FRIGHTFUL DISASTER.

Two Hundred Miners Barred by Fire in a Bohemian Silver Mine and Roasted or Suffocated to Death — Frantic Efforts were Made for Their Rescue, but All were Fruitless—One Hundred Families Deprived of Male Members.

VIENNA, June 1.—Reports this evening from Prizibram show that the mine disaster is far worse than supposed. In the first confusion it was believed that only forty men were missing, but a house-to-house inquiry among the miners' families this afternoon revealed the fact that nearly 200 miners were left in the pit. The number is known to be as high as 170.

The flames which were supposed to be finally subdued at the time the first rescue party went down, after fourteen bodies had been brought up broke out afresh. Water was pumped into the mine, but the machinery was inadquate and the fire increased.

This morning help was brought from Beraum, the superintendent of the coal mines there sending down a force of men with machinery for flooding the mine more rapidly. When the flames seemed to abate somewhat a rescue party went down and returned with eleven more dead bodies. They said that they could hear shouts and groans far off in the mine, but that the smoke was so thick and the heat so intense that they did not dare venture in. None of the party would return and two hours passed before a foreman could find seven men to go down with him. It was then thought that the fire was nearly out, as only a thin smoke came from the mouth of the pit, and that the miners on the higher levels who had escaped drowning might be saved.

The foreman and the seven men tried to make their way in the direction where the shouts and groans had been heard, but the heat was stifling, and heavy smoke and fire finally obstructed all progress.

About 100 yards from the shaft the party were suddenly enveloped in a gust of fire and smoke from a side gallery. Four men fell unconscious. Their four comrades tried to drag them away but were compeled finally to run for their lives and leave the men to die. This rescue party heard no sound in the galleries save the crackling of the fire.

All of the woodwork near the shaft had been burned away, the four survivors said, and the fire evidently had followed the miners from the entrance to the end of the galleries. The foreman says there is no doubt that all the men who were left in the mine are dead. The heat beyond the point where the four miners were stricken, he said, would have been fatal and the smoke was stifling. He saw tools and garments abandoned in the haste of flight, showing by their positions that the men fled away from the shaft.

Immediately after the foreman returned with the remains of his party the fire started up again, and despite the work of the engines is still burning fiercely. Thousands of men, women and children are in the fields around the pit. The list of the 200 miners believed to have been left in the pit and burned has been posted, so that if any of the number had escaped his friends might come forward with the information. Not a name has been erased, however, and the continued inquiry of the police has been fruitless. One hundred families have been deprived of all their male members by the disaster. Charitable societies in Prague will make an appeal for the sufferers tomorrow.

THE ENGLISH DERBY.

It was Won by Sir Hugo a Thirty-to-One Shot, and Proved a Great Surprise to Everyone.

LONDON, June 2.—Derby day opened with light showers and sunshine, and an occasional breeze sweeping over Epsom downs. The crowd was greater than usual, perhaps owing to the intense interest that has centered this year around the Derby.

Sir Hugo won; LaFleche, second; Bucentauer, third.

The winner of the Derby Sir Hugo, chestnut colt by Wisdom out of Manœuvre, is owned by Lord Bradford. Sir Hugo won last year the Rous Memorial stakes at Goodwood in July and the Bosacwen stakes at Newmarket in September. This was an utter surprise to the betting public, as Sir Hugo had hardly been considered by sporting men as having even a chance. Sir Hugo was beaten last year at Ascot for the thirty-ninth triennial by Polyglot and St. Adamien, both in the field to-day, and was beaten by La Fleche for the Champagne stakes at Doncaster last September, Gossoon being second and Sir Hugo third, and was only seventh in the race for the Middle Park plate last October, when Ormee was first, El Diable second, Gauntlet third, Stangel fourth Polyglot fifth and Silver Mint sixth. It will therefore be seen that all the probabilities were against Sir Hugo. The betting was 33 to 1. The Frenchmen are greatly elated over Bucentauer's place in the race, and many of them will be a good deal in pocket on the result.

When Sir Hugo was declared the winner the excitement was tremendous, as the race had disappointed all predictions. Second only to the defeat of La Fleche, in causing surprise, was the poor showing made by Bonavista. Large amounts of money changed hands, and it is said that a well-known M. P. won £14,000 on Sir Hugo's victory. The time was 2:44.

Out of Its Banks.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., June 2.—The White river has broken its banks in this vicinity at several points, and the lowlands are all flooded. The river is higher than yesterday, and is still rising. Many people along the banks in this city have abandoned their homes and several factories are in danger of being undermined if the rain continues. Three persons are missing, one of whom, named Henderson, is known to have been drowned. The other two are supposed to have met the same fate. The body of Amanda Cook, drowned Tuesday, has been recovered.

Successful Attack by Robbers on a Santa Fe Train.

WICHITA, Kas., June 2.—A gang of Indian Territory desperadoes, probably the Dalton boys, held up the Santa Fe train late last night near Red Rock, in the Cherokee Strip. It is impossible to obtain particulars further than that the robbers stopped the train just outside the town, and while some of their members covered the engineer and fireman, others entered the express car and, blowing open the safe, captured the contents, said to amount to many thousands of dollars. Officers are on the track of the highwaymen.

LOSSES BY FLOOD.

The Property Destroyed by the Flood in the Mississippi and Its Tributaries, from Kansas City, Mo., to New Orleans, will Aggregate $50,000,000, and the End Has Not Been Reached Yet—Various Losses Summarized.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., June 3.—Now that the great flood has about passed away in the south, the following estimate is made of the losses occasioned by the high waters, a loss unprecedented in the history of floods:

MISSOURI.

Wheat and corn destroyed (50,000 acres)	$10,000,000
Homes ruined	1,000,000
Cattle drowned	50,000
Railroad property destroyed	150,000
Total	$11,000,000

TENNESSEE.

Cotton loss	$ 600,000
Wheat loss	1,200,000
Homes and cattle	100,000
Total	$ 1,900,000
Kentucky's loss	$ 200,000

ARKANSAS.

Farms inundated, 9,338; loss as follows:

Corn	$ 2,500,000
Cotton	5,000,000
Other products	2,500,000
Total loss	$10,000,000
Mississippi's loss	1,000,000
Louisiana's loss	5,000,000
Total loss	$29,300,000

This estimate does not include stagnation in business among the merchants and transportation lines.

A conservative estimate of the amount of damage caused by the loss from the high waters from Kansas City to New Orleans will reach the enormous figure of $50,000,000.

RAINING AGAIN.

The Mississippi and Its Tributaries Rising Again.

KEOKUK, Ia., June 3.—The Mississippi river rose sixteen inches Wednesday, and the Des Moines three feet. The water is again pouring through the break in the Egyptian levee, and Alexandria is submerged. The river is rapidly rising, and at the present rate will soon reach the highest mark of the season. There were heavy rains all about Keokuk for the past 48 hours. Keokuk & Western and Rock Island trains are abandoned.

At Dubuque the Mississippi had risen 24 inches in twenty-four hours Wednesday night, and was still rising. The saw mills and packing-houses have suspended, and are moving their portable property elsewhere. The rain was still falling in torrents, with no sign of clear weather.

Burlington reports heavy rains with the river rising rapidly. Much damage has been done to farming property in Illinois and Iowa by wind and lightning, and hardly a bridge or culvert is left standing.

It has rained incessantly at Clinton, Ottumwa and Cedar Rapids for forty-eight hours, flooding the lower stories of hundreds of houses. All streams are rising rapidly and a repetition of the disastrous floods of last week is inevitable.

A BAD CREVASSE.

The Levee Gives Way Below Donaldsonville, La.

NEW ORLEANS, June 3.—A disastrous crevasse occurred on the right bank of the river a few miles below Donaldsonville, La., and 30 miles above this city. Twenty feet of the levee gave way at one time, and the water poured through at a terrible velocity. In one hour the crevasse had widened to 40 feet and was five feet deep. There is no hope of stopping it and it is expected that it will reach 100 feet by nightfall. The water from this crevasse will not only flood a half dozen plantations, but will suspend traffic on the Texas & Pacific railroad, which is one and a half miles back from the river. It is believed that this crevasse will prove to be the worst one that has so far occurred.

Distress Caused by Floods.

MURPHYSBORO, Ill., June 3.—The present high water in the Mississippi river reaches the highest point in the history of the country for thirty years. Forty thousand acres of land are submerged, destroying 1,000 acres of growing crops and carrying away dwelling houses, barns and fences, leaving hundreds of families with nothing to keep want from the door. Fully 100 families are tenants, and have neither food nor clothing, and are calling for aid from their more fortunate neighbors. No estimate can yet be put upon the property destroyed, but it will reach far beyond anything ever known in this country.

Washed from the Track and Drowned.

DES MOINES, Ia., June 3.—Clarence G. Wilson, of Burlington, superintendent of the Iowa lines of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, was washed from the railroad track at Dudley, Wapello county, by a sudden wave in the Des Moines river and was drowned. His body has not yet been recovered.

A Fortune Dissipated in Gambling, and Then Suicide.

NEW ORLEANS, June 3.—George Sebastian, 35 years of age, committed suicide here. Sebastian came here eighteen years ago and accumulated a handsome fortune in the cork trade. He went to Europe two years ago, visited Monte Carlo, stayed there several months and lost his entire fortune at gambling. He then returned to New Orleans to take a place as a laborer in the establishment he had formerly owned. This and the fact that he was in no financial condition to marry a young woman with whom he was in love preyed on his mind, and he ended his troubles by shooting himself in the head.

Part of the Expense Incurred in Collecting the Revenue.

WASHINGTON, June 3.—Senator Cockrell has received an answer from the commissioner of internal revenue to his recently published letter, concerning the character of duties performed by internal revenue employes. Commissioner Mason denies the frequent statement that the salaries of store keepers and the fees for gaugers form a portion of the expense incurred by the United States in the storing of distiled spirits. The salaries and fees of these officers are a part of the expense incurred in the collection of internal revenue.

Want Information to Govern Their Action.

WASHINGTON, June 3.—The house committee on the judiciary yesterday ordered a favorable report on the resolution introduced by Mr. Stone, of Kentucky, calling on the chief justice of the court of claims for information as to the number of hours the court sits; the length of the recess it takes; the number of cases it has disposed of and the number now pending.

The information is requested in order to ascertain the necessity for the appointment of three extra judges of the court.

CLEVELAND'S FRIENDS.

New York Democrats in Line for Him at Syracuse.

Anti-Hill Men Condemn the February Convention and Resolve to Support the Ex-President at Chicago.

The Cleveland democrats of New York held an anti-Hill convention at Syracuse on May 31, and proclaimed their determination to work for their candidate at the coming national convention, and denounced the Hill convention in February last as an abuse of trust and a violation of democratic rights in the state. During the meeting John D. Kernan, of Oneida county, temporary chairman, spoke as follows:

This convention is a halt in the march to the national democratic convention at Chicago of an army of 200,000 New York democrats, and of as many more enlisted sympathizers. They go to wage war against their disfranchisement in that convention by leaders who have made unwise and crafty use of party machinery for personal ends, and who have overridden time-honored customs and usages of the democratic party.

We claim that the call for and manipulation of the February convention was an abuse of trust and a violation of democratic rights in this state; that its proceedings then misrepresented a large element of disfranchised democrats and now misrepresent an overwhelming sentiment, which since then has grown to vast proportions throughout the state. If our strength did not lie in the will of the people, the sun would shine at midnight before the loyal democratic rank and file of this state would don the garb of contestants and give to this cause its unprecedented growth and its clearly marked intensity of purpose.

The February convention was a mistake from every standpoint; in some respects it was a crime, indictable at Chicago. Such conventions, according to party usage, are held in April, late, or more usually in May; none in modern times was ever held so early. No one before ever attempted to put the party in a hole by such a device as a February convention.

At that season of the year caucus material is scarce and generally confined to the bad quality that does some one's bidding. When days are short, nights long, roads drifted, and the national convention four months distant, the duty and political occupation of democrats in this state, as elsewhere, is to watch and weigh the drift of events, to be students of every phase of passing political history, to seek conviction and to draw inspiration from the air currents of democratic sentiment that sweep over the country.

The delegates of that convention go to urge what the politicians wanted in February; the delegates of this convention to state what the people in New York want now. They will shout for sham regularity, and the forms, shadows and coverings of things. We will plead that justice, equity and the substance of democracy be recognized as having the better title. They will suggest that danger of defeat in November will darken the pathway which they do not dictate. We will insist that the assurance of certain victory will brighten the road whereon democrats will march after that convention, behind its banner, upon which shall be written in letters of living light sound democratic principles and the name of a candidate of whom those principles shall be bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh, whoever he may be.

If we are to fight our guns for all they are worth, who but Cleveland should command the battery? Who should stand at the helm when the old ship sails into safe and pleasant waters in November next, with victory's flag flying at her masthead, but he who stood upon her prow in the midst of danger, when the winds and waves of tempestuous days sought her destruction?

As I drove one night with Gov. Seymour from a political meeting I asked him whether he ever feared that universal suffrage would be a failure. Speaking with that earnestness which has so often aroused democrats when he stood before them in this very city in all the genial grandeur of his magnificence manhood, he said:

"No, sir, I have no such fear; the ballot box, under universal suffrage, is the safest tribunal for the decision of political questions ever devised by the wit of man; the people are slower in their perceptions, but, in the end, are nearer right in their conclusions than any selected body of men ever can be."

That is the kind of democratic faith that actuated Grover Cleveland when he trusted the people in 1887!

The demands of those who believe in these democratic principles, which are a century old and have been forged in contests from Jefferson to Cleveland, are these:

They demand sound currency, in which silver shall have fair play, but not a policy which shall attempt to protect against "gold bugs" by creating "silver bugs," nor pay such a bounty to silver producers as to force a day laborer to accept $1.29 worth of coin for work worth $1.00. Labor must be paid par in value, no matter what metal is used.

They demand not the prayerful and sniveling pretenses of Wanamaker, but practical civil service reform, wherein fitness shall be the chief recommendation for official position; wherein offensive partisanship shall be cause for removal, and whereunder an administration, subject to these limitations, shall be in the hands of its friends and not of its enemies. They demand a broad and just pension policy which shall, however, protect the treasury from frauds and sharks.

A striking difference between the republican and the democratic party is this: The republican press and party sang hymns of praise and thinksgiving during the orgies of the billion-dollar congress, because the policy of the party was being carried out, the surplus left by Cleveland was vanishing, the need for tax reduction was disappearing, and the conscience of the party approved, and was serene. When, however, a democratic congress takes a step in that direction the democratic press and its followers growl and call a halt.

Such extravagance goes against the grain of democracy and is regarded as a sin to be repented of; for this reason is it that the democratic party is at heart a treasury guardian against extravagant tendencies in or out of itself.

After denouncing republican fraud, corruption, political tyranny and the McKinley tariff the platform says:

The recent change in the policy of the republican party from a general system of high tariff taxes to the reciprocity system is an admission of the vast benefits to be derived from the extension of our foreign trade and of the justice of the tariff reform principle.

We approve the use of both gold and silver as money, and we demand that all dollars, whether gold or silver, shall be equal in value to each other in fact as well as by declaration of law. We are opposed to the free coinage of silver by the United States alone at the existing rate of sixteen to one, because we believe that free coinage at that ratio will result in the immediate disappearance of gold from the business of this country, and the use of silver will entail loss to every wage-earner and every savings bank depositor, with impairment of credit and disastrous disturbance of business of every kind. We demand the repeal of the Sherman silver bill of 1890 as an obstruction of international bimetallism and because it is rapidly bringing this country to silver monometallism, with all of its attending evils.

We recognize the necessity of an organization through which the party may direct its energies, but when such an organization claims to be the party itself instead of its instrument, when it suppresses the voice and represents the desire of the party, when it calls the caucuses at unaccustomed seasons and upon insufficient notices, when, regardless of the votes cast, it places upon the convention and admits to the convention only those who, without respect to the voice and wishes of their constituents, will agree in advance to support the scheme and oligarchy it has established, when it gives notices in advance that they who will not agree to be as subservient will not be admitted—then it ceases to be representative, creates discontent, arouses resentments and imperils the success of the party. In this emergency it becomes the duty of the original elements of the party to take such notice as will restore to it just relations between its members and their agents. We demand fair primaries, fair conventions, fair elections, fair returns and the faithful observance of the verdict of the ballot.

The democratic party retains unshaken confidence in the ability and lofty integrity of Grover Cleveland and in his devotion to public duty. An overwhelming majority of the democrats of New York and the country have confidence in his ability to carry the state triumphantly in November. We believe that by nominating him to lead the party in the approaching contest for the presidency the national convention will carry out the almost unanimous wishes of the party and best consult the welfare of the country.

We pledge ourselves to support the candidates nominated in Chicago, and the delegation chosen by this convention is instructed to act as a unit according to the determination of a majority of its members.

SERIOUS FLAWS.

Questionable Methods of the Present Administration.

Some of our contemporaries, with a feeling that it is easy to pardon and natural to entertain, are congratulating themselves that by the nomination of Messrs. Harrison and Cleveland by their respective parties the country will escape all scandal in the presidential canvass, and the press will be able to devote itself exclusively to the discussion of the economic questions put in issue. This is true, however, only to a degree. It can hardly be said to be wholly true. So far as Mr. Cleveland is concerned, there can, of course, be no question raised of a personal character. So far as concerns Mr. Harrison, no one will throw any doubt on his private life, or accuse him of having made improper gains in his great office, or hesitate to acknowledge his fidelity to a high standard of public conduct in certain departments of his administration. But in the anxiety which every decent journalist feels to avoid everything like unnecessary personality, and to carry on political discussions as a gentleman with gentlemen, there will be a temptation to ignore certain chapters in Mr. Harrison's public career that are not agreeable, but are important. Of these the appointment of Mr. Wanamaker is one, the management of the pension bureau is another, the management of the census bureau a third, and some things in the work of the land office the fourth, and in some respects the most important.

It cannot be desirable for the good government of the country or for the preservation of public morals that these questions shall be overlooked, or that the voters shall be allowed to think that they are of no consequence. Mr. Wanamaker's appointment was the first in the history of the government that could reasonably be believed to have been obtained by raising large sums of money for the election of the president making it. The strong evidence that this was the case has never been refuted. It has never been seriously questioned, and Mr. Wanamaker himself, who is the only man who could have disproved the charge, has never successfully essayed to do so. The offense against the people is aggravated in this instance by the notorious corruption attending the disbursement of the fund raised by Mr. Wanamaker. That, indeed, made the situation of the postmaster general one that would have been intolerable to any honorable man. It lay in the power of Mr. Wanamaker if he were innocent of knowledge as to his corruption to show that he was so. He not only failed to do that, but he allowed himself to be deprived of that power without protest by the destruction of the records of the committee into whose hands his contributions had gone. These facts constitute a case that the general body of voters will have to consider. It would be a great misfortune if they should not.

Of the other matters to which we have referred, one, at least, will be made clear by the investigations of the house. The pension bureau and its amazing commissioner are now undergoing inquiry. More than enough has already been elicited to show that Raum's conduct has been of a kind that Mr. Harrison should not have tolerated. He has been proved to have put himself under pecuniary obligations to one of the most active and powerful of the pension attorneys, who, on his part, has received exceptional favors from the bureau. This is only a specimen of the ways in which he has prostituted his office. To the president, who is at once a lawyer, a veteran of the war for the union and the highest official in the land, the nature of such conduct on the part of a man intrusted with the administration of the pension office cannot but be clear. It is inexplicable that he should have permitted it without a consideration, and the consideration cannot have been a worthy one. As to the census bureau, we regret that the chances now seem to be that its unprincipled chief will escape official exposure through the favors that he has granted to democratic congressmen. As to the land office, there is also a curious blindness or silence in Washington. The facts are not obscure, and could readily be got at. Whether that be obtained or not, it is plain that there is enough in the history of the Harrison administration to compel the attention of those who believe that pure government is preferable even to a tranquil presidential canvass, and who recognize the duty of securing the former at the risk of interrupting the latter.—N. Y. Times.

A REMORSELESS CAMPAIGN.

Republican Factional Fights Make Things Easy for Democrats.

Democrats can afford to watch with complacency the development of what is going to be a savage republican campaign. At no previous time in the history of parties in this country had the democrats so great an opportunity to take advantage of the factions and quarrels of their opponents.

It is to be remembered that republican candidates have generally been defeated by republican conspiracy. Sometimes cabals have accomplished their work before or during a convention. Sometimes they have waited until a campaign was under full headway. The defeat of Folger in New York, resulting in his death, was the result of a party conspiracy against a party nomination. The defeat of Blaine in 1888 was due to republican machination with a republican minister as its mouthpiece. The defeat of Arthur was the result of a republican conspiracy that would have accomplished at the polls, had he been nominated, what it preferred to accomplish by preventing his nomination. All the ammunition used against unsuccessful republican candidates since the war has been supplied from republican arsenals. The latest instance of this persistent republican characteristic was the revelation of Alger's war record.

Suggestion leading to it emanated from the war department, which has been in possession of republican politicians almost continuously since the war. Had there been serious danger of Alger's nomination in 1888 the record would have been produced then. Republican managers know he can never be elected to any federal office, as he cannot now be elected to any office in his own state. They held back an authenticated transcript until necessity for its use ceased for that year. As soon as he loomed up once more as a formidable pretender for the presidency hint of the actual nature of the war department files concerning him was given out from a high republican source. The record itself was not furnished. That was reserved for future party use. The secretary of war, Mr. Elkins, announced suggestively that he could publish it only at the request of Col. Alger himself. The democratic newspaper, to which sufficient hint had been conveyed, nagged Alger unceasingly until he, believing the Sun had the record entire, became alarmed, and preferred to break the blow by giving the true story in part, with minimizing explanatory comments. If Alger be nominated for the second place at Minneapolis republican official sources will supplement the published portion of the files with other documents. Alger knows this and is playing carefully among the contending cabals.

The Harrison republicans, to give another instance, are justly in a position to charge on Blaine and his faction bad faith. When the secretary wrote the Clarkson letter of solemn and absolute declination he disarmed the administration. Had he failed or refused to write the letter of declination at that crisis in the preliminaries of the campaign administration men might have been able to anticipate the claims of the Maine statesman. They are now entitled to stigmatize that letter as a trick unworthy an honorable man, treacherous on the part of a subordinate to a chief and willful in its deceit of the rank and file of the party. Retaliation is inevitable. Threat of it is already given in the suggestion of exposure of illicit relations between Grace, of New York, whose name was involved in the Peruvian scandals of the Garfield administration, and Blaine in the intrigue that preceded peaceful settlement of the Chilian dispute. It is needless to say that this would be only the beginning of disclosures the administration agents would precipitate if Blaine be nominated. Added to these will be the old charges never met.

Republicans have been so long in possession of the power and patronage of the presidency that they cannot suffer to let it go without desperate effort to hold on. But no faction in the party is willing to permit the other to be supreme. The fight on Harrison is purely a fight of revenge and of greed. It makes little difference now which faction wins at Minneapolis. If democrats nominate a man disentangled from domestic hatreds within their own ranks; if they quit looking to the scarred fields of the east for a democratic nominee, and come to the west, where the party is too young to be seriously weakened by internal dissension, they will receive enough republican help to give them the presidency in November.—Chicago Herald.

CHEERFUL INDICATIONS.

Never Before Did Democrats Have So Good a Showing.

If one question the truth of the statement that there are more doubtful states this year than ever before, and that the democracy will make the battle to carry more states this year than ever before, he need but compare present conditions with those preceding the election of 1888 to have his doubts removed. Five states, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan and Wisconsin, will suffice for purposes of comparison.

In 1888 the republicans had every reason to believe that they would carry the state of Illinois. At the previous election of 1886 they had carried the state by nearly 36,000, and a normal republican majority was to be expected in the presidential year. This year they have no such grounds for confidence. At the last state election, in 1890, the democrats carried Illinois by nearly 10,000 plurality; they have since elected a democrat to the United States senate.

Iowa makes a like showing. In 1887, the year before the presidential election, the state had given a republican majority of 16,000. Last year the democrats carried Iowa by eight thousand, in a vote larger than that cast in 1888, and last year's victory clinched the victory of the year before.

In 1887 Massachusetts was carried by 17,600 by the republicans. Last year the democracy carried it by 6,500, repeating a victory they had won in 1890.

Michigan, at its last state election before 1888, had given a republican majority of 7,400. That state now has a democratic governor elected by 11,500, and a democratic legislature. In 1886 the republicans carried Wisconsin by 18,700. In 1890 the democratic majority was over 28,000, and every state office, both branches of the legislature and a democratic United States senator are Wisconsin's pledge of its electoral vote to the democratic nominees this year.

These are five states only in which the advantage is on the democratic side in the coming struggle. New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Montana will be battlegrounds, and even Kansas, Minnesota and Nebraska waver in support of Harrison and McKinleyism. Democracy at the outset of a presidential canvass never before had so many doubtful states, hitherto republican, in which to make the battle.—Albany Argus.

OPINIONS AND POINTERS.

——The democratic party of Illinois is in excellent condition for the campaign. The republicans envy their condition of harmony and aggression.—St. Louis Republic.

——The republicans did not ask the advice of the democrats in framing the McKinley tariff, and they are not called on by the democrats to give any advice about the best method of punching holes in it.—N. Y. World.

——Steve Elkins is credited with having persuaded Gen. Alger to leave the presidential race track. Mr. Elkins evidently understands why the United States, having no wars, still find a secretary of war useful.—Chicago Times.

——It is not unnatural that republican organs should oppose a tax on large incomes. The ideal republican impost is placed on the necessities of the poor. A tax upon the rich is destructive of the symmetry of the glorious system of robbery of all for the enrichment of the few.—N. Y. World.

——Republican organs are groaning and howling because, they say, Cleveland's nomination would divide the democratic vote in New York. Just as if they would not throw up their hats and yell themselves hoarse for Cleveland if they had any idea that New York would be against him. In this particular year of grace the democrats propose to nominate and elect their own president.—Detroit Free Press.

——A clergyman who has been down south studying social and political conditions reports to a leading republican paper of North Dakota that he found the republican party there the refuge of the disreputable elements, the rogues and renegades of all sorts. Republicans from the north who go there generally turn democrats within the year. The distinction between the parties in morals and civilization is as sharp as it was twenty-five years ago. It is not surprising, then, that the south is solid against such control.—St. Paul Globe.

FOR GIRLS AND BOYS.

TOMMY'S SCHOOL.

"Geography's a nuisance, and arithmetic's a bore!"
Said Tommy, with a frown upon his face.
"I hate the sight of grammars, and my Latin makes me roar;
It's always sure to get me in disgrace.
When I'm a man," he added, as he threw his school-books down,
"*I'll* have a school that boys will think is fine!
They need not know an adjective or adverb from a noun,
Nor whether Cæsar bridged the Po or Rhine.

"I don't care if they think that George the Third was king of Spain,
When those old fogies lived so long ago.
Or if they all should answer that the Volga is in Maine,
What difference would it make, I'd like to know?
But instead of *useless* things, I'll teach 'em how to coast and skate;
They all shall learn to row and sail a boat,
And how to fire a pistol, and to shoot a rifle straight,
And how to swim, and how to dive and float.

"We'll play at tennis and at cricket all the live-long day;
And then there's polo, and—Oh, yes, foot-ball;
And baseball they shall every single one learn how to play,
For that's the most important thing of all.
I tell you," finished Thomas, "I'll have one of just that kind;
Then all the boys, you see, will want to go.
They will not run away and say my school's an 'awful grind,'
Or call the lessons dull and hard, I know."

—Gertrude Morton, in St. Nicholas.

AN INTERESTING STUDY.

How to Make a Dull Book Wonderfully Interesting.

"I do wish I didn't have to study geography," lamented Frank Atkins. "I don't mind arithmetic, although some of the problems are very hard, and I like history because it is interesting, but I just *hate* geography!"

"Frank's father was writing a letter at his desk, and made no reply until he had addressed and stamped it, and then he turned to his fourteen-year-old son and asked:

"Why?"

"Because," answered Frank, promptly, "it is dull. 'Pennsylvania is bounded on the north by New York and Lake Erie, on the east by New Jersey, on the south by Delaware, Maryland and West Virginia, and on the west by Ohio and West Virginia.' Now, what's the good of that?" he asked, scoffingly.

"To give you an idea of locality," said his father, picking up the atlas which Frank had dropped on the couch. "Suppose you went to Europe, and some one should ask you to describe the situation of your native state. Wouldn't you be ashamed if you could not answer?"

"Well, yes," admitted Frank, reluctantly. "But it's a dull study for all that."

"Perhaps it is, if that is all geography teaches you.

"Of course that isn't all. We learn the capitals of the state, and their productions, and the names of the rivers and their length, and the mountains."

"But I infer you really don't *learn* anything at all. You simply commit to memory a lot of printed words and forget them as rapidly as possible. Yet geography is a very interesting study, and absolutely indispensable to a knowledge of history, and of the two it is much more useful History treats of the past, but geography relates to the present. We can get along very well without knowing who discovered Australia, but a knowledge of its situation, extent, climate and topography is always valuable."

"But it is so hard to remember,' objected Frank.

"Then it must be that you are not interested in the study, or else it is not properly taught. Let me give you a lesson in my way, will you?"

Frank looked rather alarmed, but he answered: "Yes, sir," dutifully enough.

"Do you remember," began Mr. Atkins, "when your Uncle Will came from California, last February, how interested you were in his description of the Pacific coast?"

"Yes; and how I wanted to go back with him, and you said I might some day."

"So you shall," assured Mr. Atkins, smiling, "when you have finished your schooling; but I want to ask you a question. When he was telling you about the mountain ranges, the sandy deserts and the mighty Columbia river, did it not occur to you that he was giving you a lesson in geography?"

"Why, no!" exclaimed Frank. "But he was—I see it now."

"And it was interesting, was it not?"

"I should say so."

"Well, let us follow it up. Uncle Will dwelt particularly on the climate of the Pacific coast, so different from ours. He told you that oranges, figs, dates and olives grow even in northern California, at the latitude of forty degrees. Now, what is the latitude of Philadelphia?"

"Thirty-nine degrees and fifty-seven minutes," answered Frank, after consulting his books.

"Practically forty degrees," said his father; "and you know that no tropical or even semi-tropical fruits will grow here. Now there must be some reason for this difference. Can you tell what it is?"

"There is a current, or something like that, isn't there?" ventured Frank.

"Yes, there is a current which flows from the equator northward along our western coast as far as Alaska, and there it merges with the Japan current and flows into Behring sea. But there is something else to be considered. All over the world there is a wind blowing from the west to the east, and this wind carries the warm air which rises from the equatorial current over the Pacific coast, giving it a semi-tropical climate."

"Why doesn't it carry the warm wind all over the United States?" asked Frank.

"For one reason, because the great mountain ranges of the west force the air up so high that when it descends on the eastern slope it is cooled. And another reason is that the air is cooled by passing over the great bodies of frozen water and the treeless plains. But there is another great current of warm water in the Atlantic ocean, which flows from the equator to the Arctic ocean."

"The Gulf stream," said Frank, quickly.

"Exactly! Now, why doesn't the gulf stream modify the climate of the Atlantic coast as the Pacific coast is modified?"

"Because the wind blows from the west and carries the warm air over to Europe."

"Precisely! I see you are learning rapidly. Now we come to the most interesting part of geography. You know that Europe, like our Pacific coast, is much warmer in the same latitude than our Atlantic coast; but I feel certain you do not realize the wonderful difference. How would you like to live permanently on the southeast shore of Hudson bay?"

"Wouldn't like it at all!" exclaimed Frank.

"But you'd cheerfully live in England?"

"Of course."

"Yet the British isles and the lower half of Hudson bay lie in the same latitude."

Frank looked incredulous, and had to consult the atlas before he was satisfied that his father's statement was correct.

"Here is something else to reflect over," pursued Mr. Atkins. "Did you ever hear of anything in common between Montreal and Venice?"

"Pshaw!" laughed Frank. "Montreal is away up north in a cold climate, while Venice is almost in the tropics."

"That shows you have not studied your geography, because both cities lie between the forty-fifth and forty-sixth parallels of latitude. Venice is more than three hundred miles nearer the North pole than Philadelphia."

"Is it possible?" cried Frank.

"There is no doubt about it. The great cities of Italy—Verona, Mantua and Milan—are as far north as Montreal and Ottawa and Portland, Ore. And there are other surprises for you in your atlas. Follow the fortieth parallel east from Philadelphia and see where it takes you."

"Portugal and Spain," announced Frank; "Sardinia, Greece, the Caspian sea, Turkestan, the Great Desert of Gobi and Japan. And the difference in climate is due to the gulf stream."

"Mainly, yes. Isn't it wonderful?"

"Very," assented Frank.

"There are many more wonderful discoveries of the same kind you can make," said Mr. Atkins, "if you study geography intelligently. Don't you think it is worth trying?"

"Decidedly," answered Frank, readily. "I don't see what I could have been thinking of to call it dull."—Victor Valentine, in Golden Days.

PLUCKY JACK.

His Nerve and Spirit, and Thoughtfulness for His Mother.

I am proud of my thirteen-year-old friend. I think he showed real pluck. And all this story is true, excepting the name by which I call my boy.

Of course Jack was "skylarking." But, unless some care is taken, a boy may "skylark" himself into trouble. That is what Jack came near doing when he steered his sled between the fore and hind legs of a horse.

"But the 'cop'" (by which I understand a policeman was meant) "said that the boys had a perfect right to slide on that hill."

So if horses came in the way they did so at their own risk. However, that is not what this story is about.

They were playing "Tag," my Jack and the doctor's son Playing with all their might and main, I suspect. Jack's sturdy knickerbockers look as if they could make good time when it comes to a run.

He rushed after the doctor's son, and the doctor's son "went for" him.

"Round about and round about
And round about they spun,"

and Jack was "*It*"

Close to the big front door they sped. Up the steps and into the vestibule they tumbled. Jack would have seized the doctor's son had not that youngster burst open the inner door and whisked into the hall, slamming the door in his pursuer's face, and shouting, "*Tagged you last!*"

Jack thrust out an eager arm just as the portal closed. Bang! through the long glass panel crushed his hand. Clatter, clatter, clatter, rattled the broken glass. Its sharp edges—oh, its cruel edges—"tagged" Jack's wrist unmercifully.

The blood spurted. You may believe there was a commotion.

Then Jack was led, keeping tight hold of his wrist, into the doctor's office.

Scream? No, he did not scream. Cry? Not he. He stood up as straight as a ramrod and let the doctor examine the wound.

"This must be sewed up," remarked the physician gravely.

Indeed the cut looked serious.

"I will give you ether, Jack, to deaden the pain of the operation."

But Jack refused ether. "I've tried that before, and I don't like it."

"We will send for your mother."

Ah! that would be a comfort. What boy, in such a scrape, would not like his mother to sympathize, to console, and to sustain?

But Jack bethought himself. The father is away cruising in southern seas. It has been Jack's business to care for his mother, not to worry and distress her.

"She has gone to an afternoon tea. I won't have her bothered," decided Jack.

So he held out his wrist, and made no moan while one, two, three, *seven* stitches drew the gaping flesh together.

He went home when the wound was bound up. It was not till the mother reached her house that she heard of the accident. She flew up stairs, with her heart in her mouth.

"Don't be frightened," he told her. "It didn't hurt much."

For days the wrist has been bandaged, but not once has Jack whined. I think that shows good nerve and spirit, don't you?—Mary S. McCobb, in Harper's Young People.

Washed Clean.

A little girl said to me once, "I hate to wash dishes, but when mamma tells me to I try and wash them, so my conscience is clean, too." It sounded very funny from her lips, for she was a little will-o'-the-wisp, with saucy black eyes. But she was right. In the simplest daily task the conscience can be washed "clean too." I saw four men carrying bricks one day. One worked busily while his master's eyes were watching, but smoked by a sunny wall in his absence; another tossed the bricks into his hod with feverish energy and ran up the plank with hurried steps in the morning, but by night was unable to work from fatigue; again, another wandered with idle steps, stretched his arms, yawned, and slowly half filled his hod; while the fourth industriously plied backward and forward from the brick pile to where the masons were at work, diligently, methodically working, without haste, without waste. Which of the four do you think had at night best earned his daily wages?—Leslie's Newspaper.

—A bill was lately introduced into one of our state legislatures granting permission that the bishop of the diocese might be buried in the crypt of his cathedral. One of the members who did not admire the bishop greatly, moved an amendment to the bill that it take effect immediately on its passage.