The Evening Times

THE TIMES COMPANY.
WALTER STILSON HUTCHINS, President.
PUBLICATION OFFICE,
THE HUTCHINS BUILDING,
CORNER TENTH AND D STS. NORTHWEST.

Subscription Rates.

By Mail—One Year:

Morning, Evening, and Sunday	$6.00
Morning and Sunday	4.00
Evening and Sunday	4.00
Sunday only	1.00

Monthly by Carrier:

Morning, Evening, and Sunday	Fifty cents
Morning and Sunday	Thirty-five cents
Evening and Sunday	Thirty-five cents

Telephone Numbers.	Editorial Rooms	486
	Business Office	1640
	Circulation Department	263

CIRCULATION STATEMENT.

The circulation of The Times for the week ended March 24, 1900, was as follows:

Sunday, March 18	19,783
Monday, March 19	40,355
Tuesday, March 20	41,181
Wednesday, March 21	40,982
Thursday, March 22	41,195
Friday, March 23	40,934
Saturday, March 24	42,281
Total	286,413
Daily average (Sunday, 19,783, excepted)	41,155

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1900.

Mr. Proctor's Speech.

In the course of his speech in the Senate yesterday in opposition to the proposed Payne-Foraker outrage upon Porto Rico, Senator Proctor had read from the Secretary's desk a letter received from the Honorable George F. Edmunds, in which the latter takes strong grounds on the constitutional question involved in the legislation which the Administration is attempting to force on the country.

Whatever may be said in criticism of Mr. Edmunds, there is not a shadow of doubt that he is one of the very greatest of living American constitutional lawyers, nor that his principles and views are always sound and patriotic in cases where they are free from the qualifying effects of self-interest. The letter sent to Senator Proctor is an apt illustration of this. What we wonder at is that its author should have been left free to write it. One would naturally expect that some trust would have retained him if only to keep his mouth and pen quiet at the present juncture. Since that has not been done there is nothing to prevent the Old Roman from speaking his mind, and he has spoken it with a force and logic that the country will feel and heed.

Mr. Edmunds argues that the Constitution "is not subject to the control of Congress, either to enlarge or diminish, to expand or to contract, or to be applied to or withdrawn from any people or place." He asserts that a law passed by Congress is merely the creature of the Constitution. If the extension of the Constitution to Porto Rico depends upon an act of Congress, then it would, in the island, be only a statutory Constitution, and repeal of the statute would repeal the Constitution itself. He says that no one doubts that if American citizens or subjects in Porto Rico were to rebel against the authority of the United States or conspire with its enemies, they would be guilty of treason: "But treason is an exclusively defined constitutional crime, and it cannot exist on the island unless the Constitution that defines it is in force there."

With the forceful speech of Senator Proctor the useful portion of the Porto Rican debate on the part of the few Republican constitutionalists in the Senate has about come to an end, and that end finds the Administration without a leg to stand on. Its insincerity, in claiming that the Constitution of the United States does not extend ex proprio vigore beyond the confines of the several component States of the Union, has been thoroughly exposed by the revelations concerning the Magoon reports. It is charged and not denied that Judge Magoon prepared a careful opinion holding that the Constitution covered our insular possessions from the moment the Treaty of Peace and cession with Spain became operative, and that this opinion guided President McKinley in his "plain duty" recommendations to Congress. It also has been charged that, when the trust magnates came over from New York and threatened Mr. Hanna and Mr. McKinley with a withdrawal of their campaign support unless the persecution of Porto Rico was continued, Judge Magoon was ordered to prepare another opinion diametrically in opposition to the first.

The Administration has squirmed and wriggled under daily lashings by the press, which, without regard to politics, has denounced the sudden and abject surrender to the oil, sugar, tobacco, and rum trusts as an act of perfidy and total depravity. Speaker Henderson in his desperation has descended to the tu quoque line of argument, and asserted that the very trusts which bullied the party into the perpetration of Dingleyism in Porto Rico, have been and are now trying to secure free trade with the island. How much truth there is in this Saint Elizabethan proposition is indicated by what is reported to have happened between one of the trusts and the Administration. The staff correspondent of the "New York Journal" in Porto Rico cables the following to his paper, under date of March 30:

"The Standard Oil Company got the President to remove the tariff on crude oil entering Porto Rico, but to retain the tariff on refined oil. The Standard Oil Company has a refinery here, and having arranged matters to its own satisfaction with the McKinley Administration, it immediately proceeded to put up the price of its product."

That must strike everybody as a most remarkable instance of a trust seen in the act of fighting for free trade! The debate in the Senate has been not only interesting, but highly instructive. It has resulted in popular knowledge regarding the issue which is destined to dominate and obscure every other in the Presidential election; and when the people go to the polls next November they will be perfectly certain what they are voting for or against. It is the trusts or the Constitution!

Another Swindler Exposed.

The tales of abused confidence, roguery, and deception which are published in the newspapers every day cause the reader to think that the late P. T. Barnum was a great philosopher merely on the strength of his remark that the American people like to be humbugged. If they do not, it is hard to see how so many frauds can thrive.

Aside from Christian Science healers, political delusions, and other confidence games by which more or less intelligent people are befooled, there are the clairvoyants, magicians, fortune tellers, mediums, and other frauds against whom the public has repeatedly been warned, and the announcement of whose business almost amounts to a clear and frank statement that they are frauds. A member of this great army of rogues was captured in New York the other day, and the record of her experiences is instructive to the student of human nature and social affairs, though not agreeable to the would-be optimist.

This woman, Mrs. Mary Jones by name, assumed to have some sort of occult power so that she could perform miracles—for a money consideration, of course. She seems to have graduated her scale of prices to fit the purses of those with whom she dealt. When she had an applicant who seemed able to spare five dollars, she asked that amount for her services, but she did not disdain the more modest fee of half a dollar when that was all that she seemed likely to get. And the things which she undertook to do were many and various. If she had really done them all she would have earned the abundant income which she accumulated in the course of a year, and it amounted to many thousand dollars.

One gullible gentleman came to her and asked how he could learn mental telepathy and control the business affairs of others. She said she could teach him—for ten dollars, payable in advance—and she got the money. Another, with a Hibernian name, had a burning desire to get on the police force, and she undertook to put him there for five dollars. One woman hated her husband badly enough to come and beg Mrs. Jones to make him die. She paid six dollars and promised to pay forty-four dollars more. Considering the claims of Christian Science, this does not seem so very unreasonable. If this credulous lady had been a happy instead of an unhappy wife, and her husband had been at the point of death from cancer or tuberculosis, she might have gone to a Christian Science healer and begged his life, and that healer would have demanded, in all probability, more than six dollars cash. But cure would have been positively promised. Why should not Mrs. Jones promise to effect the death of the objectionable man for that modest sum? But if the husband happened to be a believer in faith cure, and the will power of Mrs. Eddy's disciples happened to oppose itself to Mrs. Jones' will, working in the opposite direction, something would probably have to give way.

The Delagoa Bay Award.

We are extremely sorry to see it stated with confidence, in more than one exponent of the American press today, that the McKinley Administration will accept the disgraceful award of the Swiss arbitrators in the case of the Delagoa Bay and Transvaal Railway, which was stolen bodily from its American and British owners by Portuguese officials. In the decision of the tribunal, which is so manifestly without a shadow of equity that a strong suspicion of collusion and corruption is perfectly natural and justifiable, the aggregate sum allowed for all purposes and to cover all claims is less than the original bare cost of construction. The arbitrators refused to consider the value of the concession, which was wrested from its rightful proprietors, and is regarded in London as worth thirty million dollars; and also refused to make any provision for indemnity on account of real estate belonging to the claimants at and near Lourenco Marques and other places in the Portuguese territory, and of which they were dispossessed.

According to the interpretation placed upon the award in our despatches this morning, the principal American claimant, the widow of Colonel McMurdo, instead of receiving the four million dollars to which his estate is entitled, if it is entitled to a cent, will get about thirteen thousand dollars. From the beggarly total decreed by the tribunal all the expenses of the litigation are to be first deducted, and, next, the British holders of the first mortgage bonds on the railway are to be reimbursed. These devotions will leave practically nothing for the American claimants.

There is said to be ample reason for repudiating the award, and on the face of it, we should think it ought to be rejected by this Government. It is probable, however, that the interests of Great Britain in getting the matter out of the way of a treaty with Portugal for the cession of Delagoa Bay, will govern Mr. McKinley and Mr. Hay, rather than any consideration of the injury done to our citizens. A more bare faced and impudent malversation of justice was never perpetrated in all the history of international relations.

Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of York, is now the mother of another fine boy, who has just arrived at Sandringham. We should think that this timely re-enforcement to the stock of princes in the direct line ought to placate the Queen sufficiently to induce her to let poor Connaught go out and fight the Boers. Almost every other mother in the United Kingdom has devoted a son to her country's cause, and it does not look well that royalty should be an exception.

It is as we have predicted. All authority is to be taken away from Otis. The Philippine Commission is to have plenary power in civil affairs, and the department commanders in military matters. For a short time, and to save appearances, Otis will be the wooden head on the prow of the Philippine ship of state, and then he will be brought home quietly, and, as far as possible, prevented from getting into the campaign as a horrible example of Administration blundering in the Far East.

News from Sebastopol conveys a strong impression that Russia will not wait many days more before moving upon Asia Minor. An army corps has been mobilized, the troops are furnished with war kits, and the transports are waiting in the harbor with steam up. Diplomatic movements at Constantinople just now will repay watching.

A Newspaper Wonder.

(From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.)

When you open up your Post-Dispatch or other newspaper it may cause you to feel some wonder if you know that in all probability yours are the first hands that have ever touched its inside pages. The reason for this is that the paper is made from wood-pulp. The woodman cuts down a spruce tree. It is hauled to the mill. There machinery strips off the bark, reduces the wood to pulp and makes it into paper. At every turn cranes, derricks, chains, cogs, rollers, steel teeth, and other mechanical contrivances keep the material out of human hands. The immense rolls are wound by machines, loaded into car and wagon by machinery, put into press-room and on presses by other machinery, and finally printed and folded without having been directly touched by any human hand. This is a mechanical marvel of today which is no doubt duplicated in other branches of industry. It is very striking in the newspaper industry, which stands in the very front rank of mechanical perfection.

The Way to Drink Tea.

(From the Boston Herald.)

His excellency Wu Ting-fang, the Chinese Minister, has put us under still further obligations to him by his latest speech on the subject of tea drinking and tea brewing as practiced in China and in this country. According to Wu Ting-fang, we do not know how to judge tea or taste tea or buy tea or make tea, or drink tea, and all we do know about it is to raise a revenue from it which we do not need. While there are expensive teas and cheap teas there are no really bad teas except those that have been adulterated with deleterious ingredients, and this very adulteration is practiced solely to meet the taste, or lack of taste, of consumers who persist in so spoiling their tea by the addition of such adulterants as rum and milk and sugar. If only they would drink their tea pure, as nature intended it to be drunk, they would instantly detect any attempt at adulteration, and that would be the end of the importation of impure teas.

POLITICAL NOTES AND GOSSIP.

Tom Johnson as a Delegate.—The Hon. Tom Johnson swept everything before him in the Democratic primaries at Cleveland for delegates to the Kansas City Convention. This is the last preliminary move in Mr. Johnson's return to the fold from which he strayed four years ago. His friends assert that he will enact a modest role at Kansas City. They say he will attempt no extraordinary performance there. He will be content to sit in the convention as a delegate and vote his convictions on all questions, without trying to stir up strife over any issue. It is understood that he will not object to serving the party to the best of his ability in the campaign, both on the stump and in the committee. Probably he will be entrusted with an important part of the campaign work. It is thought that he will be sent to New York to take charge of branch headquarters to be opened there, though if he prefers to look after Ohio it is thought the campaign managers gladly would utilize his experienced services in that field. It is believed that his return to the fold soon will be followed by a host of wanderers who took their cue from him in '96.

Mr. Chandler Moved the Hat.—The humorous speech of Senator Pettus and the sharp colloquy between Senators Allen and Foraker were not the only features of unusual interest in the Senate yesterday. An incident every whit as important as anything that has occurred this session was the removal by the Hon. William Eaton Chandler of the hat of the Hon. John Henry Gear from its accustomed place. The Gear hat is an interesting institution in a double sense. Primarily, it is the only hat of its kind in the United States. It is broad of brim, squat of crown, and shows plainly that the corroding tooth of time has been trying in vain to destroy it. Mr. Gear guards it with a care that shows the immeasureable value he puts upon it. He never trusts it to the peg in the Republican cloak room reserved for it. Instead, he deposits it in the centre aisle of the Senate Chamber close to his desk, in plain view of the admiring throngs of the gallery. More than once has it been stepped upon by statesmen in the blinding excitement of debate. Mr. Chandler yesterday afternoon barely missed it as he was ambling down the aisle. If he were a less observant statesman his right foot would have come plump down on the top of the hat. But Mr. Chandler arrested his progress in time to save the catastrophe. Then he stooped down hurriedly, picked up the hat and tossed it on the top of Senator Gear's desk. The Iowan fondled the hat caressingly for a moment and then gently deposited it on the floor again. Then he fixed his gaze reprovingly, if not defiantly, upon Senator Chandler. It is safe to predict that Mr. Chandler will not again interfere with Mr. Gear's hat. If he should, it is feared the entente cordiale between New England and the Northwest would be dangerously strained.

Senator Chilton Goes Home.—Senator Chilton has departed suddenly for Texas. It was his announced intention to remain here until near the close of the session, but the stubbornness of the grip from which he has been suffering for two weeks determined him to seek relief in the more congenial climate of Texas. Then, too, it is thought that the activity of Bailey in the Lone Star State at present had something to do with the Senator's departure at this time. Mr. Chilton tried in vain to induce Mr. Bailey to postpone the opening of the Senatorial campaign to a later date. Bailey has been on the stump in Texas for two weeks, and is said to be misrepresenting the position of Mr. Chilton on several important issues. It is believed that when Senator Chilton takes the stump to correct these alleged misrepresentations, the excitement that will ensue will be enough even for the excitement-loving Texans. The Huntington railroad interests are said to be actively arrayed against Mr. Chilton, because of his support of the Nicaragua Canal project, and this will make the fighting all the harder for the Senator. Senator Chilton left a general pair with Senator Elkins.

A Salt Trust Chairman.—The Hon. Charles H. Grosvenor has been pointing with pride to the fact that the chairman of the convention which renominated him by acclamation the other day was "Chief Justice Bradbury, of the Ohio Supreme Court." Whenever anybody has asked the Administration's mouthpiece how the party in his district stood on the trust question he has replied by citing the fact that Judge Bradbury presided over his convention. This, of course, was accepted as proof positive that the trail of the trust is not discernible in that part of the moral vineyard which honors itself and the nation by keeping in the halls of Congress so doughty a warrior and vocative statesman as Grosvenor. And now comes the news from Ohio that the gentleman who presided when General Grosvenor was renominated is no longer on the bench in Ohio. Instead, he is the tender and feeder of an octopus of huge proportions and saline character. Judge Bradbury resigned from the Supreme Court some time ago to accept a tempting offer as attorney for the Salt Trust. However, it is thought probable that Judge Bradbury kept General Grosvenor in the dark on this important point for fear that Grosvenor would not permit him to enjoy the distinguished honor as chairman of the Congressional convention if it were known that the Salt Trust and not the Supreme Court of Ohio was speaking when the Grosvenorian assemblage was called to order to perform a high duty to the nation.

FAVOR INCREASE OF PENSION.

House Committee Reports on the Case of Mrs. Elmer.

The Committee on Pensions of the House has presented a favorable report on the bill granting an increase of pension to Adele W. Elmer, widow of the late Commander Horace Elmer, U. S. N., who died of la grippe while in command of the Mosquito Fleet at the beginning of the war with Spain, after a service of nearly thirty-eight years in the Navy.

Commander Horace Elmer was born at Cedarville, N. J., in 1846. Entering the Naval Academy at the outbreak of the war in 1861, although next to the youngest in a class of 200, he was one of the thirty chosen to form an advanced class to take the four years' course in three years. He was thus able to graduate in the fall of 1864 and serve as a midshipman during the last year of the civil war. From 1865 to 1868 he was a watch officer on the Hartford on the Asiatic Station, being present at the opening of various Japanese ports and commanding a company in the fight with the savages in Formosa.

In 1866 he was promoted to ensign, and shortly after to master. In 1868 he was promoted to lieutenant, and in 1869 to lieutenant commander. He served successively as executive officer of the monitor Terror on the North Atlantic Station, as navigator of the Ossipee on the South Atlantic Station, as navigator of the Colorado at the time of the Virginius trouble, and as navigator of the Congress on the European Station. In 1877 and 1878 he was attached to the Torpedo station at Newport, carrying on experiments in high explosives. From 1879 to 1882 he was executive officer of the historic old Kearsarge. From then until 1886 he was on duty at the Naval Academy, first as instructor in the department of seamanship, afterward as head of that department. In 1885 he was promoted to commander. During the summer of 1886 he commanded the practice ship Jamestown. From 1886 to 1889 he was inspector of the Eleventh lighthouse district. From 1889 to 1892 he commanded the Kearsarge. From 1892 to 1895 he was chief ordnance officer of the New York Navy Yard. Among other important work here, he installed the batteries on the New York, Maine, Cincinnati, Miantonomoh, Puritan, and Terror.

LATE LEGAL DECISIONS.

The by-laws of a plumbers' association which compel every member to make weekly reports in open meetings of the work done by him, and to pay fixed sums for certain items of plumbing work, if done in competition with other members, are held by the Supreme Court of Tennessee, in the case of Bailey vs. Master Plumbers' Association of Memphis (46 T. R. A., 561) to be void on grounds of public policy, because tending to the destruction of free and natural competition and to the unreasonable increase of prices to customers.

The mistake of a street car conductor in punching a transfer ticket so as wrongly to indicate the hour of its issuance, making it appear that the passenger, after he has promptly entered the first street car, has no right to ride therein, is held by the Supreme Court of Tennessee, in the case of O'Rourke vs. Citizens' Street Railway Company (46 T. R. A., 614), not to deprive the passenger of his right of passage, when he has taken the ticket, believing it is all that it should be, and makes a fair and reasonable statement of the facts to the conductor; and the court further held that a condition printed on a street railway transfer to examine the date, time, and direction, and see that they are correct is void for unreasonableness.

Children born in lawful wedlock within the United States, the father being a white man and a citizen of the United States, and the mother an Indian woman, who has adopted the habits of civilized life and who lives apart from her tribe, are held by the United States Circuit Court, in United States vs. Hadley (99 Fed. Rep., 437), to be citizens of the United States, and their status is not changed by residence upon an Indian reservation and receiving allotments of Indian land. The court held, however, that half-breeds, who never receive recognition from their white parents, but who are left to be nurtured during childhood by Indian relatives, and who live as savages, and are subjects of governmental care, have the status of Indians.

A communication by a life insurance company to its soliciting agent stating that the examining physician had forged the name of the applicant for the insurance policy is held by the Supreme Court of Iowa, in Nichols vs. Eaton, to be a privileged communication, for which an action for libel against the company will not lie. As to whether there was such excess of statement in the communication as to constitute evidence of malice on the part of the company the court held that it was for the jury to determine.

Where a benefit certificate in an insurance company is to be void if the assured becomes so far intemperate as to impair permanently his health, the Supreme Court of Illinois, in the case of Modern Woodmen vs. Davis (56 N. E. Rep., 361) holds that the question whether he indulged in the use of intoxicants to such excess is for the jury to determine.

Persons staying at a hotel under a contract for a special rate, which is given to all who stay longer than a week, are held by the Supreme Court of Tennessee, in Meacham vs. Galloway (46 L. R. A., 219), not to be guests for whose property the landlord is an insurer, but to be boarders, for the loss of whose property he is liable only in case of negligence.

The New York act of 1895 requiring railroad corporations to issue mileage books and providing a penalty for their refusal to do so has been held by the New York Court of Appeals, in Beardsley vs. the New York, Lake Erie, etc., railroads, to be invalid as to corporations existing at the time of its enactment, because it is violative of the provision of the Federal Constitution which forbids the taking of private property without due process of law; and the court further held that such act is not a valid exercise of the police power of the State, nor of the power of the State to establish maximum prices for transportation of persons and property, but is simply an enactment in favor of those persons who are able or willing to purchase mileage books.

Where a railroad company refuses to permit the shipper of cattle to feed and water the cattle, the Court of Civil Appeals of Texas in Missouri, etc., Railway Company vs. Seibold (55 S. W. Rep., 368) holds that damages may be recovered by the shipper for injuries to the stock from lack of water and food.

The fact that an ambulance was carrying an injured person to a hospital, and going at a high rate of speed, under the direction of a city surgeon, in order to save life, is held by the Appellate Court of Indiana, in the case of Green vs. Eden (56 N. E. Rep., 240) not to affect the owner's liability for the driver's negligence, by reason of which the plaintiff was run down and injured.

Where a conductor accepted ticket fare from a passenger who had lost his ticket, but who afterward returned and demanded additional train fare, and upon the passenger's refusal to pay, ejects him at a lonesome, dangerous place, the Court of Appeals of Kentucky, in Louisville, etc., Railway Company vs. Joplin (55 S. W. Rep., 266), holds that a verdict of $500 was not excessive.

If a bank, in order to increase its deposits or to sell its collateral, through its board of directors, makes or causes to be made false statements concerning the financial condition of one of its customers, to a third person, for the purpose of misleading him, it is liable if loss results; or if, having made such statements, it conspires with its customer to make the same public, to accomplish the same purpose, it is liable to one who acts upon it to his injury.—Hindman vs. First National Bank of Louisville, Ky., 98 Fed. Rep., 562.

An interesting question as to whether English poor-law guardians were entitled to expend the poor rate in the maintenance of able-bodied men, who were out on strike, has been recently before the English Court of Appeal in the case of the Attorney General vs. the Methyr Tydfil Union. The lower court, by Lord Justice Romer, held that they were; but the Court of Appeal unanimously reversed this decision, and held that able-bodied men are not entitled to poor relief, if at the time they are able to obtain and perform work at wages sufficient for the maintenance of themselves and their families, and that the circumstances of the colliers' strike in South Wales did not amount to an urgent necessity entitling the guardians to grant extraordinary relief.

A husband who had deserted his wife for twenty-two years returned to England, and on her application (case of Walton vs. Walton) was compelled to pay a fixed sum weekly for her support. The husband expressed surprise at receiving a summons after so many years, and offered to share his home with his wife, but the latter declined, saying that if he preferred to live away from her for so many years he could continue to do so and pay her separate maintenance.

Judge Dunne, of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, recently held, in the case of the Hoops Tea Company vs. Dorsey, that a contract between the company and one of its employes, in which the employe agreed that he might be discharged at the company's pleasure, and that, even after quitting or leaving the employ of the company, he would not engage in the same line of business, nor enter the employ of a rival company in the same territory, was without consideration, and that it was such a contract as should not be enforced in equity. The court entered a decree restraining the company from prosecuting any suit at law or equity for the enforcement of the contract.

Under the decision of the Supreme Court of Iowa, in the case of Bradt vs. New Nonpareil Company (46 L. R. A., 681), damages cannot be recovered for defamation of the dead, however much it may wound the surviving family and friends. In this case the right of a mother to recover damages for a libelous publication, which represented her deceased son as a dangerous criminal, was denied. The reason for the rule seems to be that damages therefor, being confined to the feelings and mental state, cannot be measured by any certain and satisfactory rule, nor can they be allowed without much danger that they may be simulated or at least greatly exaggerated.

Alimony is not a provable debt in bankruptcy, and from which a debtor may be discharged in bankruptcy proceedings, under the decision of the Supreme Court of Illinois, in the case of Barclay vs. Barclay. The court said that it was not a provable debt because the peculiar character of the obligation was such that it is always subject to modification by the court in which the decree was entered, according to the varying circumstances of the parties, and that no other court could undertake to administer the relief to which the parties are entitled, except that having jurisdiction in the original suit.

Where a member of a liverymen's association let a hearse and carriage to the plaintiff for the funeral of his child, but on finding that the person in charge of the funeral was an undertaker and liveryman doing business outside the association, he and the secretary of the association took the teams from the plaintiff's house just as they were about to be used, the Supreme Court of Wisconsin, in Yatzow vs. Buenning (81 N. W. Rep., 903), held that their act is illegal and that they are liable for compensatory and punitive damages. And the court further held that a liverymen's association which prohibits any member thereof from doing business with any person who does not patronize its members exclusively, or from letting a hearse to a person for a funeral where the undertaker in charge patronized non-union members, thus monopolizing business and stifling competition, is illegal as against public policy.

Where the shipper of cattle made a verbal contract for the shipment of cattle, and paid the freight, and after the shipment had started signed a written contract, without reading it, the Court of Civil Appeals of Texas, in Galveston, etc., Railway Company vs. Botts (55 S. W. Rep., 514), held that the verbal contract will control.

A creditor of a person having his life insured, who takes an assignment of the policy to secure his debt, is held by the Supreme Court of Georgia, in Morris vs. Georgia Loan, etc., Company (46 L. R. A., 506), only to be entitled to retain, after collection of the policy, such an amount as is sufficient to pay the debt, together with all advances the creditor has made to keep the policy in force. If a balance remains, the payees named in the policy are entitled to receive it.

VISITED THE PRESIDENT.

Librarians Received at the White House Today.

About 250 members of the Pennsylvania Library Club, the New Jersey Library Association, and the Washington Library Association, who have held their annual joint meeting at the Carroll Institute, paid their respects to President McKinley this morning at 10 o'clock, at the White House. After their reception they proceeded to Mount Vernon. After the return from there the majority of the members will leave for their homes.

The third and last session of the joint meeting of the librarians was held last night at Carroll Institute. The members appeared in larger numbers than at the morning session.

At the hour set for the opening of the session, Allen C. Thomas, the President of the Pennsylvania Library Club, called the members to order. Dr. Thomas then spoke on the subject assigned to him, and said in the course of his address that the dangers to be avoided in library work are three, namely, narrowness, technicalities, and officialism.

Frank P. Hill, of the Newark Public Library, followed Mr. Thomas with an address on "Catalogues in Free Libraries." An animated discussion followed the address of Mr. Hill. Henry J. Carr, of the Scranton Public Library, opening it.

W. P. Cutter, Librarian of the Department of Agriculture, read "Index Cards to the Publications of the Department of Agriculture."

J. C. Hansen, Chief Cataloguer of the Congressional Library, delivered an address on the "Catalogue of the Library of Congress." He described the vast amount of work as connected with this branch in the Library of Congress, and embodied in his address a number of suggestions on the successful performance of this sort of library work.

A general discussion of the various subjects offered during the evening session was taken up, and C. A. Cutter, Miss Haines, Miss Kelso, and John Thompson took an active part therein. This ended the joint meeting of the association.

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

Bids for the New Building to Be Opened April 12.

Attorney General Griggs received this morning from George B. Post, of New York, the architect of the Department of Justice building, a communication giving the names of firms to whom he sent the drawings for the new building, and inviting their bids for the erection of the same.

Mr. Post said in his letter that he sent out eight hundred separate sheets of drawings. Mr. Post styled the firms named as "first-class and excellent men."

Bids for the new building will be opened April 12, and all contracts will be given out through Mr. Post, with the sanction of the Attorney General. Mr. Post, however, will have no dealings with sub-contractors, but will hold the firm which signed the contract with the Attorney General responsible for the completion of the work within the prescribed time and amount.

AMERICANS IN KOREA.

Poor Prospects for Them in the Army or Elsewhere.

Consul General Horace N. Allen has written to the State Department from Seoul on the subject of Americans in Korea.

"Korea," he says, "now employs no foreign military officers as advisers or instructors in its army and is not likely to do so, owing to an agreement made with Russia when a large staff of Russian officers were allowed to leave. By this agreement, Korea announced her ability and intention to dispense with further assistance of that kind.

"The many requests from young men who have recently left the service of the United States, asking for positions in connection with the Korean Army, are futile. There is no demand for their services in Korea.

"There is also no demand for foreign advisers to the Korean Government. Although two Americans who held such positions have recently died, their places have been filled, and there is no further demand for assistance of that kind. The newspaper report that one of these advisers had been receiving a salary of $100,000 gold per annum is entirely misleading; such positions pay from $150 to $250 per month.

"There is no demand for employes on the railroads in Korea. Japanese control and operate the steam railroad, and Koreans and Americans are employed on the electric railroads. I believe the positions are all filled.

"Employment with the mines would have to be secured before coming to Korea. The agent of the mines in America is H. A. Noble, representative of the Oriental Consolidated Mining Company, San Francisco. Prospectors cannot operate in Korea, and there is no employment with the mines other than on wages. I am told the mining company has not lack of applicants."

IN THE HOTEL CORRIDORS.

Dr. Sylvester T. Scovell, of Wooster, Ohio, formerly President of the Wooster University, is at the Raleigh, with a delegation consisting of Dr. T. P. Stephenson, of Philadelphia; Rev. Dr. Hugh Johnston, of Baltimore, and Dr. K. B. Tupper, of Philadelphia. They are here urging a favorable recommendation on the Showalter anti-polygamy resolution, which provides for a constitutional amendment prohibiting polygamy.

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C. B. Riley is at the Normandie from Puerto Principe, Cuba, where he is connected with the Quartermaster's Department. He comes North for a brief vacation and will return in a few weeks. "Things are awfully quiet in Puerto Principe province," said he today, "and the lack of interest and energy shown by the Cubans does not show much enthusiasm over American occupation. Still, the American element is hustling, and in the city of Puerto Principe alone improvements valued at $50,000 per month are being made. The troops are being moved out of the old Spanish barracks, which are unsanitary, and are occupying new quarters built for them outside the city. The rurale guard, which is the Cuban police system, is being reorganized, and I believe that within a few months every American soldier could be taken from the island with perfect safety. I have lived among the Cubans for some time and have found them like the Porto Ricans—simple, childlike, and peaceable, unless worked up with real grievances. Puerto Principe is a stock-raising province, and this industry can be developed wonderfully there."

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Jerry Donahue, W. H. Starr, B. Bradley, and W. F. Callum, a delegation of citizens of Decatur, Ill., are quartered at the Ebbitt in the interest of several improvements needed in that city. They will appear before a Congressional committee and will remain here for several days.

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Right Hon. J. Roche, M. P., of London, England, has returned to the Arlington from a Southern trip. He is delighted with the South and will remain in Washington for a week before returning home.

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T. Ikida and Y. Ichida, two Japanese merchants, are at the Arlington from Kyoto, Japan. They are on a pleasure trip and will stay here for a few days.

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Col. E. M. Cook, of Chicago, Ill., is at the Shoreham representing the Pottawatomie tribe of Indians in their claim to a large section of the Chicago Lake Front. He is endeavoring to secure the passage of a bill giving this tribe authority to bring suit in the Court of Claims to establish their title to and recover their rights.

"The land to which the Pottawatomies seek to have their title established is counted among the most valuable in Chicago," said Colonel Cook today. "It is covered with great warehouses and factories and its value runs up into the millions. The members of this tribe, of which there are now about 1,700 scattered in the States of Minnesota, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, and Oklahoma Territory, hold that under the treaty which they made with the United States in 1795 they were left as the owners and occupants of a section of territory which now forms a part of the Chicago Lake Front. At the close of the war of 1812 it was stipulated that the Indians should be restored to the positions which they formerly occupied. Under the survey made in 1819 of the Chicago Lake Front it was shown that the land adjacent to the mouth of the Chicago River belonged to the Pottawatomies, and the members of their tribe now claim that they have never ceded any of this land or any of their hunting or fishing rights on the Great Lakes. The land in question is about 4,000 feet from any tract which has ever been ceded by them."

SHRINKING A GUN JACKET.

An Unsuccessful Attempt at It Made in Watervliet.

TROY, N. Y., March 31.—The long anticipated operation of shrinking a jacket on the great 16-inch gun at the Watervliet Arsenal was attempted yesterday and did not result successfully. Another effort will be made in about ten days. The work was supervised by Master Mechanic Christiansen, and the greatest care was given every detail of the operation. The pit in which the jacket was heated is sixty feet deep and the extreme temperature which is necessary is obtained by the use of oil. Coal was formerly used. Today was the first time that oil has ever been used for a shrinkage operation.

The temperature required is between 800 and 900 degrees. This must be determined to a nicety, and while the monster jacket was being heated measurements of the diameter of the jacket's interior were frequently taken. When the jacket was within a foot of the shoulder at the bottom, it came to a sudden stop and immediately it was realized that the attempt to shrink the jacket had ended in failure. The jacket was within six inches of the bottom when it stopped, and it was seen that there was a slight deviation from the required dimensions. The difference in space between the interior of the jacket and the outer circle of the tube must not be more than a six-hundredth of an inch. The quick recognition of the failure of the attempt saved the Government about $125,000, for had the jacket been allowed to cool the contraction would have ruined the piece.

KILLED IN HIS ENGINE CAB.

Suspicion Attached to the Death of a Locomotive Fireman.

BANGOR, Me., March 31.—Fireman Isaac Newton Buzzard met death under mysterious circumstances while his train was speeding along on the Bangor and Portland Railroad yesterday. His head was crushed. Buzzard was found by Engineer Palmer Moses with his legs hanging over the side of the cab and his body lying between the tender and the cab.

The supposition at first was that he was struck by a car on a siding while peering over the side, but there is another theory that he was killed by being struck on the head with a stone, thrown by one of a party of foreigners who had been put off his train while stealing a ride. An investigation is being made.

CURRENT HUMOR.

Sympathy.

(From the Indianapolis Press.)

Watts—I think I feel as bad as Mudge does over his losing his job.

Potts—I feel worse. He has already touched me for ten.

A Remedy.

(From the Philadelphia Record.)

"Oh! I'm so sick of men," sighed the Society Girl. "I feel as though I never wanted to see a man again."

"Then why don't you get married?" suggested the Observing Girl.

That Depends.

(From the Chicago Inter-Ocean.)

Eliphalet—Uncle Ephrim, if yo' kin meck few shirts outen three yahds, how many shirts kin yo' get from one yahd?

Uncle Ephrim—Well, honey, hit depends on whose yahd ye's in.

Secret Pride.

(From the New York World.)

"Why will you not announce our engagement, sweetheart?"

"Why, Edgar, it is so beautiful to be engaged secretely, as we are, without letting a single person know about it. Every one of my friends envies me.

He Had Heard So.

(From the Fliegende Blatter.)

He (addressing the little sister of his betrothed)—Don't you know me, little one? Who am I, then?

Little one (brightly)—I know. You're my sister's last chance.

NOTES OF THE DAY.

Two hundred thousand acres in Chihuahua, Mexico, have been bought for 400 colonists from Missouri.

Archbishop Feehan, of Chicago, owns the neckcloth worn by Louis XVI of France on his way to execution.

The United States Consul at Vladivostok, Russia, is Richard T. Greener, a negro, and a graduate of Harvard.

Henry James, the novelist, is to return to America next fall, after a long absence in search of material for a new novel.

Thus far in 1900, England has imported 19 per cent less foreign grain than in 1899, at a total value of 23 3-4 per cent less.

A rule of the Indianapolis school board providing for the discharge of any woman teacher who should marry has been rescinded.

James B. Stetson, the California millionaire, frequently amuses himself by acting as an engineer on the Northern Pacific Coast Railroad.

The breweries of Milwaukee and Chicago made during the past year 642,890 barrels of beer at a net profit of $73,342, against $199,574 for previous year.

The announcement is made that a line of steamers will soon commence running on the Dead Sea, the first of the fleet having already been purchased.

There are 5,000 silver mines and over 1,000 gold mines being operated in Mexico, and last year the value of these metals exported was nearly $49,000,000.

The business of building skyscrapers is being overdone. Only a few of the tall buildings in New York are paying anything like a fair rate of interest.

Timothy L. Woodruff, Lieutenant Governor of New York, is one of the best amateur billiard players in that State and makes the game his chief recreation.

In Indiana there are 14,562 miles of telephone and telegraph wires, valued for taxation at $4,496,690, and 6,320 miles of railway, assessed at $15,659,348.

Last year the American people ate 2,000,000 tons of sugar. Of this the American Sugar Refining Company, otherwise known as the trust, made 1,385,000 tons.

The quaint log church of the Presbyterians in Juneau, Alaska, has fallen into the hands of a brewing company, and it has become the office of the establishment.

George Bassett, who died in Chicago recently, was one of the few remaining early settlers of that city, whither he came in 1835. He lost $85,000 in the great fire.

An Arkansas woman and her seven children recently traveled to Minnesota on one ticket. The children were all within the prescribed age limit, there being two sets of twins.

The tonnage of the whole mercantile steam marine of Russia, Japan, or Holland does not equal the tonnage of the merchant vessels taken over by the English Government as transports.

The young King of Spain always insists on having his pockets filled with coppers before going for a drive, and scatters the coins among the many beggars who crowd around his carriage.

Oregon has three forest reserves—the Cascade range reserve, area 4,402,860 acres; the Bull Run, area 142,080 acres, and the Ashland, area 1,569 acres, or an aggregate area of 4,653,449 acres.

A fire extinguisher which may easily be made and kept stored in bottles ready for use consists of three pounds of salt and one and one-half pounds of sal ammoniac, dissolved in a gallon of water.

The sanitary conditions of Rome are often asserted to be exceptionally bad, but comparative statistics of mortality in the chief cities of Europe during 1898 contradict this misrepresentation.

Under the auspices of the Sesame League and Club of London, young women are being trained for home occupations, such as gardening, care of rooms, and the preparation and cooking of meals.

A Maine man has a fox and a hound that are boon companions. When both animals were in the pup stage, they were placed together and have now enjoyed a year of each other's society in peace and harmony.

For cutting cheese a new device has a circular table on which the cheese revolves, with a horizontal bar supported on two posts secured to the counter to carry the cutting bar, which is mounted on a lever to descend and cut the cheese.

The queerest church in the world is