

FORTUNE TELLERS' WAYS

YOU CAN PAY WHAT YOU LIKE, FROM A NICKEL TO $5.

The Goods Just the Same, Whatever the Price—That Is What an Expert Says—Thought Reading by Machinery.

The Italian quarter of New York City, says the Sun, is full of fortune tellers. Their prices are not high, varying from five cents on Baxter street to 10 in the more aristocratic precincts of Grand. But the smallness of the fees is compensated for by the number of customers—working girls chiefly.

As for the goods, they seem to be the same in both cases. Experience has convinced the prophetess that her customers come to her for one thing only, to find out whether some particular man cares for them; the man being either an actual or a possible husband.

In 99 cases out of a hundred, therefore, she diagnoses the case correctly and hands out the desired remedy. In the hundredth case, which may vary from the accepted model, she is wrong. But this never troubles her.

There are sad litle stories shadowed forth in the fortune teller's room. Patient, bareheaded women sit there with babies in their arms seeking information of a husband who has deserted them, or perhaps of a son who has run away from home.

They tell their story without reservation and with a wealth of dramatic inflection, and peer at the cards with pathetic eagerness. Sometimes their husbands are under arrest and they want to find out their chances of escape, or ill, and they want to know if they will recover. Women have been known to spend the last nickel they had in the world in thus trying to learn the future.

Illness in the Italian colony brings out another class of professionals whom the women call witch doctors. Their treatment seems to consist of a mixture of massage and mystery.

They rub the sick woman with some kind of oil, muttering incantations or charms over her the while, charge a fee ranging from 50 cents to $2 and go away, strictly charging the patient to say nothing of the visit to any regular practitioner. This is necessary in their business, for this sort of contraband traffic is calculated to rouse the ire of physicians and nurses.

There are also peripatetic fortune tellers who go from house to house in the tenement districts with their packs of cards in a little handbag, asking "the lady of the house" if she would like to have her fortune told. A stout blonde Swede has been pursuing this occupation for some years. Occasionally she slips past the janitor in houses of a better class, and plies her trade among the middle class apartments.

She charges 25 cents a fortune, and confesses that she makes a comfortable living out of it. A trace of superstition was found in her too, for she insisted that when she got a sitting at the first place where she called in the morning she was sure to have a good day, while the opposite was likewise dismally true.

She manifested a laudable ambition to be up to date in her profession. She confessed to having visited the high priced professionals uptown, those charging one, two or even five dollars a sitting, in order to study their methods and compare results.

"I can't see as their fortunes are any better than mine," she said; "they don't come out any truer, anyway."

This is probably quite true, but the people who can charge these prices must be able to incorporate something in their wares which will attract people of more education and knowledge of the world. A person who has made a study of fortune telling methods in different classes of society declares that the added ingredient which enables the uptown representative to command better prices is a shrewd ability at character reading, which impresses the average sitter as something startling, and makes him credulous as to what follows.

These shrewd professionals do not indulge in extensive or detailed forecasts of the future. They confine themselves in the main to good character reading.

They are generally palmists, and the palm, like handwriting, tells something to the student. But they study the face and the play of expression, as much as they do the palm, and more, they study the whole personality of their visitors.

They become experts in a rapid and correct sizing up of the sitter. They can place a business woman, an actress, a domestic woman, each in her proper class at a glance. They can tell whether a woman has come out of curiosity, for fun, or because she has trouble on her mind.

They can read a great deal of her charcter and disposition also. They can tell very quickly if she is impulsive and quick tempered, or cool and calculating.

They have to do this with less aid than the downtown lady of cards, for a woman who starts in to part with $5 for a glimpse at the future, does so with a firm determination to keep her mouth shut and not give away her story. When she begins to hear things that she knows are true, however, she generally grows more or less confidential. Words dropped here and there and plays of facial expression give the fortune teller a hint that he is on the right track.

Many of the highest priced fortune tellers uptown are men, and many of their customers are men also. Men sitters usually want business tips, the masculine sex apparently having entire confidence in itself in its love affairs.

One male fortune teller who is having considerable vogue at present is in a side street just off Fifth avenue, near the shipping district. He is a Hindoo, and exceedingly handsome and picturesque in his East Indian costume. He is evidently well educated, for he speaks the best of English with a most enticing accent. Rumor has it that he was educated at Oxford university.

His manner is perfection; sympathetic and friendly, without familiarity, and conveying to each sitter the subtle suggestion that her case interests him particularly and profoundly. His waiting room is carpeted with Oriental rugs, draped walls and ceilings, with East Indian stuffs, adorned with quaintly hideous images.

Daylight is excluded, and the place is lit with one softly shaded Oriental lamp; and a hint of some languorous Eastern odor hangs about the place. The properties can all be obtained at small cost within a few blocks of the studio, but they are skilfully arranged and impart a sense of the unusual.

Fortune tellers sometimes employ impressive mind reading apparatus. There is one, for instance, whom the sitter finds sitting behind a machine something like a telegraph instrument.

He tells the sitter to write on a slip of paper the question she wants answered. This slip she rolls into a little ball and holds in her hand.

The fortune teller places one of his hands on hers and the other on the machine. The machine immediately begins to click, though his hand remains quiet, and sends out a little strip of paper like a ticker tape. On this strip will be found the answer to the question.

A sitter in pursuit of knowledge tried this three times recently, and in each case the answer was pertinent, though not true. That is, it was a reasonable answer to the unrevealed question, but in no case was it a true answer.

For instance, the sitter, placing the paper on her lap under the table, wrote: "Will Mary come?" Mary being a relative, a visit from whom was impending, but not certain. The machine instantly ticked out the response, "Yes, Mary will come." This was certainly curious, but after all, Mary did not come.

This is a good example of the startling things revealed by the high class seers. All the remarkable revelations are things which the sitter knows, though he may not have told them. As soon as he asks something which he does not know himself, the answers are wild.

COLOR BLINDNESS.

Whisky and Tobacco Held Responsible for Defect.

The crusade which the railroads of the country are carrying on against the use of intoxicating liquors and tobacco by employes engaged in operating trains is partly due to the fact, not generally known, that the poisons contained in the proscribed articles produce color blindness, which is a fatal defect in enginemen, firemen and trainmen. For more than 20 years the diseases of tobacco endlyopia and alcohol endlyopia, as they are called, have been recognized by the oculists as the most insidious and difficult with which they have to deal. Through the employment of official occulists the existence, growing prevalency and terrible results of these diseases have become familiar to the managements of many large railway systems.

According to one of the railroad specialists endlyopia was rarely found in this country 15 years ago, but was quite prevalent in European and southern countries prior to that. Now occulists of good practice in this country have to deal with quite a large number of cases yearly, the increase being due to the increase in nicotine and alcohol infection. Endlyopia in its first stages produces slightly failing vision, often a smarting of the eyes, but it is not marked in effect. The disease does progress far, however, before scotoma, or color blindness makes its appearance. Certain portions of the eye are unable to recognize the colors green and red, which are used in railroading as danger and cautionary signals. To certain portions of the eye these colors will appear drab, yellow, black or some other color. As the victim cannot recognize this defect himself, an engineer or fireman might possess it for months and not know that he was misinterpreting signals unless an accident occurred.

Unless taken in time endlyopia produces total blindness by killing the optic nerve. If a cure is effected and the patient continues the use of tobacco or liquor, as the case may be, the disease is very likely to recur, when it is still more difficult to cure. Eye specialists unite in declaring that if endlyopia maintains its present ratio of increase it will not be more than a quarter of a century before it will be one of the common eye troubles. Scotoma is one of the most dreaded enemies to the safety in train operation, and railroad officials rightly recognize that they must wage unceasing war against anything which produces it.—Chicago Record-Herald.

RUSSIAN EXPANSION.

Methods That Suggest the Fable of the Humble Camel.

Privileges are obtained for her merchants and caravans to pass into or through the coveted country for trade; to open stores and banks; to trade at ports and navigate rivers; to establish post routes with their various stations for exchange of drivers and horses, and to install consuls at various places. Concessions are secured for cutting timber or operating mines on certain tracts of land, and rights are produced whereby Russia and her subjects may buy land and build consulates, stores and factories, and also dwellings for those who are connected with the various enterprises.

Rights are also obtained, or taken, to protect consulates and other Russian property, and to protect the government. Army reconnoitering expeditions are sent into the country with goods, disguised as merchants, or accompanied by a detachment of Cossacks and claiming to be purely scientific expeditions. Out of pure generosity concessions, which when asked for are represented as unimportant, assume great significance after they are granted, and are rigorously enforced and greatly expanded. What may pose as a legitimate and perfectly harmless business arrangement is extended, as later construed by Russia, to cover privileges for beyond anything the victim ever dreamed of. The concessions which Russia exacts from others are rarely accompanied with equivalent or adequate returns, and more often nothing is granted in exchange.—Charles W. Barnaby, in World's Work.

The Funny Side of Life.

PAVING THE WAY.

Though love, they say, "will find the way,"
There's one thing may delay it;
The lover's mind is taxed to find
The wherewithal to pay it.
—Catholic Standard and Times.

A TRAMP'S REVENGE.

"Say, boss, have you got a quarter?"
"No, I haven't."
"You look it."—Brooklyn Life.

JANE HAD HER REASON.

"Jane, why don't you wash those windows? I can't look out."
"Well, if I wash 'em the neighbors will look in."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

WITHIN LIMITS.

"Why, I understand they were simply rolling in wealth."
"Well, I believe they have to be rather careful not to roll too far."—Philadelphia Press.

DANGEROUS.

Frank—"What success did you have on your hunting trip in Maine?"
Arthur—"Bully. I shot two guides and wounded a lumberman."—Chelsea (Mass.) Gazette.

FEMININE CHARITY.

"My motto," said Miss Elderleigh, "is 'Never say die.'"
"And, of course," rejoined Miss Youngerton, "I don't blame you for living up to it."—Chicago News.

WHY THEY DIDNT.

"Hazel came over to-night to study with me," explained Dorothy.
"And did you do much studying?"
"Well, we would have if there hadn't been so much to talk about."—Chicago Post.

FAIR PLAY.

Edmonia—"Have you any rules in your married life?"
Eustacia—"Yes; Eustace insists that the one who begins the quarrel must begin the making up."—Detroit Free Press.

HELPING HIS WIFE.

Wife—"I have been thinking I ought to give you a birthday present, Harold."
Husband—"Oh, well, just write down what it shall be and I'll buy it on my way uptown."—Town Topics.

BUSINESS TRUTH.

"The P. X. & Y. is the most enterprising railroad in the country."
Jumppe—"Why?"
"They now run excursions and observation trains to the scenes of all their important wrecks."—Life.

NOTHING HOME-MADE.

Mrs. Gaddie—"I see you're going in for society. Has your daughter made her debut yet?"
Mrs. Nuritch—"Well, I should say not. She got all them things made to order in Paris."—Philadelphia Press.

KNEW HIS BUSINESS.

Fair Customer—"I only wear number twos, but these don't fit me."
The Clerk—"No; they're too large. I'll get you a smaller pair." (To the stock boy)—"Get me a pair of fives."

PROFIT WITH THE BRUSH.

"Do you think it possible for a man who is clever with the brush to make a living these days?" asked the discouraged artist.
"Yes," responded the cruel cynic, "if he is a bootblack."—Philadelphia Record.

ONE WAY OF PUTTING IT.

The old farmer was telling a story that was very hard to believe. The neighbor, who had been in several horse trades with him, listened in silence for a while. Then he spoke:
"Look-a-here!" he said. "Are you talkin' horse or truth?"—Chicago Post.

HESITATED AND DIDN'T LOSE.

"Never was glad for this impediment in my speech but once," said the man from the country.
"When was that?"
"Fe-fe-fellow asked me h-h-how much I would take for a-a horse, and while I-I-I was t-trying to t-tell him f-forty pounds he offered me fifty."—Tit-Bits.

SECOND NATURE.

"I fear," said his host next morning, "you didn't sleep well last night. Every time I woke up I could hear you thrashing around in your bed."
"I ought to have told you," apologized the guest, a man from Kansas City. "I've got so used to floods that I tread water in my sleep."—Chicago Tribune.

NO HOLDING THEM BACK.

Mr. Bowman—"I remember attending a birthday party of Miss Passay's several years ago that was quite an elaborate affair."
Miss Sharpe—"Yes?"
Mr. Bowman—"Yes; she doesn't keep her birthdays now as she used to."
Miss Sharpe—"No; she would like to keep them, no doubt, but they come and go with alarming frequency."—Philadelphia Press.

The hottest place on earth is Bohrein, on an island in the Persian Gulf, which has a mean annual temperature of ninety-nine degrees.