The Evening Times

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

Circulation Statement.

The circulation of The Times for the week ended October 26, 1901, was as follows:

Sunday, October 20	20,496
Monday, October 21	38,715
Tuesday, October 22	39,148
Wednesday, October 23	39,526
Thursday, October 24	39,451
Friday, October 25	39,245
Saturday, October 26	39,814
Total	256,395
Daily average (Sunday, 20,496, excepted)	39,316

Reciprocity or Its Alternative.

If views like those expressed by Senator Cullom of Illinois are to pervade Congress next winter, the chance that any of the reciprocity treaties will be ratified is slim indeed. He argues that the tariff as it stands is good enough, and that to start tinkering with it would result in unsettling business conditions, and lead to commercial disaster. What Senator Cullom, and those who think with him, want, is Dingleyism and prosperity.

All such argument is well enough in its way, or would be if there were common sense or statesmanship behind it, which there is not. Our commercial treaties with the leading Powers of Continental Europe will expire in 1903. If something be not done before that time to adjust our trade relations with them on a more equitable basis than the present one, the threatened European tariff war against this country, will become a certainty, and our principal manufactures will be excluded to the great benefit of England and Germany, and the corresponding detriment of our own people.

It is not denied that there are many articles which we produce so cheaply that the idea of protecting them against foreign competition is farcical. There are many others protection upon which might be materially reduced without the least danger of damage to the manufacturing interests involved. Does not Senator Cullom think that concessions in the matter of such commodities, through reciprocity treaties, would disturb business conditions less than they would be disturbed by a general European prohibition against most American commodities two years hence?

Agricultural Prosperity.

Recent years have been exceptionally prosperous ones for the American farmers. It is estimated that this year's wheat crop is worth one hundred and fifty million dollars more than last year's was, while the value of all farm products is said to be four hundred million dollars greater than it was last year, and this despite the shortage of corn and other grains as a result of the drought. The reason for this is that the crops which are short command much higher prices in consequence, and the advance of price reaches even those crops, like wheat, which are unusually large. During the last five years, according to the "American Agriculturist," the value of the five cereals, wheat, corn, rye, oats, and barley, has been six and a quarter billions of dollars, nearly a billion more than the value during the previous five years. Comparing the same two periods, the cotton growers have netted an increase of about four hundred millions. The nine staple crops this year represent a gain of seven hundred million dollars over those of 1896. Live stock is worth a round billion more than it was five years ago, and during the last quinquennial period, agricultural exports show a gain of nine hundred and thirty-eight million dollars over the previous five years.

These figures are gratifying. The prosperity of the farmers is a thing greatly to be desired, for agriculture is the chief element in our industrial supremacy. At first glance it appears singular that this should be so, for the money value of our manufactures is several fold greater than that of our agricultural products. It would seem that the industry which represents the most money should be considered the main factor in our industrial greatness. But the difference is that agriculture is basic, while manufacturing is not. The people could live without manufactures, but they could not live without agriculture. In farming operations, by the aid of nature there is an actual creation of food without which it would be impossible for human beings in great numbers to subsist. Manufacturing is altogether secondary. It is not, properly speaking, creative, for it must have the raw material to work upon, and much of this is produced by the farms. The reason for the difference in money value is that farm products are generally in the nature of raw material, while the manufactured article is a finished product, rendered more valuable by the high-class, skilled labor employed in making it.

There is also some mystery to many people connected with the building of so vast a superstructure of manufactures upon what, at first glance, appears to be a smaller agricultural base. It must be remembered, though, that agriculture is not a smaller industry in fact, but only in the money value of its product. It is the most extensive of American industries, and gives employment to nearly as many people as all others combined. There is nothing that, as a rule, has a more important bearing upon finance and business generally than the condition of the crops. If the crops are poor or the prices for them low, it affects the farmers' power to buy the products of the factories, and this depresses commercial interests everywhere through out the country.

The industrial system is a complex one. The manufacturers sell vast quantities of goods to each other, and to all other classes of people. So the farmers produce nearly all of the world's food products, feeding not only themselves, but all the rest of mankind. In the life of the human race food is the first essential. Without it man cannot live; with it in abundant supply, everything else conducive to his comfort, mental and physical, follows in goodly measure. Therefore, the whole country should rejoice in the prosperity of those who till the soil.

We must remember, however, that prosperity is a relative term. The farmers may be in much better condition than they were a few years ago, and still not be getting their full share in the distribution of the country's wealth. It is not good logic to tell them that they should be entirely satisfied to "let well enough alone" because they are more prosperous than they were during the depression of former years. The fact is self-evident that, as compared with the manufacturers, the farmers are doing their business at a serious disadvantage. They must sell their products substantially at the general level of the world's prices, in free competition with producers in other countries, while the manufacturers are doing business behind a tariff wall which gives them a practical monopoly in their respective lines. The result is that manufactured goods can be held at higher relative prices than farm products can command. It is not to the interest of the farmers to cripple the great manufacturing industry, but it is in the highest degree essential that the manufacturers, particularly those organized into trusts, should be compelled to do their business upon the principle of common justice to other classes.

The Case of Earl Russell.

The case of Earl Russell furnishes another illustration of the uncertainties attending the laws of divorce. This titled Englishman obtained a decree in the State of Nevada, and upon the strength of it he married again. The question of the validity of the divorce was raised in England, the Earl being charged with bigamy and tried in the House of Lords. He was convicted, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment. The reports of the trial indicated that his conviction was based upon the alleged fact that the divorce was fraudulently obtained, and not merely upon the ground that American divorces were not recognized in England. While such a divorce might not and probably would not be held valid and permitted to affect the legal status of the English wife, still if it was secured in good faith and in conformity with the American law the criminal intent would be negatived, and the second marriage could hardly be considered a crime.

But, as before observed, the question of fraud was raised at the trial, and in her communication to the State Department, the Countess—that is, the first wife—claims that she never had notice of the proceedings in Nevada. This might be satisfactory evidence in England, but it would not be in the State where the decree was granted, for, if the notice is given as required by law, it is sufficient, whether the defendant actually receive it or not. But as no steps have been taken in this country to vacate the decree, or establish the fraud, this English peer occupies the peculiar legal position of a convicted felon in his own country and an innocent man in the United States, and all on account of an American divorce not recognized in England. Such is the ruling of our State Department upon the prima facie case.

Here we have a double complication. The American divorce is held to be a nullity in England, while the judgment of the British House of Lords is ignored by our Department of State. The question is of no international importance, as it merely involves a construction of the provision of our immigration laws, which denies to foreign criminals the privilege of entry into the United States. But it is interesting as showing how many complications may grow out of differing divorce laws.

Canada and the Treaty.

It is well enough known that in the interests of Mr. Chamberlain's imperial federation ideas, the British Government has allowed itself to be placed in the position of advancing a perfectly baseless claim to territory in Alaska which it had recognized as American ever since 1867, merely to please Canada. It has been chiefly in furtherance of this fraudulent claim that Great Britain has insisted upon the validity of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, hoping that the anxiety of the United States to secure a free hand in Central America, ultimately would induce us to concede Pyramid Harbor, the Lynn Canal, and other valuable things along and behind our Alaskan coast to the Canadians.

The provincials have been sure in their own minds that they could depend upon the home Government to stand by the Clayton-Bulwer myth to the last ditch. We are sorry to say that the meekness with which our State Department swallowed the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty, which the Senate rejected, has been an additional source of encouragement to them. They do not appear to realize as his Majesty's ministers must by this time, that a very little more Clayton-Bulwer foolishness, especially were it to be tolerated in any quarter on this side, would result in the formal abrogation of the old, dead, and buried convention, without reference to British views on the subject. If we can credit English press opinion, and forecasts given out semi-officially here, the British Foreign Office has accepted the situation and negotiated a new canal treaty with us, dropping the Clayton-Bulwer features of the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty. That, of course, would be the sensible and statesmanlike thing to do, because it would remove a mountain of animosity in this against the old country. This effect would be lost, however, were England to demand a quid pro quo in Alaska. It would never do, in American eyes, for her to offer to relinquish something non-existent in consideration of a transfer to her of real estate to which she has not and never had the ghost of a claim.

England cannot afford enemies at the present time, but her American colonists are indifferent to the fact. The Canadians want the American gold region of Alaska, and want to share our Behring Sea fisheries. Consequently they are deadly opposed to any retreat by Great Britain in connection with the Isthmian Canal question. Mr. Mills, Canadian Minister of Justice, has a paper in the November number of the "London Empire Review," in which he asserts that, under the operation of the Monroe Doctrine, the United States is assuming sovereignty over both North and South America; that it is striving to restrict the commerce of other States for its own advantage; and that Canada cannot consent to have the neutrality of the inter-oceanic canal guaranteed in any other way than was prescribed in the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty. Mr. Mills declares that the United Kingdom must not yield to the demands of "an ambitious and not over-scrupulous State" to erect fortifications upon the borders of a waterway and to take possession of it. He cheerfully ignores the—to Canadians—unimportant facts that the said waterway will be built with our money, and that, when completed, it will form an integral part of our long and exposed coast line.

What really hurts Mr. Mills appears in the closing paragraph of his paper. He states with considerable emotion that the United States has "taken possession" of Dyea and Skagway and has refused to submit the matter to arbitration. As both the places named always belonged to the United States, in succession to Russia, it is not particularly surprising that it should decline to arbitrate its claim to ownership. In exactly the same way the United States has taken possesion of Portland, Maine, and Portland, Oregon. It would be quite as sane to ask it to arbitrate their ownership.

According to a report from Indianapolis, Governor Durbin probably will refuse to do his duty and surrender the fugitive from justice, Taylor, to the Kentucky authorities. It is said that if, upon his second trial, Caleb Powers, indicted as one of Taylor's accomplices, had been acquitted the Indiana Governor would have honored a requisition. As matters stand the case looks too black against the fugitive to trust to chances. Perhaps, were Governor Beckham to solemnly swear that he would pardon Taylor after conviction his brother Executive might consent to turn him over.

That the race feeling is not confined to the South is further exemplified by the action of some white core makers in a foundry at Haughville, Indiana, who have refused to work with colored men and have struck on account of the employment of the latter. There are many reasons why the troubles between the races should be more numerous and more serious in the South than in the North; but when it comes to a question of close contact, the social antipathy is much the same in both sections.

Colonel Meade, of the Marine Corps, who has been ordered before a court-martial, charged with serious offences against the navy regulations, and so on, it is said, has retained Admiral Howison's nephew, Mr. Stayton, as counsel. Condolences are perhaps due to Colonel Meade. Mr. Stayton is to be congratulated. He will have his chance before the public at last.

"The rhinoceros in the park," with whom Deputy Police Commissioner Devery, of New York, compares Judge Jerome, must be a new and alarming variety of his genus. Devery says of him, and, by way of comparison, of Jerome: "Every time he goes down under the water he comes up with a gulp, and blows it out all over everybody." Queer animals they must have over there. No doubt, Devery's rhinoceros is kept in the same tank with Alderman O'Shaughnessy's gondolas.

INCENDIARY FIRE IN CHICAGO.

A Portion of the Allis-Chalmers Plant Destroyed by Fire.

CHICAGO, Oct. 30.—Fire of supposed incendiary origin, which attacked the sheet iron department of the Allis-Chalmers Company's plant at West Twelfth Street and Washtenaw Avenue early this morning, destroyed the building, and for a time endangered the whole plant, valued at more than $2,000,000. The blaze caused unusual consternation because of the strike now in effect against the company.

The building destroyed was a one-story structure adjoining the main machinery works of the plant. The night watchman, Daniel McKern, discovered a blaze in the building where no one was at work and immediately turned in an alarm. By the time the firemen arrived the whole structure was on fire and the main building was threatened.

In this building were quartered more than one hundred non-union machinists who have been in the plant constantly since the effort made to replace the strikers with imported men. These were thrown into a panic for a time in fear that an attempt was being made by the strikers to destroy the plant. But as there was no evidence of any violence their fears were finally quieted. When the assistant fire marshal, Mr. Lynch, arrived he sent in a call for more engines, and at 5:30 o'clock the flames were under control. The structure where they started, however, was destroyed. The loss is stated to be about $25,000.

HENRY CLAY HALL DEAD.

Important Services to the Government in a Consular Capacity.

WORCESTER, Mass., Oct. 30.—The Hon. Henry Clay Hall, for thirty consecutive years Consul to Cuba and Minister to Central America, died at his home in Millbury yesterday aged eighty-one years. He retired from the Government service in 1892 on account of his health. He was long known as dean of the Government Diplomatic Corps.

Mr. Hall was a native of Northford, Conn. He served under eight Presidents from Buchanan to Cleveland, a record believed to be unparalleled. He was known as father of the Nicaragua Canal and drafted the first treaty for its building. He clung to his post as Consul to Cuba during the civil war at the risk of personal violence. His wife survives him. Owing to his services, he was never able to vote except for McKinley. He was born in Northford, Conn.

The Most Powerful Citizen.

(From the Des Moines Leader.)

The most powerful citizen in America? It is hardly necessary to mention his name. By common agreement he who is entitled to the ribbon of this distinction is the redoubtable J. Pierpont Morgan, a living refutation of the theory that a man cannot part his name in the middle and amount to anything. Mr. Morgan bestrides financial, commercial, and industrial America like a Colossus. In the palm of his hand is the material welfare of millions. There is panic in his frown and prosperity in his smile. What is the shadow of power possessed by a titular president compared with the mightly substance of this real thing?

The Mexican Way.

(From the Mexican Herald.)

Here in Mexico, he people finding a good President, one who always works energetically and unselfishly for the public good, have been glad to secure his services term after term. President Diaz has been a servant of the whole Mexican people; he has appointed political enemies to office when they have been found honest and efficient and thinking more of usefulness than of politics.

Mr. Kasson in Demand.

(From the Chicago Chronicle.)

Commissioner Kasson, who is employed by the Government to negotiate reciprocity treaties, refuses to accept his salary because the Senate did not confirm his treaties. If the commissioner would like a situation as oil inspector he would have no difficulty in securing a job in the West.

The New Armor Plate.

(From the Chicago Journal.)

After Admiral Schley's testimony it is very apparent that if the ring in the Navy Department were not Crowninshielded it would be totally demolished by the battery of public opinion.

Permanent Anyway.

(From the Pittsburg Times.)

There is some talk again of a permanent Census Bureau. As the census is a sort of continuous performance at any rate it might as well be made permanent in name as well as in fact.

Kicked Upstairs.

(From the Philadelphia Ledger.)

Admiral Crowninshield's assignment to the European fleet seems to be quite generally regarded as a typical case of "kicking a man upstairs."

Avoiding Trouble.

(From the Baltimore American.)

It may be necessary for Senator Hanna to issue a card stating that he is not the Hanna who is mixing in the Schley Enquiry.

The Demand of the Day.

(From the Pittsburg Dispatch.)

The demand of the day is, or soon will be, for burglar-proof postoffices.

AMERICAN COAL IN FRANCE.

A Special Report From the Consulate at Marseilles.

On the subject of American coal in France, the State Department has just received the following from Robert P. Skinner, the United States Consul at Marseilles:

"I am happy to report the continued and notable success of American coal in this market. The correspondence and reports preliminary to the actual sale of the American product in Marseilles constitute the most important work of this character undertaken at this consulate, and the large measure of success obtained is highly gratifying. The arrivals of English and American coals at this port during the first six months of the current year and the year previous are as follows: 1901—English coal, 389,302 tons; American coal, 97,622 tons. 1900—English coal, 457,752 tons; American coal, 7,739 tons.

"The total receipts for the year 1900 were 856,038 tons from Great Britain and 118,491 tons from the United States. Steadily increasing shipments are being made from American ports, and the probabilities are that the total receipts at Marseilles during the present year will exceed 200,000 tons.

"The business may be said to have passed the experimental stage, and the discussion of terms and conditions is no longer necessary. In face of the very notable decline in freight rates from Cardiff, American coal has succeeded not only in holding its own, but in increasing in local importance, thus tending to disprove the idea that its sale could be undertaken only during the prevalence of abnormal conditions in Great Britain.

"The only disquieting element in this commerce is the necessity of employing foreign shipping for the transportation of our product. The promises made that American cargo boats would be supplied for the increasing foreign coal traffic have not thus far been redeemed, and in the meantime the relative cost of freight from Newport News and Baltimore to the Mediterranean and from Cardiff to the Mediterranean, has changed not a little, and in favor of the American exporters. A trifle over a year ago, certain cargoes of American coal, landed at Marseilles, were obliged to support a freight rate of $4.25 per ton, while at the present time $2.31 is a fair average price. Last year's prices ranged about $2.55 to Cardiff exporters. This favorable condition of freights is doubtless due to the persistence of the American coal exporters, the increasing favor with which American coal is regarded abroad, and the ability of our people to offer a large volume of business. It has been suggested also that an underlying influence has been the fear on the part of British shipowners of American competition in the carrying trade, which caused them to offer fairly attractive terms all along the line, as a possible means of deferring this competition."

TOBACCO CULTURE IN HAITI.

The Island Expected to Become the Rival of Cuba.

The State Department is in receipt of the following from William F. Powell, the United States Minister to Haiti, regarding the progress of tobacco culture and manufacture of cigars on the island:

"Haiti, situated in nearly the same latitude as Cuba, will soon rival it in its production of fine grades of tobacco. It has a more equable climate, free from cyclones and hurricanes, and a far more fertile soil, which has not been weakened by long-continued cultivation; all that is needed is skilled cultivation and proper curing. It may be said that tobacco culture has now passed the experimental stage, and will within a few years become an important source of revenue to this republic.

"A new species has been produced by cross fertilization, called the 'Diqueney'—after the place where it is grown—said to surpass in many respects the best Cuban grades. This species grows from 5 to 7 feet high, and bears within a few inches from the ground a large, smooth leaf twenty inches long by fifteen inches wide, free from defects. The seed is sown in the latter part of July in well-irrigated beds, which are protected from the fierce rays of the sun by light, raised covers. In September the plants are transplanted into carefully prepared beds of rich, dark, loamy soil, which are also kept plentifully supplied with water.

"Cutting takes place about three months after planting. Between the latter part of November and the middle of March three cuttings are made; a fourth can be made, but the quality of the tobacco is not so good.

"The process of curing, upon which the value of tobacco depends, is as follows: The tobacco, after being dried in the drying house, is subjected to a sweating process of from three to four days, dependent upon the weather; the leaves are then stripped from the stems and assorted, after which they are left for one or two months. The tobacco in bales is then placed in a press, holding from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds, for fermentation, where it remains eight or more days, until it reaches a temperature of 135 degrees Fahrenheit; it is then put in a second press, where it remains fifteen days, until it reaches the same temperature. This operation is repeated six times before it is placed in the last press, where, after being moistened with water, it remains a month. The tobacco is then arranged in large bales and left for two months, when it is made into bales weighing 150 pounds and stored in a dark room for six months.

"One factory here, under American-German management, employs a force of skilled Cuban cigar makers, who are turning out daily many thousands of fine cigars. The output of this plant amounts to $150,000 per month. Fifty per cent of this is consumed at home, 25 per cent goes to Germany, and the remainder to France, England, and Mexico. Owing to the high tariff no attempt has at yet been made to introduce the cigars into the United States."

WANTS MAIL DELIVERED.

The Postmaster General Receives a Unique Complaint From Paris.

The Postmaster General yesterday received a letter from a woman resident of Paris with a numerously initialed and much hyphenated name, complaining that the letters written by her to her husband, who is in business in New York with a residence on Fifth Avenue, are only "occasionally" delivered. The letter paper bore the caption of a hotel on the Rue Lecourbe, and was addressed as follows:

"For the Postmaster General.
"The Extreme Highest Officer in Authority.
"In the Principal Postoffice,
"Etats-Unis d'Amerique."

The writer of the letter claims to be an author and journalist. She enquires whether the fault is due to carelessness, ignorance, stupidity, or negligence. She naively mentions that a correspondence by a cable is a trifle expensive, and states that her husband grows worried and unable to attend to his duties unless her semi-weekly letters are forthcoming. A request that her mail be more carefully looked after concludes the communication.

AMERICAN COAL FOR BERLIN.

German Dealers Inspecting the Fields of Pennsylvania.

HAZLETON, Pa., Oct. 30.—Gustav Schulze and P. A. Panchow, of Berlin, and Carl Ecke, of Hamburg, three of the leading coal dealers of Germany, were here yesterday securing samples of coal, and if they can get satisfactory freight rates from Philadelphia to Hamburg it is their intention to begin the shipping of anthracite to the German Empire on a big scale.

In company with F. E. Zerbey, Superintendent of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, they visited several collieries, after which they went to Pottsville. From the latter place they will go to Philadelphia, where they expect to have a conference with officials of several of the coal carrying roads regarding transportation charges.

Mr. Schulze supplies all the fuel that is burned in the palace of the German Emperor, and he promised that he would, if possible, have this region's product used exclusively in the imperial residence.

AN INCREASE IN IMPORTS.

Summary of Trade Compiled by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics.

The scope of the export and import trade of the United States in the month of September has been comprehensively compiled by the Statistical Bureau of the Treasury Department in the advance sheets from the "Monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance" for the month of September, 1901, which were issued this morning by O. P. Austin, chief of the bureau.

According to the statement the total value of imports of merchandise in the month of September amounted to $66,822,552, as against $59,568,600 in the corresponding period of the preceding year. The total imports of merchandise for the nine months ending September, 1901, amounted to $646,478,309; in the same period in 1900, the imports were valued at $624,467,433. Of the imports in September of this year $29,060,783, were free of duty while $37,761,749 were subject to duty. The amount of duties collected from customs collected in September was $19,160,614, while for the nine months ended with September, they amounted to $181,891,385. The customs collected in the same period of 1900 amounted to $180,161,683.

The total amount of exports in the month of September, 1901, was $106,986,864, the exports for September, 1900, amounted to $115,901,722. The same for the nine months ended with September, amounted to $1,046,319,864, while for the same period of the preceding year they amounted to $1,031,964,228. Of the exports articles of agriculture in the month of September, 1901, ranked with 62.85 per cent; manufactures, 29.27 per cent; mining, 3.13 per cent; forest, 3.79 per cent; fisheries, .46 per cent; miscellaneous, .50 per cent. Of the total exports for the month of September, 52.51 per cent were free of duty and 47.49 per cent were dutiable.

In the month of September gold was imported to the amount of $11,906,431; in September, 1900, $7,861,553; in the nine months ending September, 1901, $35,460,042; in the same period in 1900, $39,989,110. Gold was exported in September, 1901, valued at $168,362; in September, 1900, $806,572; in the nine months ending September, 1901, gold was exported amounting to $32,689,569; in the corresponding period of the preceding year the amount reached the sum of $52,694,921. The silver imports in September, 1901, amounted to $2,195,227; in September, 1900, $4,171,935; in the nine months ending September, 1901, $22,491,141; in the same period of the year 1900, $30,270,459. The silver exports in September, 1901, amounted to $4,834,683; in September, 1900, $5,723,708; in the nine months ending September, 1901, $41,478,929; in the same period of 1900, 47,501,891.

The tonnage of sailing vessels entering ports of the United States in the month of September amounted to 378,105 tons; steam vessels, 2,536,594 tons; tonnage cleared, sailing vessels, 354,452 tons; steam vessels, 2,569,164 tons. The total amount of tonnage entered in the nine months ending September, 1901, in sailing vessels was 3,168,689; in steam vessels, 20,359,566; cleared in sailing vessels, 3,089,260 tons; in steam vessels, 20,437,030 tons. In the month of September, 1901, the imports from Europe amounted to $35,665,267; exports to that country, $76,556,469; imports from North America, $9,256,185; exports $16,310,415; imports from South America, $1,736,991; exports, $3,213,565; imports from Asia, $13,052,337; exports, $8,342,253; imports from Oceania, $752,479; exports, $2,881,373; imports from Africa, $296,676; exports, $2,621,789.

TO SEEK OIL IN MARYLAND.

Capitalists Will Put Down Wells in Garrett County.

OAKLAND, Md., Oct. 30.—A number of geologists, including several eminent men connected with the United States Geological Survey, are of the opinion that there is a large oil field in Garrett county, lying along the western base of Big Backbone Mountain.

Several capitalists of Cumberland, Baltimore, and New York have been engaged throughout the past summer securing leases from the landowners in the supposed oil belt for the purpose of "mining, boring, drilling, and operating for oil and gas and of laying pipe lines and of building tanks, stations, and structures to take care of said products." These leases are to remain in force for the term of five years from date and as long thereafter as oil or gas, or either, is produced from the leased land. The lessees bind themselves to complete a well within two years from date of lease.

William R. Offutt, attorney, of Oakland, who is the active agent for the lessees, has secured leases on a large territory extending from Mountain Lake Park, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and running parallel with Big Backbone Mountain to Gortner's Mill, on the road leading to Aurora, W. Va., and also in another section of country north of the Baltimore and Ohio following the water courses in the northern portion of the county. Mr. Offutt says it is intended to put down several test wells in a short time. Taking the reports of geologists as a guide, the lessees are confident of striking oil.

THE UNVEILING AT HAMPTON.

A Shaft in Memory of Virginia Confederate Dead.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Oct. 30.—The monument in old St. John's Episcopal Church Cemetery, Hampton, erected to Confederate dead by Hampton Chapter, No. 19, Daughters of the Confederacy, was unveiled yesterday afternoon with interesting ceremonies, over which Capt. William Daugherty presided.

The attendance was large, including Magruder Camp, Confederate Veterans, and the Daughters of the Confederacy from this city. Preceding the exercises was a parade, beginning at 3 o'clock, in charge of Sheriff R. K. Curtis, commander of R. E. Lee Camp, Confederate Veterans, of Hampton. The address to the Daughters was delivered by Marcus Jones, of Newport News, and the eloquent oration of the afternoon was delivered by Col. L. D. Stark, of Norfolk.

Miss Bessie Lee Booker, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Booker, drew aside the veil, reciting as she did so several lines from a poem by her distinguished grandfather, Judge Baker P. Lee.

Twenty-three crosses of honor were given to veterans from the hands of Miss Ethel Schmelz and Miss Elizabeth Curtis.

Additional interest was lent to the occasion by the attendance of local military companies and secret societies in uniform.

GEN. BROOKE'S NEW HOME.

He Will Live Near Philadelphia After Retirement.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 30.—Major General John R. Brooke, U. S. Army, has purchased a desirable site at Rosemont, one of the beautiful suburbs of this city, on the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad, where he will erect a home to be occupied after his retirement in July next.

The lot has a frontage of 200 feet and a depth of 350 feet, and is about a third of a mile from the station.

General Brooke is now stationed at Governor's Island, New York. He was born in Pottstown, Pa., July 21, 1838. General Brooke served with distinction during the civil war, being promoted several times for gallant conduct, and in addition received the thanks of Congress for distinguished services during the battles of the Wilderness and Spottsylvania. He served throughout the Spanish war, taking part in the Porto Rican campaign, and at the conclusion of hostilities was made Governor General of Cuba. He was president of the military board of enquiry appointed to investigate the case of the hazing of Cadet Booz at West Point.

Glad to See Her.

(From Leslie's Weekly.)

"So you overcame that old antipathy of yours," her husband remarked, "and called on Mrs. Bobbles?"

"Yes."

"Do you think she was glad to see you?"

"I am sure of it."

"Ahem!—you must have some reason for that belief outside of her assurances."

"I have. I had on the old dress that was made over twice, my hat was out of style and my hair had come uncurled; while she had on a gown that couldn't have come from anywhere but Paris. Could she help being glad to see me?"

PLAIN ADVICE TO NEGROES.

Governor Aycock's Address at the Fair in Raleigh.

RALEIGH, N. C., Oct. 30.—Governor Aycock opened the Thirty-second Annual Negro Fair here yesterday. He said in part:

"I wish the colored people of North Carolina to understand by every act of mine that I am the Governor of the entire State and all its people, and that every interest which concerns any individual is a matter of importance to me. It has been gratifying to me that those to whom I have been opposed politically have recognized the real feeling which exists in my heart. The colored people of North Carolina are entitled to much credit for what they have done. At the close of the war there were many who had great apprehension as to the conduct which would result from the freedom of the negro. I am glad to be able to state that that apprehension proved to be unfounded. Your conduct in the main has been admirable. You have surpassed expectations. You have been sober, law-abiding, and industrious. You have created more value in freedom than you did in slavery, and, taking all in all, you deserve the thanks of the Commonwealth.

"But you will pardon me as one who is a friend of yours for speaking to you today words which may seem unkind, but are, in fact, kind, because truthful. There are many things in your freedom which you have neglected. There are many things yet for you to do. In glancing through the criminal statistics of the State I find that while your race constitutes only one-third of the population of North Carolina, you commit one-half of the crimes. I am not unmindful of the fact that your race is poor and weak and without the influence of the dominant race, and that, therefore, in proportion to actual crime committed, a few more are indicted than would be if you were rich and powerful, with the influences which tend to suppress indictments. But the proportion of crime in your race is startling and dangerous, and one which ought to evoke your most earnest consideration.

"It may not be inappropriate for me upon this occasion to express to you the hope that recent events occuring in the nation may not unduly excite you and that you will still remember that your best friends are those who live in your State. What you wish, what you need more than recognition by the President or other people in authority, is the establishment among yourselves of a society founded upon culture, intelligence, and virtue, and in nowise dependent upon those of a different race. The law which separates you from the white people in the State socially always has been and always will be inexorable, and it need not concern you nor me whether that law is violated elsewhere, for it will never be violated in the South. Its violation would be to your destruction as well as to the injury of the whites. No thoughtful, conservative, and upright Southerner has for your race aught but the kindest feeling, and we are all willing and anxious to see you grow into the high citizenship of which you are capable, and we are willing to give our energies and best thought to aid you in the great work necessary to make you what you are capable of and to assist you in that elevation of character and virtue which tends to the strengthening of the State.

"But to do this it is absolutely necessary that each race should remain distinct and have a society of its own. Inside of your own race you can grow as large and broad and high as God permits, with the aid, the sympathy, and encouragement of your white neighbors. If you can equal the white race in achievement, in scholarship, in literature, in art, in industry, and in commerce, you will find no generous-minded white man who will stand in your way, but all of them in the South will insist that you shall accomplish this high end without social intermingling. And this is well for you; it is well for us; it is necessary for the peace of our section; it is essential to the education of your children that there should be no misunderstanding upon this point. I am sure you agree with me in what I have said, and in the spirit of one who is the Governor of the whole people, without regard to race, I bid you godspeed in the great work of upbuilding our State and educating all her children."

DEATH OF A CENTENARIAN.

Jonah Wentz, of Philadelphia, Had Passed His Hundredth Birthday.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 30.—Jonah Wentz died at his home on Clinton Street, Olney, yesterday. His age was 100 years, 7 months, and 6 days. For some months he had steadily grown feebler, but although physical infirmities oppressed him, his mind was clear. The 100th anniversary of his birth was celebrated by his family on March 23 last, and he was then alert enough to take an interest in the festivities, at which there were present four children, three grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren, as well as a number of nephews and nieces and their families. The descendants of Mr. Wentz include four generations.

Jonah Wentz was born in Whitemarsh, Montgomery county, March 22, 1801. His parents were of the old Wentz family of Whitpain, which figured prominently in public affairs two centuries ago. Not one descendant of that family bearing the name is now to be found in the neighborhood. Jonah Wentz removed with his parents, when nine years of age, to Olney. In 1831 he was married to Miss Tacy Kulp, of Pottville, who died over twenty years ago.

Local and national political affairs never ceased to interest this venerable man, though he never held any political office higher than that of school director, and the important events of the past century stood out in his memory with great distinctness up to within a short time of his death.

Always deeply interested in church and religious movements, Mr. Wentz was one of the early workers in Philadelphia Methodism, and helped to found the Milestown Methodist Episcopal Church. St. James' Church, Olney, stands on ground given by his father as a site for the church, and for eighty years the son was a trustee.

CURRENT HUMOR.

Ever Notice It?

(From the Philadelphia Press.)

Jack—I think the trolley company should be made to keep clear the back platform of all cars. It's exasperating.

Tom—It is so. For instance, when a pretty girl gets off the car and you rubber-neck to see her some-body on the back platform invariably gets in your way.

Ties That Bind.

(From the Philadelphia Bulletin.)

"Dear me, how do you manage to keep your cook so long?"

"Simply enough. We always keep a week or so behind in her pay, you know."

Unsympathetic.

(From the Baltimore American.)

Tigg—Bigg is his own worst enemy.
Rigg—Drink?
Tigg—No. But he insists on getting married.

Only One Theory.

(From the Chicago Record-Herald.)

"Now, look here," said the lawyer, shaking his fist at the witness, "I want you to understand that you can't bamboozle me in this court simply because you're a woman!"

"Why?" she asked in her sweetest tones; "is your wife present?"

His Term of Endearment.

(From the Chicago Post.)

"Does your husband still call you his pearl and his gem and all that?" asked the young matron.

"Not exactly," answered the elder one doubtfully. "He has taken to calling me his gold brick of late, and I'm not just sure what he means by it."

Internal Treatment Preferred.

(From the Chicago News.)

Sandy Pikes—Say, Billy, dere was only one time in me career when I'd like to been inside out.

Billy Goalgate—When was dat, pard?

Sandy Pikes—When dey took me to de hospital an' rubbed me down wid alcohol.

Refreshing Modesty.

(From the Boston Courier.)

An unsuccessful candidate for a party nomination being met by a friend the morning following his disappointment, the following conversation ensued:

Friend—Well, how do you like the nominations?

Rejected Candidate—Excuse me, but I take no interest whatever in this election.

Friend—No more do I, except to wish that the lost man may win.

Rejected Candidate—Well, he won't.

Friend—And why not, pray?

Rejected Candidate—Because he wasn't nominated.

NOTES OF THE DAY.

The horse car lines of New York exceed in length those of the rest of the cities of the United States combined.

This year the appropriation for street cleaning and garbage removal in Chicago was $1,095,000. Commissioner Blocki asks $2,000,000 for next year, pleading that he cannot do the work thoroughly with less.

Liverpool boasts the biggest warehouse in the world. It is 725½ feet long, 165 feet wide and 125 feet high, and is built alongside the docks. It is intended to store the imported tobacco. There are now in bond at Liverpool 93,000 hogsheads of tobacco, weighing 50,000 tons.

In Haroldswick, in the Shetlands, a whalebone Viking drinking horn in good condition was found recently in a grave that contained human bones, together with those of horses and dogs. The grave is probably that of a sea king buried with his horse and dog in the time of Harold Harfagr, a thousand years ago.

A Southern Kansas editor was recently requested by the Ladies' Aid Society of one of the churches to print a notice concerning an entertainment which the good sisters called a "Spider Web Social." The paper came out the next morning with a description of the function under the head: "A Spindle Leg Social."

Attached to the door of the parish church of Scale, near Farnham, England, is the following notice: "Be in time. Come straight into church. Kneel down. Do not look around every time the door opens. Stand up directly the hymns are given out. Do not whisper to your neighbor. Keep your thoughts fixed."

James Meridy, of Barbourville, Ky., has proved that No. 13 is no more unlucky than any other number. He was divorced from his thirteenth wife October 13 and married his fourteenth one hour later. Meridy is forty years old and in appearance resembles Buffalo Bill. Four of his wives are dead and nine have been divorced.

The British possessions in North America and the West Indies are larger than the territory of the United States of America, including Porto Rico and Alaska. On the North American Continent alone, King Edward's possessions are nearly 159,000 square miles larger than those of the United States, and taking in the West Indies and Newfoundland, more than 200,000 square miles larger.

A prehistoric town near Adichanallur, India, proves to have been of large size, and promises to yield an extraordinary variety of interesting objects. More than 100 acres have been reserved for exploration, while the remains are found considerably beyond that area. About 1,800 curious objects of bronze, iron and pottery have been unearthed already, together with seven oval-shaped ornaments of pure gold.

Chemistry holds many secrets, some of which, when they are discovered, will not be found out for the first time. Among those is the substance which formed such a terribly effective weapon against fleets hostile to the Greeks, and which was known as Greek fire. Nothing known at the present time will do what this substance was reported to do, namely, to set fire to ships when brought into contact with water.

Nearly half a century ago the experiment of putting horse meat on the market was made for the first time in Austria. A Government decree of April 20, 1854, gave legal permission to cut up and serve horse meat as an article of food. During the rest of that year and in 1855 943 horses were slaughtered for food in Vienna; the number rose in 1899—the last year for which statistics are obtainable—to 25,640 head.

A Turk holds that the day begins exactly at sunset. At that time he sets his clocks and watches at the hour of 12. As the sun has the same habits in presiding over Turkey that he exercises with regard to other countries, it may easily be seen that this system of reckoning time necessitates setting the clocks every day. A watch which could run for weeks without gaining or losing a minute would be of no special value to the Turk.

Sam Jones, in one of his sermons, took women to task for spending more time in prinking than in praying. "If there's a woman here," he screamed finally, "who prays more than she prinks, let her stand up." One poor old faded specimen of femininity, in the s