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A gain over 1891 of 107,369 Advt.

THESE GREAT TOTALS WERE NEVER BEFORE EQUALLED BY ANY PAPER PRINTED IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

THE WORLD will not, under any circumstances, hold itself responsible for the contents of any letters or pictures...

THE EVENING WORLD'S Net paid bona fide actual daily Average Circulation is greater than the combined circulation of the...

Evening Sun, Mail and Express, Evening Post, Commercial Advertiser, Evening Telegram.

There are a great many good things on ice these days.

The politicians didn't get the blanks in the first municipal drawing of the year.

Baltimore Republicans are now drawing the color line just outside the party.

Of the building of new hotels and theaters there seems to be no end in New York just now.

Things having come to a close here in the Kansas Legislature, of course Mr. LEASE can no longer be considered in the Senatorial field.

The forces urging towards New York-Brooklyn consolidation are ceaseless in their operations.

It is a desperate catch-as-catch-can wrestle that the health officers are having with the typhus.

Electric lighting should long ago have become an established system in all well-regulated railway passenger services.

Ex-Mayor HEWITT says he has grown wiser as to the rapid transit question. So has the public. No kidding to the "L" road.

The State Legislature, on its first two days, set itself an example of promptness which it may well follow throughout the session.

The World's crusade for good roads in the Annexed District is awakening an interest which must result most beneficially.

Consent should be accorded promptly in accordance with Gov. MORRIS'S recommendation and reconstruct its ancient and antiquated Constitution.

It may be true, as published, that Mr. CLEVELAND has never seen Mr. PLATT. But it is certain that he has more than once gone him one better.

Chicago firemen can be heroes, too. They proved it by their gallant rescue of comrades yesterday from a huge building wrecked by flame and natural gas.

The nerviest officer has turned up in Elizabeth. He exchanged a \$5 bill for the intended victim's check for the amount,

in order to get a pattern for his forgery. It's sometimes wise to put a limit on one's accommodation to plausible strangers in the matter of checks and signatures.

REAL REVISION. The Legislature did well to pass the bill amending the Constitutional Convention law, so as to avoid a midwinter election, before the recess. The people want and the State needs a revision of the Constitution. We have outgrown some of its provisions and experience has pointed out improvements that can be made in others.

The people did not want a midwinter election, and hence the amendment to the law was desirable. The Republicans, who oppose every Democratic measure, necessarily without reason or with reason, were compelled to admit that the law as now framed is a fair one, and made no very serious opposition to the passage of the bill.

Now let both parties take care to send their very best men as delegates to the Convention, and we shall secure a Constitution that will insure the progress and prosperity of the State for another fifty years.

A CASE IN POINT. Mr. HAMILTON WOOD, formerly a picture-leader at 836 Broadway, tells a very strange story and makes a serious charge against his wife, who has been confined in an insane asylum for nearly thirteen years.

Mr. Wood protests that he was all the time perfectly sane. The asylum in which he was placed is at Danvers, Mass. He was transferred to Worcester a year ago. Of course, the story needs confirmation so far as the claim to sanity is concerned.

Mr. Wood says he has sent letters to friends begging them to obtain his release some of times during the period of his incarceration. But when they visited the asylum they were told he was insane and that seems to have satisfied them. At last some old companion procured his liberation.

A few days ago the Attorney-General of this State decided that all private lunatic asylums must be licensed by the State Board and thus come under the supervision and partial control of the Board.

Mr. Wood's case points the expediency and humanity of this requirement. If asylums can be run without any supervision by the proper authorities, cases of unjust and cruel imprisonment in such places may be possible, and the possibility of such a brutality should not be allowed to exist.

BROOKLYN'S FIRE SCANDAL. The charges or allegations made against the Brooklyn Fire Department by representatives of the Board of Underwriters yesterday are of a very serious character.

Mr. J. H. WASHINGTON, of the Home Insurance Company, who was the spokesman, told Mayor Boony that the Department was accused of the grossest breaches of discipline. Among other things it was said that they had gouged fixed in saloons to give them signals while they were looting and plundering in such resorts.

Mr. WASHINGTON expressed a doubt whether a man who spent much of his time on race tracks and in his own yacht was fit person for Chief of a Fire Department, or was likely to secure discipline in the force.

The fact was elicited that the introduction of the trolley railway system was regarded by the underwriters as increasing the hazard, and was one of the reasons for raising the rate of insurance.

The charges against the Fire Department are to be made in writing and then Mayor Boony is to appoint a committee to investigate them. The people ought to demand that the investigation shall be thorough.

PARALLEL CASES. Mayor Boony has stirred up the political fire by his proposition to draw them all into limits of the city of Brooklyn.

The Mayor told the people of the towns that dual governments caused needless expense and were productive of anti-social purposes, while concentrated responsibility would stimulate enterprise and enhance the value of property.

He now finds the Supervisors, the town constables, and every seedy politician who can pick up a dollar out of a town job, "jumping upon him with both feet," as the political vernacular expresses it.

One Supervisor calls Mayor Boony's suggestion ridiculous, and says that when the people of his town want to be annexed to Brooklyn they will say so.

Does not Mayor Boony recognize in the opposition of the politicians of the county towns to his proposition of annexation and the approval of the people, an exact parallel to the situation in the case of the proposed union of the two cities? The political harpies fight upon tooth and nail.

The honest people desire union, heart and soul. The arguments the Mayor uses in support of annexation are precisely applicable to union. Why then was Mayor Boony silent in his message on the greater question of the union of New York and Brooklyn?

THE MICHIGAN ELECTORAL LAW. The Republicans, holding control of both houses of the Michigan Legislature, promise to repeal the Miner Electoral law, which provides that Presidential electors shall be chosen by Congressional districts. The law did not please the Republicans last year, because without it they would have secured the entire electoral vote of the State, while under the Miner law the electors are divided.

As soon as a law works politically against the Republicans, the party clamors for its repeal. The question of the public good does not enter into consideration. "If the law offends thee, wipe it off the statute book," is the principle, or the want of principle, on which the politicians act. The Republicans were blatant for the enactment of Ballot Reform laws on the Australian plan everywhere, and rated the Democrats on their alleged opposition to such a beneficent measure. Now that the Ballot Reform laws work

against the Republicans by securing the secrecy of the ballot and preventing bribery, they are equally loud in demanding their repeal.

These are very small political methods. The West is growing more and more Democratic every year, and the chances are that if the Michigan Republican Legislature repeals the Miner act the whole electoral vote of the State in 1896 will be cast for the Democratic candidates. The progress of thought and judgment among the people cannot be checked by special legislation any more than the waves of the sea can be swept back with a brush broom.

FAINTING BRIDE. Swarming during the wedding ceremony is becoming fashionable. In the past month there have been several instances of interrupted rites, due to nervous collapse in the presence of matrimony. The other day a bridegroom fainted, three times in the church, and this morning we learn that a bridegroom (N. J.) fainted in a minute made herself a source of solicitude to a few of the wedding guests. There was so much unconsciousness in the ensemble that the ceremony was adjourned to another day.

Her mother who didn't want to see her fainting alone, thought she'd take "some of the same" and in a minute made herself a source of solicitude to a few of the wedding guests. There was so much unconsciousness in the ensemble that the ceremony was adjourned to another day.

It seems all right for a bride to be overwhelmed by her feelings on the happiest day of her life, but for a bridegroom to let go of his presence of mind or a prospective mother-in-law to forget her wifely and maternal duties on such an occasion looks a little remarkable, and there can be scarcely any other excuse for it than that swooning brides and fainting bridegrooms are the latest freaks of fashion.

There would probably be more fainting brides at the altar if all of them knew what matrimony had in store for them. But the men and the mothers-in-law always get the best of matrimony, and they have no business to pretend to have epileptic or cataleptic fits over the closing of the bargain.

Two Russian Generals interviewed in Paris think a war with Germany would be popular. It would certainly furnish an engaging subject for international discussion and would be much more exciting than the peace of Europe. But the cost it would involve in blood ought to make even the idea of it unpopular in this country.

So Force-Bill LORON is to go to the Senate! Well, the people have fixed things so that he can't do much damage anywhere in Congress; so he might as well be in the upper as in the lower house.

The idea is to get at the childish fancy, otherwise the collection is worthless. With this object in view, a source of great amusement to the children, I propose to get my lists of books from the children who read books—not merely have them, but who read them and are familiar with their characters.

From these lists we shall stock the book shelves. The collection of these lists is much more difficult than perhaps you imagine, for we shall include the titles, not to get the literary influence of the adult, either at home, in the public library, the school or book store.

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CHILD'S COLUMBIAN LIBRARY.

Mrs. Clara Doty Bates, a Distinguished Lady, Has It Planned.

A List of Fighting Books from a Boy of Eleven Years.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—There is to be a library in the "Children's Home" at the World's Fair.

Mrs. Clara Doty Bates was selected by the Trustees of the Home to select the material and conduct the work.

Aside from the possession of superior qualifications she has the good fortune of being late and, as a result, her plans are succeeding, her work is progressing and there are indications that "The Children's Columbian Library" will become famous the library world over.

Mrs. Bates is a sweet, sympathetic woman. She comes from a family that has distinguished itself in educational, literary and professional circles, and she is personally, as well as intellectually, fitted for the honor that her friends have conferred upon her.

First of all, she understands children and she has the happy faculty of making them understand her. What she calls "invaluable material" in her present work comes from the boys and girls who visit her or whom she visits.

She has been deluged with books ever since her connection with the work began, and it would astonish some of the New York contributors if they knew with what supreme indifference she received them.

She says that she emphatically refuses to accept the literary judgment of big folks; she will not even look at the lists of "selected reading for Sunday-school and family libraries," and she is determined to protect the youngsters from the book-making quacks who, pill-façon, coat their sermons and lectures with romance and adventure.

"I want this little library to be modelled from the child's point of view," Mrs. Bates remarked yesterday as she wearily cut her way through a mass of publishers' letters.

"The books are to represent the literary tastes of the children; they are not for library furniture, nor for the parents; they are for the children, and if they do not please the children they will be eliminated."

"We want to educate the old folks and please the young folks, which is reversing the usual order of things, the average book buyer placing himself under the delusion of educating the child."

"If the boys of this generation like fighting books, they shall have them, and if it pleases the little girls to read party stories we shall include the titles. I propose to get my lists of books from the children who read books—not merely have them, but who read them and are familiar with their characters."

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FACTURERS AND DESIGNERS, TOGETHER WITH ALL MANUFACTURERS OF STATIONERY GOODS SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN'S USE.

One feature of the library will be a big round table, without any cover and with plenty of room for elbows. All the standard magazines in all the languages will be on file, and everything will be at the command of the children.

The walls are to be adorned with the portraits of cherished authors, and in the decorations of the walls quotations, mottoes and sweet words will be inscribed.

Mrs. Clara Doty Bates's library work will be watched with interest, and even now there is talk of perpetuating the Children's Columbian Library, so certain is its success.

SPICED SCISSORINGS. Tracton Company vs. People. (From the Philadelphia Record.)

The last round showed the people with both eyes blackened, two arms broken and a leg clean gone, but the Tracton Company is still safe.

The Harmony of Absorption. (From the Boston Courier Journal.)

If Tammany continues to swallow Republicans and County Democrats at the present rate, it will restore a harmony as unruffled as the silky coat of a well-fed cat.

The Finest Point in Heresy. (From the Chicago Times.)

Dr. Briggs is to be tried again. Supporting the highest ecclesiastical court him guilty, would it be best to hang the sixty-eight? Heretics have just voted for his acquittal!

Where Canoes Shouldn't Be King. (From the San Francisco Journal.)

A Massachusetts Senator never has been elected by a caucus. He never should be.

Mr. Peffer's Altered Plans. (From the Chicago Times.)

Senator Peffer, of Kansas, has decided to act with the Democrats, thus making a considerable change in his arrangements. It was Peffer's original plan that the Democrats should act with him.

With It's Wilderness Redeemed. (From the Chicago Mail.)

With elevated tracks, clean streets, pure water and pure air Chicago will become habitable again.

WORLDLINGS. Bismarck is said to be increasing greatly among the lower classes in Germany.

A London confecturer says that he is sometimes called to furnish wedding cakes weighing 1,000 pounds each and puddings of a size sufficient for 500 happy appetites.

Every town in Mexico has a public bath-house. Pennsylvania produces more cigars than any other State in the Union.

There are fifty-seven counties in Texas, each of which is larger than Rhode Island.

Christopher Brown, an old man of sixty-six years, in the Philadelphia almshouse, is said to be the oldest locomotive engineer in this country. He ran the old engine "John Bull" on the Albany and Schenectady road fifty-nine years ago.

The historic chateau at Cirey, France, has been sold to a rich manufacturer for \$500,000. It was once the home of Voltaire.

There are 27,000 places for the sale of liquor in Paris, and throughout the Republic there is one saloon for every thirty-seven people.

The profits of the Post-Office amounted last year to \$10,000,000.

In the treasures of the Vatican there is a pearl valued at \$100,000.

Why He Went Insane. I had just taken my seat in the car when an elderly gentleman entered, closely followed by a young man of decidedly fashionable appearance. They secured seats near mine and were soon absorbed in their newspapers, says a writer in the Chicago News.

Finally the elderly lowered his paper and said: "By the way, Frank, what has become of Singleton? I haven't seen him for some time."

"He was adjudged insane and is now in an asylum," said Frank.

"Can't be possible? Why, what was the cause?"

"Oh, he was a crank, and his mind was continually agitated in his frantic endeavors to start some new society last. When Mrs. B. gave her first dove dinner his actions and efforts to counterbalance it by some new scheme of benevolence were a source of great amusement to all the fellows. He finally dropped that, and everything went smoothly with him until Miss Ritchey gave a pink tea. Singleton's wheel again started to revolve and he issued invitations to all the fellows to attend a white breakfast, to be given at his home."

"Did you go?"

"Oh, yes."

"Or what did the dinner consist of?"

"White bread, celery and abstinence."

"Well," said the old gentleman, as he arose to leave the car, "I don't wonder that he was sent to an asylum."

Ridley. (From Texas Slings.)

Irate Father—Young man! I am enraged, that you should seek to marry my daughter on so short an acquaintance. You are almost a stranger to her.

Little Girl—Well, she doesn't take any more chances than I do. She's almost a stranger to me, too.

His Fame. (From Paris.)

Brownlee—Atkins never had much popularity as an artist, did he?

Whitehall—No; but he enjoyed a fame that was not based upon popularity.

Brownlee—What was his fame based upon, then?

Whitehall—Why, upon the fact that he never called a work "Twilight's Dreamy Hour," or "A Gray Day."

A Pleasant Struggle. (From Texas Slings.)

Customer—What makes your handkerchief so with that razor?

Barber—Why, boss, I use you to do it.

"The Razor?"

"Yes, boss, but don't be afraid; it is ten minutes before you come out, and you see every day's a day's symptoms."



FANCY COSTUMES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

The Juvenile Cyclist—Low bodice and short straight skirt in steel-gray serge or cloth, decorated with two large wheels roughly embroidered with thread. Ribbon round the neck and down the front, to represent the girths and straps. Fastenings in steel case or tin, plated and wired in the semblance of wheels. Toy lantern at the top of the head. Horn slung with a ribbon on the side. Steel chain round the neck. A miniature cycle in paste diamonds shines on each rosette on the kid shoes.

ostich feather. With the shawl and mink effects of the fashionable materials of the day it is easy to make up this costume so as to imitate the coat of some favorite pet.

No. 3. The Pretty Gipsy—Blouse and ball gown sleeves in white serge or muslin, corset with straps and waist tabs in pink satin, set off with gold piping and lacing. Skirt in striped lace, surrounded with a garland of wheat ears and field flowers, to correspond with the large bunch in the rustic hat and the still larger one held by the pitcher, stickle in hand.

No. 4. The Little Minstrel—Cotton skirt, gaily striped, inguinalion, chemise, short puffed sleeves, and apron in white linen or muslin. Corset in black velvet, fastened with gilt buttons. Gown, girdle, to which are suspended two diminutive bouquets. At the back radiate windmill sails in painted cardboard. Cap and stockings striped cotton hosiery. Wooden shoes.

No. 5. The Florentine Girl Minstrel—Low bodice and short skirt, draped on the side in cream-colored satin, with jewel embroidery. Neckline to correspond. Long-sleeved sleeves, divided in several puffings by gold cord, and fastened at the side with antique studs. Jockey puffs and front panel in Venetian red velvet. Guitar in the hand. Velvet hat, encircled with gold girdle, and embellished with a tuft of shaded green ostrich tips. Embroidered walking stick.

No. 6. The King of Niniphus—Grass-green plush and satin, enhanced with sash and stripes on the armholes in deep green. Ruffie in white muslin. A row of satellites in card board or wood divides the full sleeves in two puffings, three larger puffs appear in front of the blouse, a large satin macaron, slightly padded, represents the ball or bowl. Hat in tan felt, bound with gold braid, and embellished with a tuft of shaded green ostrich tips. Embroidered walking stick.

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