THE GREATEST NEGRO CENTRE

IT IS IN WASHINGTON, AND NOT IN THE SOUTH.

More Negroes There Than in Any Southern City—Uses They Have Made of Their Opportunities at the National Capital—How the Whites Regard Them.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24.—There are more negroes in the city of Washington than in any other city of the Union. According to the census of 1900 the District of Columbia, coextensive with the city of Washington, then contained more negroes than any county in the United States. Since then one county has probably passed Washington, but Washington still leads among the cities.

In Washington the negroes comprise, however, less than one-third of the total population, while in fifty-five Southern counties and one Southern city they form at least three-fourths of the total population. The excess of negroes over whites is greatest in Issaquena county, Miss., with more than fifteen negroes to each white person. But in Issaquena county there were in 1900 only 9,771 negroes, while in the District of Columbia there were more than 86,000.

There is no prospect that the census figures of 1910 will cause Washington to lose its position as the city having the largest negro population. In every other city whose negro population is anywhere near that of the capital the rate of increase among those of African descent is higher than it is in Washington, but even in these circumstances there can hardly be a change in the relative position of this city.

Baltimore, the most populous Southern city, with 508,957 inhabitants, nearly double the population of Washington, contained 79,258 negroes in 1900, while Washington, with 278,234 inhabitants, contained 86,702 negroes. Thus Baltimore was second. The third city on the list is New Orleans, with 77,714 negroes out of a total population of 287,104. This is a surprising showing, for New Orleans is in the region generally designated as the black belt, while Washington is several hundred miles north of it.

The city of Memphis, Tenn., contained in 1900 only 49,910 negroes, but as Washington, Baltimore and New Orleans embrace the entire counties in which they are situated, another comparison between them and Memphis may be given by considering the figures for Shelby county, of which Memphis is the county seat. The total population of Shelby county in 1900 was 153,557, and the negroes numbered 84,773. This comparison places Shelby county second on the list with 1,929 fewer negroes than the District of Columbia.

In Memphis city the white population outnumbered the negro by 2,470, but in Shelby county, including Memphis, the negroes outnumbered the whites by 15,989. In percentages of the races Memphis stands first among large American cities as having the greatest proportionate negro population, with 48.8 per cent. of residents of black blood; Washington being second with 31.1 per cent.; New Orleans third, with 27.1 per cent.; Louisville fourth, with 19.1 per cent., and Baltimore fifth, with only 15.6 per cent.

While Washington will almost certainly contain more negroes than any other city when the thirteenth census is taken, six years hence, the District of Columbia, considered as a county, will take second place to Shelby county, Tennessee, if the present ratios of increase are continued. In Memphis the negro population increased between 1890 and 1900 at the enormous rate of 73.9 per cent., but for the whole of Shelby county the rate of increase was only 37.5 per cent.

With an equal proportionate gain in the current decade, Shelby county will contain 116,562 negroes in 1910, or about 17,000 more than the District will probably contain. With the same relative increase for the four years that have passed since the last census was taken, Shelby county has now more negroes than any other county in the United States, including the District of Columbia. It is estimated that it now contains 97,488 persons of African blood, or about 6,000 more than the District of Columbia.

In more ways than one the District of Columbia presents opportunities for a study of the negro question not found in any other part of the United States. Here the negro has no place as a political factor. He has greater advantages than elsewhere in the Union.

He has been fostered and cared for by private organizations; laws for his benefit have been passed, and while retaining the benefit of living in the kindlier climate of the South, he has been thrown into contact with thousands of white persons who, born and reared in the North and West, have come here with none of that prejudice which exists among the Caucasians of the Southern States.

The negro of Washington has free common and high schools operated on exactly the same basis as free schools for whites; he has colleges; his color is no legal bar to appointment to public office; he is as eligible as a white lawyer to practise before the courts; the law requires that he shall be permitted, if he can afford to do so, to eat in the best restaurants, sleep in the best hotels and be admitted to the best theatres patronized by the whites, and he is not compelled to ride in a separate compartment of a street car or steam railway coach. Altogether, his opportunities, from a legal and educational standpoint, are ideal. In no other Southern city is he so protected by law or cared for in other ways.

Without doubt it is the opinion of an overwhelming majority of the white persons of Washington that the negro has not shown himself to be a desirable citizen, in spite of the great advantages he has possessed here. Whatever may have been the feeling toward the black man by those Northerners and Westerners who settled in Washington after the close of the civil war, most of them to become office holders, their children share the popular feeling against the negro.

This feeling has become intensified within recent years. It is contended by many Washingtonians that the people of the North and West who believe that negroes should be treated as equals by the whites become bitterly anti-negro after living in Washington, more so than Southerners who understand the race and are prone to look leniently on its failings.

The Washington people from States where the negro population is infinitesimal come in closest contact with the colored race mainly through house servants, and the difference between these and white domestics is so much to the disadvantage of the former, principally in regard to honesty, neatness and stability, that the prejudice excited is soon applied to the whole race.

The white Washingtonian will read an indictment against his negro fellow citizen that embraces many serious specifications. He will say that the negro is shiftless, dishonest, uncleanly, discourteous and a nuisance in the community. He will assert that negroes comprise an overwhelming majority of the criminal class and a very small proportion of the tax paying class.

He will tell of instances in which the behavior of negroes in public places was intolerable. One of the most general charges is that the black man, when treated with consideration, will endeavor to take advantage of it.

The antipathy to the negro prevailing here among the whites does not extend to former slaves—the old "mammy" and "uncle" class. These aged persons are respected by most people and regarded with affection by many. It is against the colored man known locally as the "new" negro that the prejudice is greatest.

Police records compiled a few years ago showed that 86 per cent. of Washington's criminal class were negroes, and this in face of the fact that negroes comprise less than one-third of the total population. Their crimes are mainly theft and assault.

As the District of Columbia is a political nonentity, it cannot be asserted that the prejudice against the negro here arises from politics. There is a strong feeling, however, among Washington's white population against restoring the voting franchise to the District. The main objection is the opportunity that would be given the negroes to decide contests, through holding the balance of power, and thus enable them to have a part in the administration of the government.

A report recently issued by the Census Bureau shows that in the District of Columbia, with 23,072 negro males of voting age, 6,024, or 26.1 per cent., were illiterate. In New York State the percentage of illiteracy among negro males of voting age was 11.3. In New Jersey it was 18.3 and in Massachusetts 10.5. It was lowest in California, with 4.9 per cent.

One reason for the high percentage of illiteracy among negroes here is that many of them are former slaves who did not have school facilities. Another is that negroes begin to earn a livlihood at a much earlier age than whites, and the number of negro children receiving wages is far greater proportionately than the number of white children so situated.

But it is contended by some that the high degree of illiteracy among the colored people is due to racial incapability and indifference. Many negroes, however, seek the higher education, and it is said that those who reach the high schools are nearly all ambitious to become lawyers, physicians or college professors.

Manual training schools for negroes have been established as part of the public school system, but it is asserted that the tendency of most of those who are able to continue their studies for any considerable length of time is to prefer the academic and scientific branches to the mechanical. The ability to recite Greek, Latin or any of the foreign modern languages appeals strongly to the negro character. A total of 11,368 negroes, 4,968 of whom were males and 6,400 females, were attending school in the District of Columbia in 1900.

The negroes of the District of Columbia are largely of the servant and waiter class. According to the census of 1900 of 25,115 male negroes over 10 years of age engaged in some occupation, 525 performed professional services, of whom 135 were clergymen, 38 were lawyers, 93 musicians and teachers of music, 69 physicians and surgeons, 106 were teachers and professors in colleges, and 19 were Government officials. There were 422 males classified as "bookkeepers, clerks, stenographers, &c."

Among the females over 10 years, 23,448 had some occupation. These included 519 in professional service, among them 47 teachers of music and musicians and 448 teachers and professors in colleges. There were 21,018 women engaged in personal and domestic service and 100 bookkeepers' clerks, stenographers, &c.

"The negroes differ from the whites in having a larger proportion of single, widowed and divorced and a smaller proportion of married," says the recent census bulletin on the negro.

In January, 1902, the Department of Labor issued a bulletin on the negro, which contained this statement:

"Legal marriage is not considered absolutely necessary [among negroes]. Of forty couples who reported themselves as married only twenty were legally married in the church or by civil authorities. Numerous cases are seen of two persons legally married and yet each living with a different person and reported as being married to the second."

Of 33,348 male negroes in the District of Columbia 21,974 were single and 14,572 married. Of the female negroes 25,753 were single and 15,501 married, while 6,854 were widows, as against 1,683 widowers. In the census year there were 10,006 more negro females than negro males in the District of Columbia. The census returns show that the negro race has a much larger proportion of children than the white race.

In 1890, the figures for 1900 not having been compiled, 26.2 per cent. of the District's negro population was mulatto, a greater percentage than in any Southern State. The proportion of mulattoes is greater in cities, where the association between whites and negro house servants is more common than in the country districts. In Rhode Island, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Ohio, Michigan and Maine, the proportion of mulattoes to the total negro population is greater than in the District of Columbia. In 1860 the proportion here was 38 per cent. In 1870 it dropped to 18.5 per cent.

Figures compiled from the records of places where vital statistics are registered show that the negro death rate is 30.2 per thousand and the white death rate for the same places was 17.8 per thousand. There is great mortality among negro children in the District of Columbia, and this is true of the negro population generally.

Of 55,465 persons in the District of Columbia who in 1900 owned or hired the houses in which they live, 30,890 were native whites, 7,125 foreign whites and 17,269 were negroes. While 38,015 out of a white population of 192,000 owned their homes, only 1,909 negroes out of a colored population of 86,000 owned their homes. Of negro families in the District 11.8 per cent. owned houses and 88.2 per cent. hired the houses in which they lived.

IS THE GOLFER MAN'S ENEMY?

An Answer to the Question That Won a Cash Prize.

Prime Minister Balfour has described the drive at golf and the half volley at cricket as giving sensations almost æsthetic in intensity and quality. Volumes have been written to define every phase of golf and to analyze every stroke, from the practical to the artistic viewpoint, but it remained for the English periodical, *Tit-Bits*, to propound the extraordinary conundrum, "Is the golfer the enemy of man?" The one pound prize has been awarded to the following answer, sent in by V. Sutherland of Pendle road, Streatham, London, who deserves to be famous.

"Certainly not," says Mr. Sutherland. "Of all games golf is the one which, owing to its supreme difficulty, calls forth the qualities of perseverance and dogged endeavor to the highest pitch. It is also one of the healthiest of all games, inasmuch as the exercise is not so compressed in point of time as to become too 'hot and strong.' It is usually played in the healthiest spots where the air is purest and freshest. It is for young and old alike, for sunshine and rain, aye, even for snow; and it can be played by a man alone if he cannot raise a partner. Finally, it is essentially a game which demands qualities of head as well as of hand, in fact it is said that it is because golf is such a worry to play that it forms such a fine antidote for the ordinary workaday worries, for one is so worried by one's game that one can think of nothing else."

Fifteen Hundred Terrapin Lost in Storm.

Ocean cock correspondence Baltimore Sun.

The large terrapin ponds of Frank C. Lewis at Hunting Creek were destroyed by the great storm Wednesday night. Mr. Lewis is the largest terrapin raiser on the Chesapeake Bay and annually ships hundreds of the finest diamond back terrapins in the world to the large hotels in New York, to the United States Senate's restaurant at Washington and to his customers scattered over the entire country.

The terrapin are put in still ponds, boarded and wired in, and lay their eggs in the sand. Many young terrapin are raised in this way, and altogether the industry has been a most profitable one. The terrific wind brought in the huge tide and completely flooded the ponds and drowned nearly all the terrapin. The animals were driven from the ponds and killed by the tossing of the choppy sea. Some were driven ashore and turned on their backs, and when the waves would beat over them finally died from exhaustion. The number of terrapin killed is about 1,500, valued at $4,000.

Moon and Change of Weather.

From St. Nicholas.

The moon is the most powerful agent in producing the tides on the earth; it also produces some slight variations in the earth's magnetism.

So far as science has been able to investigate, there is absolutely no change in the weather which can be attributed to the moon, although half or more of mankind seem to believe that the moon does have some control over the weather. All such beliefs, including the time for planting gardens and for going fishing, are mere superstitions—the survivals of an age of ignorance.

POEMS WORTH READING.

"Thou Hast a Noble Guest, O Flesh."

Put by thy weaknesses, O trembling flesh,
Summon thy will to grapple with thy foes;
Faint not with terror 'neath the stinging blows
Dealt by the cares which hold thee in their mesh.
Fear this, and only this—that thou should'st fail
To rise above the littleness of life,
To gather strength and courage from its strife,
And from its deepest meaning raise the veil.

Forget not that thou hast a noble guest,
Who, from the watchtower of thy inmost thought,
With gladness sees thee in thy upward quest,
And sorrows when earth's dross thy heart hath bought;
This guest, who lifts thee from thy brother clod,
Is coeternal with Almighty God!

NINETTE M. LOWATER.

A War of Words.

Lo! and Behold, two words by bards oft sung,
Whose tender friendship none had dared to doubt
(The Damon and the Pythias of our tongue),
One day, most unexpectedly fell out—
"I really feel obliged," remarked Behold,
"To end our close relationship of old.

"You see, I am a word of pedigree
(My father is an old and well known verb),
"While you are but an exclamation free
Whose whims no measured conjugations curb.
Pray, let's be joined no longer, I beseech,
I really can't be seen with you in speech!

"Come, come!" says Lo! "I am the condiment
Which readers crave—alone you are too cold,
I am the verbal mustard which has lent
To both of us——" "Get out!" exclaims Behold,
"You have no fine, syllable equipoise,
You're just a coarse, unpolished chunk of noise!"

"Ungrateful word!" cries Lo! "Without my aid
In common speech of you there'd be no trace,
Entombed in Shakespeare's day you would have stayed.
Plebeian 'See' had long usurped your place!
Come, come! You are too stiff—I am too rude!
Consider that!—and cry a truce to feud!"

Wise words of Lo!—yet snobbish doubts disturb
The glum Behold; convinced, he still looks black,
"I am," he growls, "related to a verb——"
"Oh, very well!" snaps Lo!—and turns his back.
To-day in speech a living still they eke
Together—but (alas!) they seldom speak.

THOMAS R. YBARRA.

To Ride Beside the Gila.

O to ride beside the Gila!
Loping down the desert trails,
While among the gray-green bushes
Scamper flocks of plumed quails!

Where the flooded Gila ripples,
'Neath the Anjora sun
By the Maricopa mountains,
Where the Pima ponies run!

Where its turbid waters tumble,
Golden with their wealthy stain,
Muddy food and liquid richness
For the irrigated grain!

When its bed was dry as desert
I have ridden therein, too;
When the curled mud cracked like pot sherds
'Neath the tread of hoof and shoe.

Where the awi-koli lizard flashes
I have wandered far and free;
By the grease wood, and the mezquite
And the oas juhwert-pot tree.

With the dust cloud floating after,
And the buzzard circling there,
And upon my cheek the burning
Of the sweet and fiery air.

Softest wind, but hotly kissing
Is the wind the Gila knows,
As it twirls the little whirlwind,
Or through your siesta blows.

Or at night comes cool, caressing
To your couch beneath the stars:
"Mine the breath of leagues of freedom,
Sleep on, friend, forget the bars!"

Bahn, coyotes' tracks here pattern,
Yonder leaps the long-eared hare,
Doves in hundreds coo and flutter
Wild the scene, but O how fair!

All around the tinted desert,
All around the painted hills—
O to ride beside the Gila,
What a longing it fulfils.

J. WILLIAM LLOYD.

PIMA RESERVATION Arizona.

To Publius Pulcher: From the Swedish of Gustav Froding.

From the Westminster Review.

When at thy table sparkled the foaming vintage of Gr cia,
Grapes from Chios and Lesbos in vessels golden and crystal,
Shone against dainty dressed tongues of a thousand pheasants—
When from the swinging bronze came a gleam that illumined
Marbles from Paros—

When, under Tyrian purple, down-beds from Memphis
Lured on each guest to soft sybaritical slumber,
Cradled to dreams by the fluting of Attic musicians,
Frenzied by Lalage's dances on Indian carpets,
Flushed by the wine cup—

Then rose a flattering murmur of voices patrician,
Then the Senator sat with lips a-smile at thy table,
Then leapt applause from the hearts of friends without number,
"Thou art the first man in Rome and the foremost in Latium,
"Publius Pulcher!"

Now is thy dwelling barren and bare; at thy table
Flasks of Falernian mourn over poverty's victuals,
Bread of the pauper and misery's scantiest rations,
Dark is thy dwelling, and naked and chilly and bare as
Capreæ's grey cliffs.

The Shadow sits as a guest and familiar from old times,
Scowling close at thy side, staring and nodding and speechless.
Silence lingers and listens vainly for revellers' voices—
Barren thy dwelling and mute; not a voice breaks the stillness,
Ne'her a whisper.

Yet there cometh a time when a longing will take thee
Back to this hovel here, which now thou deemest so dreary,
Homeless—with nowhere to rest thy head in its anguish
Shamefaced then shalt thou slink through crowds of whilom clients,
Begging a bread crust.

When, as a beggar, thou in some low wine shop art sitting,
Butt for the vulgar jest of drunken harlot or bully,
Thinking sadly, perhaps, of five score talents long squandered,
Lalage's shaky old fingers, maybe, are proff'ring thee
Olives and cheap wine.

Mourn not, however, that Time has altered thy fortune,
Bleared wine old comrade's eyes that they may not behold thee,
Emptied thy coffers, and made thee the mate of the base thrall.
Life has thrown off her mask that thou, lighter-hearted,
May'st fare to Hades.

WILLIAM FREDERICK HARVEY.

In the Woods.

From the Somerville Journal.

The autumn leaves are getting bright
With hues of brown and red,
The forest is a wondrous blaze
Of color overhead.
And through the woods Myrtilla walks,
With Colin at her side,
And eagerly collects the leaves
By nature's colors dyed.

At last she finds a lovely one,
Unique among the rest,
And in her girlish way she cries:
"Oh, I must have that pressed!"
But how? She looks at Colin, with
A look that can be felt;
Then with a smile she slips the leaf
In underneath her belt.

The Enterprise.

I know an infant industry
Whose orders never cease,
The manufactured products sell
At just a cent apiece.

Within a building three feet high
The business has its home;
The gates are made of ivory,
And golden is the dome.

The factory runs all day long,
A most inspiring sight;
The heavy shipments mainly leave
By six o'clock at night.

It's been established just four years,
Of strikes is not afraid.
Small competition does it meet,
And loyal is its trade.

The owner, drummer, worker, all
Are found in one small miss
When Mabel perches on my knee
And tries to sell a kiss.

McLANDBURGH WILSON.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

A discussion has arisen as to the comparative losses of the Japanese and Russian forces during the recent engagement at Liaoyang and those of the Union and Confederate armies at Gettysburg. Will you kindly publish the best authenticated returns of the casualties in both events?

H. R. BOWEN.

There are no authentic figures yet available of the losses at Liaoyang, nor will there be any until long after the war is over. Published estimates have been mere guesswork and have ranged from 20,000 to 70,000. During the three days' fighting at Gettysburg the Federal army, according to official reports, lost 3,072 killed, 14,497 wounded and 5,434 captured or missing. The Confederate losses, according to official reports, which have been called in question, were 2,592 killed, 12,709 wounded and 5,150 captured or missing.

Can you give me a complete list of the published works of Mr. W. B. Yeats, the Irish poet?

S. O'NEIL.

POETRY.

"Mosada," a play reprinted from Dublin University Review, in pamphlet form, out of print and very scarce (1886).

"The Wanderings of Oisin and Other Poems" (1889).

"The Countess Kathleen and Various Legends and Lyrics" (1892).

"The Land of Heart's Desire." A play (1894).

"Poems." Selected (1895).

"The Wind Among the Reeds" (1899).

"Poems" (1899).

"The Shadowy Waters" (1900).

"Poems" (1901).

"In the Seven Woods." Poems chiefly of the Irish heroic age (1903).

"The King's Threshold." A limited edition privately printed in New York (1904). Out of print.

PROSE.

"John Sherman and Dhoya" (1891).

"The Celtic Twilight" (1893).

"The Secret Rose" (1897).

"The Tables of the Law. The Adoration of the Magi." Privately printed (1897).

"Cathleen-ni-Houlihan," a play (1901).

"The Celtic Twilight," new and revised edition (1901).

"Plays for an Irish Theatre," 2 vols. (1903).

"Ideas of Good and Evil," essays (1903).

Mr. Yeats has also edited the following works:

"Fairy and Folk Tales of the Irish Peasantry" (1889).

"Representative Irish Tales," 2 vols. (1890).

"Stories from Carleton" (1891).

"The Works of William Blake" (in conjunction with Mr. E. J. Ellis), 3 vols. (1893).

"Poems of William Blake" (1893).

"Irish Fairy Tales" (1894).

"A Book of Irish Verse" (1895).

"A Book of Images." Drawings by W. T. Horton (1895).

"Beltaine." The organ of the Irish Literary Theatre (1899-1900).

"A Book of Irish Verse," new issue, revised (1900).

"Samhain." The organ of the Irish National Theatre Society. 2 vols. (1901-1902).

Is the Hudson River salt water up as far as Esopus?

JACK PILOT.

No.

1. Who was the author of the little prayer, "Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep," &c.?

2. Is it not a fact that a number of years ago there was a foot bridge across Broadway at Fulton street and that said bridge was built for a permanent structure and not a temporary affair? If I am correct, when was it built, how much did it cost and when was it taken down? A. V. N.

1. We do not know. The lines occur in the 1777 reprint of the New England Primer and are said to have been in the earliest edition. 2. The Loew Bridge across Broadway at Fulton street was designed as a relief to the congested traffic of the lower streets of the city. It was completed in May, 1867, but, as few pedestrians used it, was taken down in the following year. We do not know what it cost.

Is the expression "I guess so and so" as used to-day an Americanism? I have heard it described as the survival of an obsolete English mode of speech.

T. M.

No. To "guess," as meaning to suppose, is an old Derbyshire provincialism still surviving. In the glossary of the Clarendon edition of Chaucer we find: "*Gesse*, to deem, suppose, think, guess. Du., Gissen: Sw., Gissa: Dan., Gisse, to believe, suppose." It is used practically as we use it to-day in Chaucer's couplet:

Her yellow hair was braided in a tresse,
Behind her head a yard long, I guess."

The expression was in common use at the time of the Restoration, as Vanbrugh in "The Mistake" makes one of his characters say:

"If I were, I might find more cause,
I guess, than your mistress has given our master here."

I notice in a recent issue of THE SUN an account of the British advance in Tibet in which it is stated that about thirty years ago a book was published in England giving an account of all the attempts which had been made to reach the sacred city of Lhasa. If you can give me any information as to this book I shall be very grateful.

BRUCE CRAVEN.

Information concerning all attempts to reach Lhasa up to 1876 is contained in "Narratives of the Mission of George Bogle to Tibet and of the journey of Thomas Manning to Lhasa." Edited with notes, an introduction, and lives of Mr. Bogle and Mr Manning, by Clements R. Markham. London, 1876.

In THE SUN of the 21st ult. you say to G. J. A. that there was no foundation for the story that Theodosia Burr was captured by pirates. Some years since I read of a pauper who died in an almshouse in Michigan, who on his death bed confessed that he was one of the pirates, and saw Theodosia Burr walk the plank. E. E. R.

That same venerable fraud used to turn up his toes at regular intervals to the accompaniment of the same old death-bed confession. There was never a shred of valuable evidence adduced in support of the pirate yarn.

Please let me know the source of the saying: "It's a wise child that knows its own father."

J. D.

It is a paraphrase of a passage in the Odyssey.

A contends there is no such word in the English language as "got," meaning, of course, properly used. B contends there is and gives the following instances in which he claims the word is properly used: 1. "Her hair got white." 2. "I got embarrassed in the company of so many women." 3. "They got a large mess of fish on their trip to the lake." 4. "I have got more money to-day than I had a year ago." 5. "We got together last night for conference." A's contention is based on the interpretation of the word in several of the latter day dictionaries; B's on his understanding of the grammar of Lindley Murray. If improperly used in the instances here given, please give a few instances in which, in your opinion, the word may be rightly employed. WILLIAM FICKERT.

B is right. The English language is a thing of life, too free to be hampered by the shackles of the purist and the dictionary maker. In none of the instances quoted can the word be said to be incorrectly used. Compare Shakespeare:

"The plebeians have got your fellow tribune and hale him up and down."

Tennyson:

"I see it is a trick got up betwixt you and the woman there."

Herbert:

"Thou hast got the face of a man."

And for the main capabilities of the verb, transitive and intransitive, see the passage from Aristarchus by Dr. Withers (ed. 1822) quoted in the Century Dictionary and beginning:

"I *got* on horseback within ten minutes after I *got* your letter. When I *got* to Canterbury I *got* a chaise for town; but I *got* wet through, &c."

Please give me the date Denman Thomson began playing "Old Homestead" and where?

DEXTER.

In April, 1886, at the Boston Theatre.

Can the following problem be mathematically computed and how? For $100 buy a mixed herd of 100 animals, paying at the rate of $10 for each cow, $3 for each pig and 50 cents for each sheep. K.

Please state if there was ever a Vice-President that served his time as Vice-President and was afterward elected President. D. EMERY.

John Adams was Vice-President from 1789 till 1797, and was then elected President. Thomas Jefferson was Vice-President from 1797 till 1801, and was then elected President and reelected four years later. Martin Van Buren was Vice-President from 1833 till 1837, and was then elected President.

Will you kindly state whether Ben Jonson wrote the comedy entitled "A Tale of a Tub," Dean Swift wrote a prose piece with a similar title; but was not Ben Jonson the original author of the comedy? R. RYAN.

"A Tale of a Tub" was the title of a comedy by Ben Jonson, licensed in May, 1633, and printed in folio in 1640. The first performance has been conjectured to have been given in 1601, or in the winter of 1603-04, and the comedy was the last work of the author that was committed to the stage. Swift's satire with the same title was published anonymously in 1704.

Referring to a question as to the authorship of a quotation asked for a couple of weeks ago, I have in my note book the following as written by Miss Conway:

"There wanst was two cats in Kilkenny,
Aitch thought there was one cat too many;
So they quarrelled and bit,
They scratched and they fit,
Till excepting their nails
And the tips of their tails
Instead of two cats, there wasn't any."

HORATIO G. COZZENS.

PUBLICATIONS.

"FOR by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war, and in multitude of counsellors there is safety."—Proverbs, xxiv., 6.
"Without counsel purposes are disappointed, but in multitude of counsellors they are established."—Proverbs, xv., 22.
"Where no counsel is the people fall, but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."—Proverbs, xi., 14

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310 West End Ave. Reopens Oct. 3.

Whitefish Disappear With Advent of Factories.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

"As good an explanation for the disappearance of whitefish from the west shore of Lake Michigan as I have heard was given to me by an old fisherman at Charlevoix, Mich., this summer," said Marcus Winship of Jackson, Mich.

"He said that whitefish began to disappear from these waters late in the '70s, and that with the beginning of the '90s this species was a rarity where it had been formerly abundant. Now, he said, at about that time began the industrial boom along these shores, with the building of huge factories, and in this fact he saw the cause of the disappearance of the fish. Why other fish could thrive where whitefish gave it up, he could not say."

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