Historical Soc'ty

BOZEMAN AVANT COURIER.

Devoted to the Development of Eastern Montana and the Encouragement of all Industrial Pursuits.

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WHY SHOULD I

Buy My

CLOTHING,

BOOTS AND SHOES,

Hats and Caps, Gents' Furnishing Goods,

CROCKERY,

GLASSWARE, LAMPS AND CHANDELIERS,

OF

LESTER S. WILLSON?

Because, having gone out of the general merchandise trade, and taken up the above "SPECIALS," I can meet styles and prices of any house in Montana, either at

WHOLESALE OR RETAIL.

My stock of Clothing is complete, for Men, Boys and Youths, is perfectly new and fresh, made to order, and in my best lines, being fully up to

CUSTOM MADE GOODS.

My stock of Hats and Gents' Furnishing Goods is immense, and must be seen to be appreciated. The best of

FOREIGN & DOMESTIC GOODS

Always on hand. Boots, Shoes and Leather Findings at prices that will astonish Eastern Montana. Boots and Shoes for Gents, Boys, Youths, Ladies, Misses and Children, just manufactured by the best manufacturers in the United States, and purchased for cash and consequently at

"BOTTOM PRICES."

JOHN CRAIG, or as more familiarly known, "Scotty," will preside at the "bench" and will make or repair anything in the shape of a boot or shoe, and at prices to suit. Call and examine. No trouble to show goods. Prices will be one and the same to all. Goods will be plainly marked, and

NO VARIATION IN PRICES.

Being satisfied that the CASH SYSTEM is the only true one, I shall adhere strictly to it, or to terms that make sales equivalent to cash, thereby asking no man to pay for another's goods.

LESTER S. WILLSON.

Poetry.

Only a Cucumber.

Only a cucumber tender and green,
Only a bachelor hungry and lean;
The most of his teeth are things of the past,
And he eateth his food imprudently fast.

Only a bachelor; little he recked
A thing so fair could have such an effect;
Soon stretched on a pallet, loud moaning he lay,
His long fingers clasping his thin locks of gray.

Only a cucumber tender and green,
Yet it scooped the old bachelor hungry and lean,
Gathered him in like a blasted sheaf;
He has gone to the land never saddened by grief.

Only a Christian gone to his home;
The angels receive him, no more shall he roam;
He has gone to the land that's always "just so,"
Where cucumbers are never allowed to grow.

The "Coming Man."

A pair of very chubby legs,
Encased in scarlet hose;
A pair of little stabby boots,
With rather doubtful toes;
A little kilt, a little coat,
Cut as a mother can—
And lo! before us strides, in state,
The Future's "coming man."

His eyes, perchance, will read the stars,
And search their unknown ways;
Perchance the human heart and soul
Will open to their gaze;
Perchance their keen and flashing glance
Will be a nation's light—
Those eyes, that now are wistful bent
On some "big fellow's" kite.

That brow, where mighty thoughts will dwell
In solemn, secret state,
Where fierce Ambition's restless strength
Shall war with future fate;
Where Science from now hidden caves
New treasures shall outpour—
'Tis knit now, with a troubled doubt,
Are two, or three, cents more?

Those lips that, in the coming years,
Will plead, or pray, or teach;
Whose whispered words, on lightning flash,
From world to world may reach;
They sternly grave, may speak command,
Or, smiling, win control—
Are coaxing now for ginger-bread
With all a baby's soul.

Those hands—those little busy hands—
So sticky, small and brown;
Those hands, whose only mission seems
To tear all order down—
Who knows what hidden strength may lie
Within their future grasp,
Though now 'tis but a tidy-stick
In sturdy hold they clasp.

Ah, blessings on those little hands,
Whose work is yet undone!
And blessings on those little feet,
Whose race is yet unrun!
And blessings on the little brain
That has not learned to plan!
Whate'er the Future holds in store,
God bless the "coming man!"

'Tis Now the Time.

'Tis now the happy harvest time
Comes to the little ants;
'Tis now the playful bumble-bee
Crawls up the small boy's pants.

'Tis now the jingling ice-cream man
Makes sultry households glad;
'Tis now the festive yellow-jacket
Gets petulant and mad.

'Tis now the pert thermometer
Goes on its annual tears;
And sweetly the average citizen
Gets on his ear and swears.

—*New Orleans Times.*

A Henephone.

An intelligent farmer living in Des Moine county, Iowa, has invented a henephone, modeled on the principle of the telephone, by which one old reliable hen, occupying a central office in the henery sits on all the nests about the establishment, leaving other fowls free to lay eggs, scratch and cackle. As fast as a new nest contains a full complement of eggs, it is connected with the central office by a copper wire and the business is settled. The only trouble with the machine is that it sits so hard that it hatches out the porcelain nest-egg with the others, so that one chick in every nest is born with glass eyes, and the farmer has to buy and train a dog to lead it around. This makes it rather expensive. —*Hawkeye.*

A New Way to Stop Gambling.

Richard A. Proctor in the London Echo.

Every man of sense and probity admits that gambling is immoral; but, like many other things admitted to be immoral, gambling goes on almost unchecked. The law is, indeed, altogether powerless to prevent gambling. That this is so is shown by the effect of the law according to which gambling debts cannot be recovered at Common Law. Such debts have been made debts of honor, and men who would think little of defrauding an ordinary creditor pay their gambling debts not only in full, but early. In fact, *some* among the gambling community have been known rather to rob their employers than to delay the payment of a debt of honor (save the mark!) Of course there are cases in which gambling debts are not paid. It would be strange, indeed, if it were otherwise in such a company of fools and knaves. But certainly the Act 8 and 9 Vict., c. 109, has had nothing to do with such shortcomings. In fact, if a law were passed by which every gambling debt was made recoverable within three days, under penalty of imprisonment or flogging, I believe that gambling would receive a severer check (though such a law would in reality countenance gambling) than from any law hitherto passed against betting or gaming.

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THE TIMBER LAW.

Instructions of the Commissioner on the Law.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, GENERAL LAND OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C. June 27, 1878.

To Registers and Receivers of U. S. Land Offices—

GENTLEMEN: I have to call your attention to modifications of the law for the disposal of public land for purposes of timber culture, made by the act of Congress of June 14, 1778, entitled, "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to encourage the growth of timber on the Western Prairies,'" a copy of which is hereto attached.

I. Certain provisions of the act of March 13, 1874, are repealed by the act of June 14, 1878.

1. The act of March 13, 1874, at the close of its first section, contains the following: "Provided, That not more than one-quarter of any section shall be thus granted, and that no person shall make more than one entry under the provisions of this act, unless fractional subdivisions of less than forty acres are entered, which, in the aggregate, shall not exceed one-quarter section." In the act of June 14, 1878, the concluding words, "unless fractional subdivisions of less than forty acres are entered, which, in the aggregate, shall not exceed one-quarter section," are omitted. Hence, the rule forbidding more than one entry is made universal, and will govern in all future cases.

2. The provision of the act of March 13, 1874, requiring that the trees shall be [illegible] way" is omitted from the act of June 14, 1878. The latter requires, however, that the final proof shall show "that not less than twenty-seven hundred trees were planted on each acre, and that at the time of making such proof there shall be growing at least six hundred and seventy-five living and thrifty trees to each acre."

3. The closing sentence of the second section of the act of March 13, 1874, provides that "in case of the death of a person who has complied with the provisions of this act for the period of three years, his heirs or legal representatives shall have the option to comply with the provisions of this act, and receive, at the expiration of eight years, a patent for one hundred and sixty acres, or receive, without delay, a patent for forty acres, relinquishing all claim to the remainder." This provision is not contained in the act of June 14, 1878.

4. The following section of the act of March 13, 1874, relating to homestead entries on which timber is cultivated, is omitted from the act of June 14, 1878:

"SEC. 4. That each and every person who, under the provisions of the act entitled 'An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain,' approved May 20, 1862, or any amendment thereto, having a homestead on said public domain, who, at any time after the end of the third year of his or her residence thereon, shall, in addition to the settlement and improvements now required by law, have had under cultivation, for two years, one acre of timber, the trees thereon not being more than twelve feet apart each way, and in a good thrifty condition, for each and every sixteen acres of said homestead, shall, upon due proof of such fact by two credible witnesses, receive his or her patent for said homestead."

The rights of claimants under entries actually made according to the act of March 13, 1874, before the 14th June, 1878, when the amendatory act took effect, are not affected by the repeal of the provisions referred to. The parties interested, if they so elect, may consummate their entries according to the provisions of the act under which they were initiated. And homestead entries made before the 14th June, 1878, will be patented according to the fourth section above quoted, where the facts are such as to bring the cases within its provisions and the interested parties so desire. But entries made since that time must be adjusted according to the principles of the law as modified by the amendatory act.

II. The principal points to be observed in proceedings thereunder may be stated as follows:

1. The privilege of entry under the act of June 14, 1878, is confined to persons who are heads of families, or over twenty-one years of age, and who are citizens of the United States, or have declared their intention to become such, according to the naturalization laws.

2. The affidavit required for initiating an entry under the act of June 14, 1878, may be made before the Register or Receiver of the district office for the land district embracing the desired tract, before the clerk of some court of record, or before any officer authorized to administer oaths in that district.

3. Not more than one hundred and sixty acres in any one section can be entered under this act, and no person can make more than one entry thereunder.

4. The ratio of area required to be broken, planted, etc., in all entries under the act of June 14, 1878, is one-sixteenth of the land embraced in the entry, except where the entered tract is less than forty acres, in which case it is one-sixteenth of that quantity. The party making an entry of a quarter section, or one hundred and sixty acres, is required to break or plow five acres covered thereby during the first year, and five acres in addition during the second year. The five acres broken or plowed during the first year he is required to cultivate by raising a crop, or otherwise, during the second year, and to plant in timber, seeds, or cuttings, during the third year. The five acres broken or plowed during the second year he is required to cultivate, by raising a crop or otherwise, during the third year, and to plant in timber, seeds, or cuttings, during the fourth year. The tracts embraced in entries of a less quantity than one-quarter section are required to be broken or plowed, cultivated, and planted in trees, tree-seeds or cuttings, during the same periods, and to the same extent, in proportion to their total areas, as are provided for in entries of a quarter section. Provision is made in the act for an extension of time in case the trees, seeds, or cuttings planted should be destroyed by grasshoppers, or by extreme and unusual drought.

5. If, at the expiration of eight years from the date of entry, or at any time within five years thereafter, the person making the entry, or, if he be dead, his heirs or legal representatives, shall prove, by two credible witnesses, the planting, cultivating, and protecting of the timber for not less than eight years, according to the provisions of the act of June 14, 1878, he, or they, will be entitled to a patent for the land embraced in the entry.

6. If, at any time after one year from the date of entry, and prior to the issue of a patent therefor, the claimant shall fail to comply with any of the requirements of that act, then, and in that event, such entry will become liable to a contest, in the manner provided in homestead cases, and upon due proof of such failure the entry will be canceled, and the land become again subject to entry under the homestead laws, or by some other person under the act of June 14, 1878.

7. No land acquired under the provisions of the act of June 14, 1878, will in any event become liable to the satisfaction of any debt or debts contracted prior to the issuing of the final certificate therefor.

8. The fees for entries under the act of June 14, 1878, are ten dollars if the tract applied for is more than eighty acres; and five dollars, if it is eighty acres or less; and the commissions of Registers and Receivers on all entries (irrespective of area) are four dollars (two dollars to each) at the date of entry, and a like sum at the date of final proof,

the amount of fee and commissions, between minimum and double minimum lands. A party may enter one hundred and sixty acres of either on payment of the prescribed fee and commissions.

10. The fifth section of the act approved March 3, 1827, entitled "An act in addition to an act to punish crimes against the United States, and for other purposes," is extended to all oaths, affirmations, and affidavits required or authorized by the act of June 14, 1878.

11. Parties who have already made entries under the timber-culture acts of March 3, 1873, and March 13, 1874, of which the act of June 14, 1878, is amendatory, may complete the same by compliance with the requirements of the latter act; that is, they may do so by showing, at the time of making their final proof, that they have had under cultivation, as required by the act of June 14, 1878, an amount of timber sufficient to make the number of acres required thereby, being one-fourth the number required by the former acts.

III. The following regulations are prescribed pursuant to the fifth section of the act of June 14, 1878, viz:

1. The Register and Receiver will not restrict entries under this act to one-quarter section only in each section, as was formerly done under the acts to which this is amendatory, but may allow entries to be made of subdivisions of different quarter sections; provided that each entry shall form a compact body, not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres, and that not more than that quantity shall be entered in any one section. Before allowing any entry applied for, they will, by a careful examination of the plat and tract-books with reference to any previous entry or entries within the limits of the same section, satisfy themselves that the desired entry is admissable under this rule.

2. When they shall have satisfied themselves that the land applied for is properly subject to such entry, they will require the party to make the prescribed affidavit, and to pay the fee and that part of the commissions payable at the date of entry, and the Receiver will issue his receipt therefor, in duplicate, giving the party a duplicate receipt. They will number the entry in its order, in a separate series of numbers, unless they have already a series under the acts to which this act is amendatory, in which case they will number the entry as one of that series; they will note the entry on their records, and report it in their monthly returns, sending up all the papers therein, with an abstract of the entries allowed during the month under this act. If the affidavit is made before a justice of the peace, which the act admits of, his official character, and the genuineness of his signature, must be certified under seal.

3. When a contest is instituted, as contemplated in the third section of the act of June 14, 1878, the contestant will be allowed to make application to enter the land. The Register will thereupon indorse on the application the date of its presentation, and will make the application, and the contestant's affidavit setting forth the grounds of contest, the basis for further proceedings, these papers to accompany the report submitting the case to the General Land Office. Should the contest result in the cancellation of the contested entry, the contestant may then perfect his own, but no preference right will be allowed unless application is made by him at date of instituting contest.

4. The fees and commissions in this class of entries the Receiver will account for in the usual manner, indicating the same as fees and commissions on timber-culture entries, which will be charged against the maximum of three thousand dollars now allowed by law.

6 In all cases under this act it will be required that trees shall be cultivated which shall be of the class included in the term "timber," the cultivation of shrubbery and fruit trees not being sufficient.

6. The applications, affidavits, and receipts in entries allowed under the act of June 14, 1878, will be made out according to the forms hereto attached.

Very respectfully,
J. A. WILLIAMSON,
Commissioner.

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An act to encourage the growth of timber on the Western prairies."

Be it enacted, &c., That the act entitled "An act to amend the act entitled 'An act to encourage the growth of timber on the westen prairies,'" approved March 13th, 1874, be and the same is hereby amended so as to read as follows: That any person who is the head of a family, or who has arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and is a citzen of the United States, or who shall have filed his declaration of intention to become such, as required by the naturalization laws of the United States, who shall plant, protect, and keep in a healthy, growing condition for eight years ten acres of timber, on any quarter section of any of the public lands of the United States, or five acres on any legal subdivision of eighty acres, or two and one-half acres on any legal subdivision of forty acres or less, shall be entitled to a patent for the whole of said quarter section, or of such legal subdivison of eighty or forty acres, or fractional subdivision of less than forty acres, as the case may be, at the expiration of said eight years, on making proof of such fact by not less than two credible witnesses, and a full compliance of further conditions as provided in section two: *Provided further,* That not more than one quarter of any section shall be thus granted, and that no person shall make more than one entry under the provisions of this act.

SEC. 2. That the person applying for the benefits of this act shall, upon application to the Register of the land district in which he or she is about to make such entry, make affidavit, before the Register or the Receiver, or clerk of some court of record, or officer authorized to administer oaths in the district where the land is situated; which affidavit shall be as follows, to-wit: "I, ——— ———, having filed my application, number ——, for an entry under the provisions of an act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to encourage the growth of timber on the western prairies,'" approved ——— ——, 187-, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am the head of a family (or over twenty-one years of age), and a citizen of the United States (or have declared my intention to be one such); that the section of land specified in my said application is composed exclusively of prairie lands, or other lands devoid of timber; that this filing and entry is made for the cultivation of timber, and for my own exclusive use and benefit; that I have made the said application in good faith, and not for speculation, or directly or indirectly for the use or benefit of any other person or persons whomsoever; that I intend to hold and cultivate the land, and to fully comply with the provisions of this said act; and that I have not heretofore made an entry under this act, or the acts of which this is amendatory. And upon filing said affidavit with said Register and said Receiver and on payment of ten dollars, if the tract applied for is more than eighty acres; and five dollars if it is eighty acres or less, he or she shall thereupon be permitted to enter the quantity of land specified; and the party making an entry of a quarter section under the provisions of this act shall be required to break or plow five acres covered thereby the first year, five acres the second year, and to cultivate to crop or otherwise the five acres broken or plowed the first year; the third year he or she shall cultivate to crop or otherwise the five acres broken the second year, and to plant in timber, seeds, or cuttings, the first five acres first broken or plowed, and to cultivate and put in crop or otherwise the remaining five acres, and the fourth year to plant in timber, seeds, or cuttings, the remaining five acres. All entries of less quantity than one quarter section shall be plowed, planted, cultivated and planted to trees, tree-seeds, or cuttings in the same manner and in the same proportion as hereinbefore provided for a quarter section. *Provided, however,* That in case such trees, seeds, or cuttings shall be destroyed by grasshoppers, or by extreme or unusual drouth, for any year or term of years, the time for planting such trees, seeds, or cuttings shall be extended one for every such year that they are so destroyed: *Provided, further,* That the person making such entry shall, before he or she shall be entitled to such extension of time, file with the Register and the Receiver of the proper land office an affidavit, corroborated by two witnesses, setting forth the destruction of such trees, and that, in consequence of such destruction, he or she is compelled to ask an extension of time, in accordance with the provisions of this act: *And provided, further,* That no final certificate shall be given, or patent issued, for the land so entered until the expiration of eight years from the date of such entry; and if, at the expiration of such time, or at any time within five years thereafter, the person making such entry, or, if he or she be dead, his or her heirs or legal representatives, shall prove by two credible witnesses that he or she or they have planted, and, for not less than eight years, have cultivated and protected such quantity and character of trees as aforesaid; that not less than twenty-seven hundred trees were planted to each acre and that at the time of making such proof that there shall be then growing at least six hundred and seventy-five living and thrifty trees to each acre, they shall receive a patent for such tract of land.

SEC. 3. That at any time after the filing of said affidavit, and prior to the issuing of the patent for said land, the claimant shall fail to comply with any of the requirements of this act, then and in that event such land shall be subject to entry under the homestead laws, or by some other person under the provisions of this act. *Provided,* That the party making claim to said land, either as a homestead-settler, or under this act, shall give at the time of filing his application, such notice to the original claimant as shall be prescribed by the rules established by the Commissioner of the General Land Office; and the rights of the parties shall be determined as in other contested cases.

SEC. 4. That no land acquired under the [illegible] become liable to the satisfaction of any debt or debts contracted prior to the issuing of the final certificate therefor.

SEC. 5. That the Commissioner of the General Land Office is hereby required to prepare and issue such rules and regulations, consistent with this act, as shall be necessary and proper to carry its provisions into effect; and that the Registers and Receivers of the several land offices shall each be entitled to receive two dollars at the time of entry, and the like sum when the claim is finally established and the final certificate issued.

SEC. 6. That the fifth section of the act entitled "An act in addition to an act to punish crimes against the United States, and for other purposes," approved March 3, 1857, shall extend to all oaths, affirmations, and affidavits required or authorized by this act.

SEC. 7. That parties who have already made entries under the acts approved March 3, 1873, and March 13, 1874, of which this is amendatory shall be permitted to complete the same upon full compliance with the provisions of this act; that is, they shall, at the time of making their final proof, have had under cultivation, as required by this act, an amount of timber sufficient to make the number of acres required by this act.

SEC. 8. All acts and parts of acts in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Approved June 14, 1878.

CATHARINE BEECHER.

The Romance in Her Life.—Why She Never Married.

That the Beecher family has within it one of the saddest of tragedies all the world knows; but few were aware until very recently that it had also a mournful romance—steeped in sorrow, yet untouched by sin. The death of Catherine Beecher, at the age of seventy-eight, reveals this romance, as simple as it is pathetic. Miss Beecher was the oldest member of the family, and judging from the work she accomplished, a woman of remarkable ability. While still a girl she was engaged to lege, a young man of brilliant promise, whom she seems to have loved with a passion amounting to idolatry. On a voyage to Europe about the year 1822, the ship—the "Albion," we think—was wrecked on what is known as the Old Head of Kinsale, off the south coast of Ireland, and Prof. Fisher was among the lost. His betrothed was almost driven to madness by the blow. The religious faith which had been implanted in her from childhood, and to which she was devotedly attached, was completely swept away. She could not reconcile divine love with the awful affliction which had quenched the light and life of her heart. In the language of the pulpit, she "rebelled against the decrees of Providence," and in spite of the arguments of her learned and pious father, persisted in rebellion. There is no reason to believe that she ever became what is called "entirely submissive," and her dislike to some of the peculiar doctrines of orthodoxy rather increased than diminished with age. Only a few months ago *The Republican* quoted an extract from an article written by her to the New York *Tribune*, in which she critizised the dogma of eternal punishment from the standpoint of reason and common sense, and described her feelings when compelled to listen to her father's fierce sermon on this subject.

Such a character might be crippled, but could not be crushed. Miss Beecher put married happiness away from her as an impossibility, and became a missionary of education. To this cause she devoted her life. She first established a female seminary in Hartford, Connecticut; and afterwards, in connection with her sister, Mrs. Stowe, started a college in Cincinnati, mainly for the purpose of supplying the then unprovided West with competent teachers. As her brother says, "though childless, she was the mother of more children than any one else; for having lost her own household in the death of her affianced, she adopted the households of others." In addition to these labors, she wrote fifteen or twenty books on education. Previous to her brother's trial she defended him in communications to the New York papers, and we believe the last effort of her pen was a note commenting upon Mrs. Tilton's confession. 'Tis a pity such a woman could not have been spared the infinite shame the great scandal brought upon her, and doubtless she often wished, in the dismal latter days, that she had gone with her lover to the bottom of the sea.

Some one was reading the Bible to Jim Anderson, the other day, and came to the passage about the plague and darkness in Egypt. "That must have been terrible," said the reader, pausing. "Awful; just think of it, darkness so thick that it could be actually felt." "Hoh," said Mr. Anderson, "that was nothing. I remember one night in East Feliciana when it was so dark—sh! Talk about darkness. Why, I had to wade through it just like mud to get home. Lots of people got tired and scared, and stayed right where they happened to be all night. Why, when we went to bed that night, we never hung up our clothes; just pushed 'em off into the darkness like, as we took 'em off, and there they stuck. It was funny, in the morning, when it began to grow light, to hear the things dropping out as the darkness lost its grasp, and falling on the floor. I remember that I put an old pair of boots up in the——." But here a messenger announced that the committee was waiting for Mr. Anderson, and without completing his interesting narrative of facts, he withdrew.—*Burlington Hawkeye.*

Man's Better-Half.

Mrs. Tilton has been offered one hundred dollars a night to lecture.

Miss Battey, a member of the staff of the New York *Sun*, is said to receive a salary of $2,000 a year.

A young lady friend of ours, named Mary, has no objection to having her name spelt with two r's.

A Troy young lady has just recovered crows. usually ask about the quality of the whisky taken before the cloves.

"Speaking of bathing," says Mrs. Partington, "some can bathe with perfect impurity in water as cold as Greenland's icy mountains and India's coral strands; but, for my part, I prefer to have the water a little torpid."

It is an old and true saying that a man should not marry unless he can support a wife, and, from some examples that we have seen, we are beginning to doubt seriously whether a woman can prudently marry if she can't support a husband.

Wishing to pay his friend a compliment, a gentleman remarked: "I hear you have a very industrious wife?" "Yes," replied his friend, with a melancholy smile, "She is never idle—she's always finding something for me to do."

Snodgrass says there is a marked difference between birds and women. As an illustration of this, he cites the fact that a bit of looking-glass on a fruit tree will frighten away every bird that approaches it, while the same article would attract more fair ones than a load of cherries.

Bret Harte says that he does not know what folly he was saved by hearing a pretty girl, whom he had met in the streets several times, say to another girl: "Well, I told him if he didn't like it he might lump it, and he just walked off on his left ear, you bet."

A couple of young men were out fishing the other day, and on returning were going past a farm house, and felt hungry. They yelled to the farmers' daughters: "Girls, have you any buttermilk?" The reply was gently wafted back to their ears: "Yes, but we keep it for our own calves." The boys calculated they had business away—and went.

The day is not far distant, murmurs the Elko *Post*, when the housewife will glance into the wood-shed, and, finding that the husband has gone off without splitting the daily allowance of fuel, will take down the phonograph, howl into it a volume of epithets that will register 160 pounds pressed and then call out to her boy: "Here, sonny, go down town and grind that out to your lazy old father; and see that you turn the crank lively, too!"

A woman put herself in the hands of a Boston dentist to have her teeth reorganized. He found them in a very bad plight and asked her why she had allowed them to become so decayed without coming to him or some other dentist. She replied that she had not had time. "But," he insisted, "it would not have taken long, and you could have come in almost any time." She saw that he was bent on an explanation, and she fired this at him like a cannon ball: "Well, I guess it you had had a baby every year for the last ten years, you would think it was about enough to 'tend to." He acknowledged he would.

A celebrated actress, carrying a broom in her hands, was singing, for the first time in an English theatre, the song called "Buy a Broom." When she came to the words, "To brush away insects that sometimes annoy you, you will find them quite handy to use night and day," she walked to the edge of the stage, on which were seated several boys, who had taken up positions to the annoyance of the actress, and also to the audience, and she vigorously and ruthlessly swept the intruders into the pit. The laughter and applause that greeted the lady were tremendous, and it was some time before she could go on with the remainder of the song. She fairly brought down the house.

Josh Billings on Birds.

THE QUAIL.

The quail is a game bird, about a size bigger than the robin, and so sudden that they hum when they fly. They have no song, but whistle for music; the tune is solitary and sad. They are shot on the wing, and a man may be good in arithmetick, fustrate at parsing, and even be able to preach acceptably, but if he ain't studied quail on the wing he might as well shoot at a streak ov lightning in the sky as a quail on the go.

Briled quail, properly supported with jellies and a Champane Charlie, is just the most difficult thing, in my humble opinion to beat in the whole history of vittals and something to drink.

I am no gormand, for I kan eat bread and milk five days out ov seven, and smak my lips after I git thru, but if I am asked to eat briled quail by a friend with judicious accompanyment, I blush at fust, then bow my head, and them smile sweet acquiesence—in other words, I alway's quail before such a request.

THE PARTRIDGE.

The partridge is a small game bird. Their game is to drum on a log in the spring ov the year and keep both eyes open, watching the sportsman. Partridges are shot on the wing, and are as easy tu miss as a ghost is. It is plun enuff to see the old bird hide her young brood when danger is near. This must be seen; it can't be described, and make ennybody believe it.

The partridge, grouse and pheasant are cousins, and either ov them straddle a gridiron natural enuff to have been born there. Take a couple of young partridges and pot them down, and serve up with a kind ov chorus, and they beat the ham sandwiches you buy on the Camden and Amboy Road 87 1-2 per cent. I have eat these lamentable New Jersey ham sandwiches, and must say that I prefer a couple ov basswood chips soaked in mustard water, and stuck together with Spaulding's glue.

Wit and Humor.

How to keep cool—go to the North Pole.

What is it that walks with its head downward? A nail in a shoe.

Why is a tipsy-setter like a cripple? Because he can't get along without his stick.

Edgar Fawcett wishes that "man could make love like a bird." He does, Edgar, he does—like a goose.—*Burlington Hawk-*

than it is long. This shows what a [illegible] diet will do for the brain.—*New Haven Register.*

Old Nebuchadnezzar was no lover of card playing. The good book says he came down flat-footed on "all fours."

Why is it that a person, after reading the medical advertisements in a newspaper, involuntarily glances at the column of deaths?

A Paris doctor holds "that a peculiar condition of the atmosphere may so influence a man that he will seem to be intoxicated.

It is a very singular fact that all the shoes manufactured in the United States, when they are shipped from the manufactories, are box-stowed.

"A schooner of beer for five cents," is translated by a French newspaper so as to read, "In America you can get a boat full of beer for five cents."

One reason why more people did not get into the ark is that Noah neglected to advertise in the papers. There is a great moral lesson contained in this fact.

We don't know why it is, but in common with other distinguished journalists, we like to locate our jokes as far away from home as possible.

A cotemporary asks: "Did you ever hear of a striker getting rich?" Yes, plenty of them. They were blacksmiths, and always struck while the iron was hot.

The parson in the pulpit stands,
His locks are thin and gray;
He bends his head, he claps his hands,
And springs upon his pray:

Singular, isn't it, that convicts escape from Sing Sing right under the nose of the watchman? And how could they escape *over* his nose?

The man who begins a newspaper card, "My attention has been called," is a self-proclaimed idiot. Men of common sense see things for themselves, and don't lie about them.

Folks who can't understand why robins are sent to eat up all the cherries, should can't understand why human beings are sent to do the same thing.

The man who carries around the contribution box in church ought to be supremely happy. He can see how much every one puts in, and no one can tell how much he takes out—of his pocket to put in it.

"No man," says Mrs. Partington, "was better calculated to judge of pork than my poor husband; he knew what good hogs were, for he had been brought up with 'em from childhood."

Wilson, the celebrated vocalist, was upset one day in his carriage near Edinburgh. A Scotch paper, after recording the accident, said: "We are happy to state he was able to appear the following evening in three pieces."

"Sam, you are not honest. Why do you put all the good peaches on the top of the measure, and the little ones below?" "Same reason, sah, dat makes de front ob your house marble and de back gate chiefly slop bar'l, sah."

The young man who goes to the barber and has his head shaved has a pleasant future before him. Bank presidents, millionaire philanthropists and retired merchants are always looking for just such chaps to give them a lift.

"I never sot my mind to writin' poetry till two years ago," said a young rurralist, tilting back in a grocery chair; "but the minute I took to goin' with that Johnson girl, by gosh! I couldn't help it."

It is a satisfaction to an editor to learn, sometimes, that his licks are felt—even if he has to read his knowledge on the toe of an infuriated boot.—*St. Paul Dispatch.* This is philosophical. The editor of the *Dispatch* had just been publicly kicked by one Albert Armstrong, Esq., who had a grievance.

A physician in a country town, who had been annoyed by numerous questions concerning the condition of a patient, was stopped, while on his busy rounds, by a man with the old question: "How's M.?" "Ill," replied the physician. "Does he keep his bed?" "Of course he does. You don't suppose he's fool enough to sell his bed because he's ill, do you?"

A young Oil Citizen calls his sweetheart Revenge, because she is sweet.—*Oil City Derrick.* And the young married man on South Hill calls his mother-in-law Delay, because she is dangerous.—*Burlington Hawkeye.* And a South End man calls his wife Fact, because she is a stubborn thing. —*Boston Globe.* And a fourth wife of a district attorney calls him Necessity, because he knows no law.—*New Orleans Times.* And a Cincinnati man named his coachman Procrastination, because he stole his watch.—*Breakfast [illegible].* And a Syracuse man calls his wife Sluggard, because she gets mad and goes to her aunt every time he stays out to the lodge.—*Syracuse Times.* And a Yonkers man calls his wife Frailty, because Shakespeare says, "Frailty, thy name is woman."—*Yonkers Gazette.* And a New York insurance agent calls his wife Honesty, because it's the best policy. —*New York Herald.*

Electric Light grows steadily into public notice, and there is every indication that before long we shall really know whether it has a permanent practical value. The New York *Times* is about to introduce the process in its composing room. The cost of the gas used there is about $500 per month, at present. The cost of the electric fire, it is understood, will be only $100 per month, after the first cost—$1,000—of fitting up the apparatus.