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Practices Dentistry in all its Branches.
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HAVING TWELVE YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN Dentistry, I feel assured I can do patrons as good work in Rubber Plates or Gold Filling as they can obtain anywhere, and respectfully solicit their patronage. My prices will be found reasonable. I have located in Deer Lodge permanently, and will guarantee my work. Work done at all reasonable hours.
913 tf GEO. W. FANCHER.

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Wm. Coleman is closing out his stock of Sharp, Winchester and Marlin Rifles AT COST. Now is the time for Sportsmen to get a good, reliable gun almost at their own price. Call early and get your choice of the lot.
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DEER LODGE, MONTANA,
Sam. Scott, Proprietor.
Board Per Day $2.00. Single Meals, 50 c.
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DEER LODGE, MONTANA.
I have opened the above SALOON AND BILLIARD ROOM, stocked the bar with the best Liquors and Cigars, and solicit a share of the public patronage. 908 tf

VOL. 18, NO. 37. DEER LODGE, MONTANA, MARCH 11, 1887. WHOLE NO. 922.

## MY TOAST.

Not to the queen of fashion;
Not to the jeweled breast;
Not to the slave of fashion;
Not to the royal crest.

Not to the brow that's fairest;
Not to the eye most bright;
Not to the genius rarest,
The toast I give to-night.

Not to the rich almsgiving;
Not to the lips most red;
Not to the great ones living;
Not to the sacred dead.

My toast is far from cheery
To every man with eyes,
Who hears the drama, weary
Behind a hat of size.

I lift my goblet foaming
To that sweet girl, so sage,
Who takes off her hat,
So polite and pat,
To let us see the stage.

To her I lift the beaker,
Brimming with sparkling wine,
And quaff full measure
To each new pleasure
Her bare head gives to mine.
—Washington Star.

### Why Not a New Constitution?

It is proposed two years hence to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the adoption of the American constitution. Would not the best observance of that event be the meeting of another convention to recast our fundamental law? In the state of New York there is a constitutional provision that a new convention shall meet every twenty years to make desirable alterations in the organic law. How much more necessary is it to readjust the constitution of the United States to the changed conditions of our national existence? The constitution of 1789 was made for 3,000,000 of people, scattered along the Atlantic seacoast, east of the Alleghany mountains. This was before the era of steam, electricity, the cotton gin, the spinning jenny and all our marvelous improvements in machinery and the industrial arts. We are now a mighty nation of 60,000,000 people, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean; we are within eight days of Europe by steam, and are in instantaneous communication with the remotest parts of the earth by electricity. We have been forced from time to time to amend our constitution, but the machinery for doing so is so complicated that it is almost impossible to make any radical change except during a national convulsion, such as a civil war. It is confessed that our constitution has broken down in many important respects. The electoral college for instance is not at all what it was originally designed to be. We are in danger of civil war whenever there is a closely contested presidential election. There are tremendous problems ahead of us, and the constitution, which was satisfactory in the Nineteenth century, might prove entirely inadequate in the Twentieth century. At any rate, it would be no harm to discuss such reforms and improvements as would improve the working machinery of our government, and rectify some of the evils that are justly complained of. The discussion of the provisions of our fundamental law would elevate the whole tone of political life in this country. It would give us higher questions for debate in our newspapers than those that pertain to party politics. Why not a convention to revise the constitution of the United States?
L. M.

### American and European Railways.

Some apprehension has been felt at the interference of our government in the affairs of private railway corporations. But it should be remembered that outside of Great Britain the governments of Europe are in great part owners of the railways. This is true of France, Belgium, Holland, Prussia, Russia, Austria and Italy. Of course there are some private companies in all those countries, but the governments are generally the owners of the principal railway lines, and supervise the private corporations. And, on the whole, this government ownership has worked very well. Freights are lower on the continent than in Great Britain or the United States, accidents rarely occur, and then the profits of the various systems accrue to the national treasuries instead of to private individuals. Beginning with Jay Gould and the Vanderbilts, there are probably some two hundred persons in the United States who have built up enormous fortunes out of our railway systems. There is no corresponding class of railroad magnates on continental Europe, though there are quite a number in England, where, as in the United States, the roads are owned by private corporations. Of course, in many respects, our railways are in advance of those of Europe. The latter has nothing comparable to our sleeping car accommodations, and then were our government to have built our roads, there would have been no such rapid construction as we have witnessed under the spur of private enterprise. We have now 130,000 miles of road in the United States—nearly as much as all Europe combined. In a very few years we will have more miles of road than all the rest of the world together. It is estimated that during the year 1887 we shall build nearly 12,000 miles of new railroads, which would make this the greatest year of the kind in our history.
C. G.

### Canes Are Indispensable.

"Canes," said the handsome Monroe avenue dealer, "are intended as a support. But it is only old gentlemen or those who are lame who use them in that way. They are a sort of ballast for a well dressed man to keep him in equipoise."

"What are favorite sticks?"

"Blackthorn, snakewood, malacca, ebony, oak and ash, with ivory, silver or bronze heads. Young men use slender, flexible steel canes, unless they are pedestrians. Then they carry a walking stick or alpenstock."

"Are canes as much used as ever?"

"They are indispensable. A man cannot walk with his hands in his pockets nor carry them swinging at his side when he is out at his leisure. Canes are not used during business hours. They belong to the promenade toilet. Notice a dozen young men on the street of an afternoon and you will see a character distinction in the way each one handles his cane. Elderly gentlemen are very fond of theirs. Some of them bring singular sticks here to be made up—one from the branch of an apple tree that grew near his childhood's home, another a bough from some great man's grave. It used to be a common fashion to bring sticks from foreign trees, but that was when a stick was more a staff than it is now. I have noticed one thing. A homely old knotted cane is always highly valued, perhaps from associations. The proudest cane is the presentation stick with a big gold head and a long inscription. And it is the most uncomfortable one to carry, as it needs constant watching."—Detroit Free Press.

### Washington's Love Letters.

After Washington's death, Martha burned his love letters for fear they might fall into improper hands, and only one escaped the flames. This was written just before Gen. Washington accepted the command of the army of the revolution. It is very affectionate. He begins it with "My dearest," speaks of her in it as "My dear Patsy," and compliments her by telling her that he would enjoy more real happiness in one month with her than he could possibly find abroad, if his stay was to be seven times seven years. In this letter he also incloses his will, with the remark that he has no doubt that the provision for her will be an agreeable one.—Frank G. Carpenter.

### A Mexican Floral Wonder.

A newly discovered Mexican flower is quite a wonder, if reports are true. It is said to be white in the morning, red at noon and blue at night; and is further credited with emitting perfume only at the middle of the day. It grows on a tree of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.—Arkansaw Traveler.

An English firm is filling a large order for shoes made of papier mache.

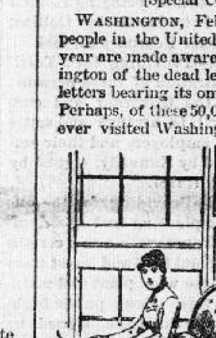
## DEAD LETTER OFFICE.

### WHAT IS DONE WITH MISDIRECTED MAIL MATTER.

**The Museum and the Main Office Described—Some Examples of the Ingenuity of Clerks and the Careless Way Letter Writers Address Their Missives.**

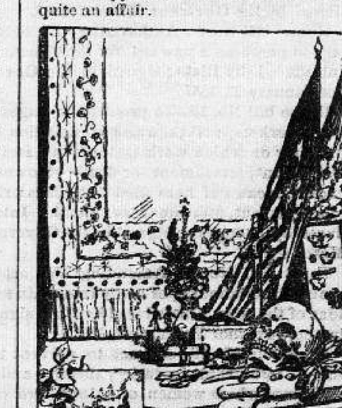
[Special Correspondence.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Of the 50,000,000 people in the United States, one-tenth every year are made aware of the presence in Washington of the dead letter office by receiving letters bearing its ominous, triangular stamp. Perhaps, of these 50,000,000 not over one-tenth ever visited Washington. But of those who came, few went away without visiting the dead letter office, for it is one of the most interesting of all the sights in this great capital. The dead letter office is poked off in the second and third stories of the northeast corner of the department building. Mr. Baird, the superintendent, and his assistant, Mr. Perry, with their amanuenses occupy a large, pleasant office on the second floor corridor, easily accessible to the public, and at the head of the stairway from the F street entrance is the little museum of the dead letter office, always open and visited daily by hundreds. But the office itself, where scores of busy clerks are all day opening, examining and readdressing stray letters, is shut under lock and key. Curious outsiders who wish to view the penetralia of the office, must go to Mr. Baird and get a permit. Then with an attendant all there is behind the locked door can be seen.



A DEAD LETTER CLERK.

It would be a good thing for those who visit the dead letter office to realize something of its importance by comparative study of the postal systems of the world. Few Americans really know how great a thing the postoffice establishment of the United States is. For instance, the United States has more postoffices than all the countries of Europe, nearly four times as many as great Britain or Germany, nine times as many as Austria or France. British India, with 253,000,000 of people, has but 6,721 postoffices. The United States, with 50,152,000 people, has 53,614 postoffices of all kinds. Germany, with her 45,000,000 people, has but 15,428. Great Britain, for 35,900,000 people, has 16,434. Hayti, probably, has fewer postoffices than any other country in the world, there being but three for 550,000 people. In the United States there is a postoffice for every 1,002 people. But aside from these statistics in regard to population our postal system in the United States covers more ground than any other in the world. For instance, we have 117,000 miles of railway service, more than all the rest of the world together. How many letters does the gentle reader suppose all the people on this planet send in a single year? The actual statistics are not known, the total being reached approximately by postal statisticians. There were carried in the mails of the world in 1886 the enormous number of 11,640,000,000 pieces of mail matter, of which the mails of the United States carried one-third and the mails of all Europe nearly two-thirds. So you see it is reasonable to suppose that this dead letter office is quite an affair.



CORNER IN MUSEUM.

The first, perhaps the most interesting, thing you see about the dead letter office is the museum. Such a collection of curiosities was perhaps never anywhere else gotten together. Nothing so much resembles it as the exhibition of the handiwork of the inmates of a lunatic asylum. Here are put in glass cases a thousand and one things that cannot be returned to their owners. There are a dozen bottles of snakes preserved in alcohol, the reptiles having been sent through the mail alive. Lizards, horned toads, butterflies, mice, and on one occasion even a live canary, have found their way to the dead letter office. Here are collections of all sorts. There is a large case of coins, in which nearly every rare coin, both ancient and modern, known to numismatics is to be seen.

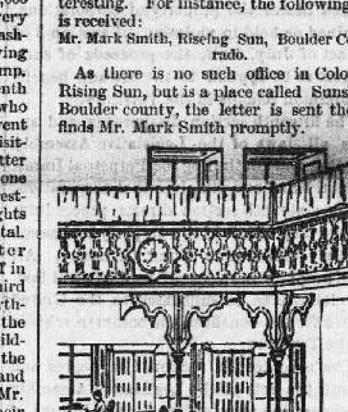
The cowboy of the west could easily equip himself out of this museum. There are revolvers of every pattern conceivable, bull dogs, self cockers, six shooters, Colt's, derringers, vest pockets, to say nothing of pocket rifles and rifle canes. Of hunting knives and daggers there are enough to stock a frontier outfitting store. There are tools, chisels, hatchets, hammers, buck saws, planes. Even a grocer could make a pretty handsome start with what is to be found in this museum. He would have big boxes of raisins, figs, jars of honey, cans of baking powder and other things too numerous to mention. The quantity of fancy work in the way of things that women crochet, knit, paint, embroider, patch, quilt, and in a hundred other ingenious ways devise, would make a fortune for a church fair. Here are swords, flags, skulls, boxes of cigars, packages of tobacco, gold rings, pins, bracelets, steel traps, jack knives, bibles, portraits, some of them hand painted and a century old. In short, all sorts and kinds of things.

The main office is a huge room two stories high, with an iron gallery, reached by spiral stairs, running around its four sides. Here sit at long tables the clerks who open and classify the letters. Here the aim of everybody is to clear up the day's work and keep even with the 16,000 dead letters that are received daily. Ten thousand letters every day are opened and sent back to the senders. Last year in this room there was found in dead letters over $1,500,000 in cash, drafts, checks and money orders, which but for the skill and honesty of these clerks would hardly have gone back to the owners through whose carelessness it was lost. Tons upon tons of parcels are opened here daily. Just before Christmas an immense amount of this kind of mail matter is received. It comes mainly from New York city, and consists of matter sent by foreigners living in this country to their friends in the old country. The senders are usually ignorant people, who do not know that the things they are sending back to the old home are dutiable in the country to which they are going, and so their packages quickly find their way to the dead letter office. These things are sorted out and packed away in the long, dark storage rooms in the basement, all properly classified and accounted for. At the end of the year they are sold at public auction, and an account kept of the proceeds of the sale, so that if at any time the owners can identify the package the government will pay him exactly the sum which the article brought at the auction. Down in these vaults there are stored away, like Egyptian mummies awaiting the last trump, over three tons of photographs and daguerreotypes. In the year $1,675 worth of postage stamps was received in dead letters and destroyed. There were received 16,000 magazines, illustrated papers and Christmas cards, all of which were given to charitable institutions in Washington, as they could not be restored to the owners.

No letters are opened unless it is necessary to do so to find out where they came from. Between 75,000 and 80,000 letters are returned each year unopened, when to the ordinary observer they seem utterly unintelligible in their addresses. Some of these are very interesting. For instance, the following letter is received:

Mr. Mark Smith, Riseing Sun, Boulder Co., Colorado.

As there is no such office in Colorado as Rising Sun, but is a place called Sunshine in Boulder county, the letter is sent there and finds Mr. Mark Smith promptly.



MAIN OFFICE.

It is not so easy to determine where to send the following:

Dr. Jackson, Our Home on the Hillside, New York.

There is one clerk in the office who remembers that the sanitarium at Dansville, N. Y., is sometimes called "Our Home on the Hillside," and there Dr. Jackson is found.

Sometimes letter writers make very strange slips. A letter is addressed to:

Mr. Matthew Brown, Niagara, Prat Co., Kansas.

As there is no such place as Niagara in Kansas, the letter is sent to Saratoga, Prat county, with a special request to the postmaster at that place for information as to where mail addressed "Niagara" should be sent. Matthew Brown lives in Saratoga, the postmaster knows him, the letter is delivered, and the dead letter office in due time notified of the fact.

The ingenuity of the emyloyes is sometimes taxed to the utmost, as in this letter:

Mrs. Ellen Clark, care Ida M. Jones, Brunswick.

As there is no state given, this letter soon finds its way to the dead letter office. As the words "care Ida M. Jones" are not directly under the principal address, it is taken for granted that they refer to some sailing vessel, and that it was sent from New York where it was postmarked, to some port on the Atlantic coast. The only Brunswick that can be found on the coast is in Georgia. The letter is sent there, and Mrs. Ellen Clark receives it.

A letter addressed:

Miss Annie Glennon, 413 St. Mary's street, New York City,

Can find neither street nor person in the metropolis. There is no such street in New York state, nor indeed, in any city in the Union except San Antonio, Tex. There are plenty of streets named St. Mary, but none named St. Mary's. The letter is sent to San Antonio, and delivered to Miss Glennon, at 413 St. Mary's street.

A letter was addressed to

Miss M. E. Adams, care Drexel, Morgan & Co., London, England.

Miss Adams having left London, this was forwarded by Drexel, Morgan & Co. to her supposed address in New York city, 711 North Eighth street. There being no North Eighth street in New York city, it was sent to the dead letter office. As Eighth street, in Philadelphia runs north and south, the letter was sent there, and Miss Adams was found at 711.

Very often letters find their proper destination purely by accident. For instance, one came to the office a short time ago addressed:

Miss Minnie B. Hannighan, Iauchs Hotel, N. Y.

There happened to be a clerk in the office who remembered that there was a Iauch's hotel at Long Branch, N. J., and there the letter found Miss Hannighan.

Perhaps the funniest incident of the kind is connected with a letter addressed:

Miss Maggie Smith, P. O. Box 130, Virginia.

The postmark on this letter is New York, and the handwriting is evidently that of a person of culture. An expert in the dead letter office had by chance two years previously received a letter from Miss Maggie Smith, of Alexandria, Va., making inquiries with regard to a French governess whom she wished to send to her sister in New York. At a venture the letter is sent to Miss Maggie Smith, of Alexandria, for whom the writer intended it.

It seems strange that the postmaster at Decatur, Ga., should not have known where to send a letter addressed

Miss H. E. Alexander, E. V.

But he did not, and it came to the dead letter office. The ready witted clerk into whose hands it fell knew, what the postmaster did not, that E. V. stood for en ville. The letter was returned to Decatur, and delivered to the addressee.

Often letters are received where the writer has forgotten to complete the address. Here is one:

Phil Dickel, 2517 F

The clew by which the proper destination of this letter was found seems queer, but it is reasonable. The writer began the address too far to the left if he intended to write 2517 F street, and as there is no such number on F street in Washington, it was taken for granted that the writer had started to write some name and had forgotten to finish it. There are very few streets in the United States that have so high a number as 2517. Among them is Franklin avenue, in Philadelphia, and the letter was sent there and found Mr. Dickel.

One of the best examples of this "blind reading," as it is called, is the following:

Miss Margaret Jopling, No. 3 Calverly Parade, Tunbri

This letter bore a five cent stamp. The inference of course was that it was destined for some foreign place. It was sent to Tunbridge, Wales, which was where the writer intended it to go.

One day a letter came to the office marked:

Mr. Thomas Madden, St. Francis River, Ark.
In care of Bridge Watchman.

There is no such place as St. Francis River in Arkansas, and while the handwriting of this address was quite legible and neat, it seemed impossible to say where this letter should go. There is a St. Francis river in Arkansas, which is three or four hundred miles long. Where the Memphis and Missouri River railroad crosses it there is a notably long bridge. The letter was sent to a watchman on this bridge at a venture. It proved to be the right place.

Some addresses are found in the most arbitrary way imaginable. A letter addressed to

1151 Anne st., New Jersey,

would have had a mighty poor chance of reaching its destination had it not been known in the office that Camden is the only city in that state, out of eight that have Anne streets, where the numbers run as high as 1151. The only Virginia street in New York state is in Buffalo. The only Schermerhorn street in the United States is in Brooklyn; the only Hopper street in the United States is in Utica. A knowledge of these facts has saved many a letter from destruction. Of course a knowledge of foreign languages is a necessity with many of the employes of the dead letter office. A letter came there the other day addressed to

Cayo Hueso, Fla.

This caused a good deal of study until a clerk who knew Spanish looked at it and recognized it as Castilian for Key West.

The work on this kind of mail is called "blind reading," and most of it is done by Mrs. Collins, probably the best expert who has ever held a desk in the office. None of the letters handled by the "blind readers" are opened unless it is absolutely necessary. The specimens given above are only a few of the 77,618 returned unopened during the past year to the senders who incorrectly addressed them. It must be remembered that there is a good deal of foreign dead mail matter handled in the work of the office. Last year 387,963 pieces of such matter was sent to the countries from which it came. The difficulty found in sending foreign dead letters to the proper addresses in this country can be appreciated from the fact that but 18,986 pieces of this kind of mail could be forwarded to correct addresses in this country. Other countries returned to the dead letter office during the year 204,000 letters and parcels originating in this country. Only 5 per cent. of all the mail matter handled in the office is actually destroyed because nobody can be found to claim it. No letter containing a valuable inclosure is ever destroyed.

J. A. TRUESDELL.

## THEN AND NOW.

**New York City Twenty Years Ago and To-Day.**

[Special Correspondence.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—The Chinese wash man had not been suspected, foreshadowed, promised or heard of when I went to seek gold in the fifties. He was still in the far away, mystical Orient, washing his old clothing and praying for a new world to wash for and conquer. The Italian laborer and fruit stand man had not come. Emigrants were still arriving by the Black Ball line of sailing packets. In '56 there was very little lager drank. Our fathers confined themselves more to "hard stuff." Ten cocktails were swallowed to one now. Ultra temperance people, who now think the world is going to the dogs via rum, have no idea how our dads punished grog.

Silk umbrellas were then quite unknown. All we carried were of cotton and baggier than any seen to-day.

The present feminine five storied hat would then have attracted a crowd. They were all called bonnets then.

There were no elevators of any sort—except the article sold over bars. The wharves were crowded with fast California clippers.

Barrooms were very plainly furnished. The average Third avenue saloon of to-day, with its stained glass, paneled walls, mirrors and curtains would have been palatial in those days.

Barnum ran a great moral temperance drama and "Uncle Tom's Cabin" for I know not how many years, and his lecture room, as he called his theatre, was crowded with country ministers, who rejoiced in the chance to see a play when it was called a lecture. His museum, on the site of the Herald building, was covered with oval paintings of birds and beasts, some possible and others impossible; and he had an ingenious flight of stairs leading from the top story of his show to the bottom, every landing door of which let you out but would not let you in again, so that the innocent who once ventured on it was kept going down, down, down till he found himself landed in Ann street, with no means of getting in again till he had paid for readmission. It was marked "egress," and gave all it promised.

Target companies flourished and the rum bum bum of the big bass drum was a frequent sound as it pounded down Broadway and up again in the evening, with the wooden target in the rear drilled full of bullet holes at close range, and borne by the darkey bent half double with its weight and that of the whisky he had swallowed in the engagement over at the Hoboken Elysian fields. The city hall bell boomed several times a day as a fire alarm. There was a public dead volunteer fireman's funeral almost every Sunday. The lecture bureau had not come. Lester Wallack was a slim and very handsome young man and the feminine love of the town. Some of the theatres still advertised their "pits." Forty-second street was out in the country, pigs were still at large in the lower streets. There were no weather prophets, and people were content to receive their weather in such quantity and quality as Providence sent it them.

PRENTICE MULFORD.

## THE LATE A. A. UPCHURCH.

**Founder of the Order of the A. O. U. W.**

J. J. Upchurch, founder of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, who died at Steelville, Mo., on the 18th of January, aged 67 years, was buried on the following Sunday in St. Louis with impressive ceremonies. The body lay in state at the Masonic Temple and thousands came to view it. At 1 o'clock the officers of the Ancient Order of United Workmen assembled at the hall, and the members of the various lodges completely filled the great lodge room. Crowds gathered in the streets in the vicinity, rendering them almost impassable. Grand Master Workman H. L. Rodgers opened the services with an address and was followed by the Rev. John D. Vincil, past grand master and grand receiver of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, who preached the funeral sermon.

A. A. UPCHURCH.

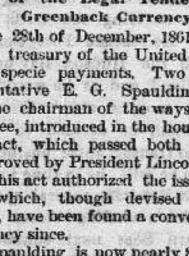
Dr. Vincil spoke of the life of the deceased, and dwelt upon the wonderful work accomplished by him in organizing the order. It was founded in 1868 at Meadville, Pa., and now numbers 175,000 members. $350,000,000 are pledged for the charitable objects which were the reason of its existence. No simpler, gentler, grander man ever lived than Mr. J. J. Upchurch. It was announced that a monument would be erected to his memory. The remains were interred in the Bellefontaine cemetery. An immense procession followed the funeral and was a testimonial of the esteem and admiration entertained for Mr. Upchurch.

## ELBRIDGE G. SPAULDING,

**Author of the Legal Tender Act and Greenback Currency.**

On the 28th of December, 1861, the banks and the treasury of the United States suspended specie payments. Two days later Representative E. G. Spaulding, of New York, the chairman of the ways and means committee, introduced in the house the legal tender act, which passed both houses and was approved by President Lincoln Feb. 25, 1862. This act authorized the issue of greenbacks, which, though devised as a war measure, have been found a convenient form of currency since.

Mr. Spaulding is now nearly 80 years old. He lives in Buffalo, and is said to be worth $10,000,000. His career has been a notable one. He was born in Cayuga county, N. Y., and was educated at the Auburn academy. When his school days were over, he taught school, then studied law and was finally admitted to the bar. In 1834 he removed to Buffalo and practiced in in the supreme court of New York in 1839. The same year he was appointed city clerk of Buffalo; five years later he was elected an alderman, and in 1847 mayor of the city of Buffalo. The next year found him in the state assembly, and the following year a representative in the Thirty-first congress. He also served in the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh congresses. He was elected state treasurer of New York in 1853. Of late years he has been a bank president.



E. G. SPAULDING.

### His Mind Was Sordid.

Wife (enjoying her dinner)—What can be more delicious than a nice canvasback?

Husband—A greenback, my dear, a greenback.—The Rambler.

## SKILLED IN FIGURES.

### A PROFESSION IN WHICH THERE IS STILL ROOM.

**Accountants and Their "Ways and Their Manners"—The Accountant Not to be Confounded With the Bookkeeper. The Pay That Some Accountants Draw.**

[Special Correspondence.]

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 7.—There is at least one profession that is not overcrowded, one where there is room on all the rungs of the ladder—accountancy. I do not mean bookkeeping, for the two are as distinct as the army and navy. The accountant is the result of the evolution of the bookkeeper. To most people the terms accountant, bookkeeper and auditor are almost synonymous, but the professional accountant would not allow you to call him a bookkeeper, and would not employ the ordinary office clerk for an assistant, the reason for this being that a man may be a bookkeeper, but a bookkeeper for only one line of business, while the accountant must know the debit and credit systems of all business. Owing to the peculiar nature of our bankruptcy and similar laws, the accountant has not flourished in this country, and he is found in some few of the larger cities only. New York has about seventeen, one-half of whom, probably, have hung out their shingles during the past year. Boston may have half a dozen, and Chicago three. But the many defalcations and other "accidents" which have occurred in our financial institutions seem to render necessary the ministration of the scrutinizing angel, and new recruits for the honor are constantly appearing.

The accountant is an emigrant from Great Britain, where his brethren have formed themselves into a chartered society, with entrance examinations, fellowships, rules and regulations, etc. Consequently the business here is mainly carried on by Englishmen and Scotchmen, though in its present onward march it is being joined by some Yankee recruits, graduates from the counting house stool. As a training school the counting house or business office is not regarded in a very favorable light by the professional accountant. He says that a bookkeeper in the dry goods trade may know the cash book and ledger of that business as well as he does his employer's bewhiskered countenance, but if the same bookkeeper be taken up bodily and placed on a stool in the office of a beer brewery he will be as useless as the veriest tyro, and will have to learn his business all over again.

The accountant finds his services most in demand by insurance companies, breweries, corporations, bankrupt firms, assignees, etc. He is also called upon to prepare balance sheets, profit and loss accounts, financial statements, etc. His work is charged for at so much a day, though he sometimes makes a contract. Sometimes a suspected clerk is given a short vacation, or is sent away on some small matter of business; then the accountant is told to turn his experienced eye loose on the books, and if there be the slightest evidence of their being crooked he will discover it. He knows just where to look, and although it may take him months to prepare a detailed, infallible statement of his findings, only a few hours are needed for him to decide whether the matter warrants further inquiry.

The incomes made by accountants are in some cases very considerable. I know of one gentleman who for three months' work rendered the state of New York by himself and his assistants, sent in a bill for $10,000; and one has testified in a civil suit that his net profits for the year were $7,000 or $8,000, he didn't know which. The clerks are paid from $20 to $50 a week, and must be better men than first rate bookkeepers. Hitherto, however, the accountant has generally done his own clerking, and carried his office in his hat; but now the business is on a larger scale, more clerks are needed, and it is not a bad employment for young men. The course of training lasts about five years, and at the end of this time they would know their business pretty well and would be receiving a "living" salary.

The work is hard, confining, lacking in variety; and good eyesight, a clear brain, and steady nerves are requisite. A silent tongue is essential. No "tippling" is permitted, as things get mixed enough without the aid of liquor. A managing clerk in one of the larger offices told me that for years he had been haunted by the small details of his day's work, that even when he had escaped from the realm of debits and credits and gone to his modest flat on the west side, his brain continued working on some spectral problem, and repeating that nine and seven is sixteen and eight is twenty-four, etc. So it kept on, night and day.

A day's work consists of seven or eight hours, though in the $10,000 case before alluded to the principal and fifteen assistants labored ten hours a day for the three months. The auditor's office at Washington contains a number of skilled accountants, some of whom have rendered excellent service to the public. But the persons whose names appear in the lists of railroad officials as "auditors" are usually such in name only, the real auditing being done by some subordinate with an extensive knowledge of bookkeeping and a diminutive salary.

ALFRED ARNOT.

### Winter in Canada.

Canadians enjoy their winters more than their brethren of the states, for the reason, among others, that there is a good deal more of it to enjoy. They dress for it. They know that when winter comes it comes to stay. It will not freeze to-day and thaw to-morrow. And skaters, snowshoers and devotees of other winter sports there excel because they can practice months while their American brethren can only practice weeks. But there are some other reasons, too, why American skaters can not cover such long distances so easily as the Canadians. John Ennis, of Stamford, one of the best long distance skaters in the United States, found this out three years ago. At that time he said:

"We must have flatter skates in the United States. Our skates are curved, and only a small piece of the blade touches the ice. This is exactly what is required for fancy work, and is good enough for pleasure skating, but it does not do for racing. Here in Montreal they use a flat skate for distance skating and for racing. Nearly the entire blade rests on the ice. Then the ice here is ever so much better than we have in the states. They know how to make ice here. They don't flood it, as we do. That produces an ice that flakes off or breaks in slivers. They sprinkle water upon their worn ice, and produce exactly the surface and the sort of ice that is needed. I was surprised at it. I can do a mile on it in 4 minutes easier than I can do one in 4m. 20s. in the states."

The rinks in Montreal help the skaters there a great deal. They are covered and the ice in them is always good even on sunny days when uninclosed rinks would be soft. The best rink is said to be the Victoria.

### Fate of Ex-Ballet Dancers.

Here let me remark that there is no other class of artists in the world that so soon lose every gift and grace of their profession as do the ex-ballet dancers. I have seen aged singers whose method still lent their singing a potent charm when the voice itself had well nigh wholly departed, and elderly actors and actresses that preserved when reading or reciting the grand art of their prime. But the famous dancer ought to die, like the butterflies, when the summer day of her grace and youth are at an end. Some months ago Mme. Cerito was pointed out to me at a morning concert—a fat, crippled old woman, with her face distorted by the effects of a fall from her carriage some years ago, and without one vestige left of the radiant sylph who was the latest to maintain the poetic traditions of the ballet as created by Taglioni and Fanny Elssler.—New York Sun.

Sacramento, Cal., boasts of an athlete who can jump 14 feet 5¼ inches. His name is Daniel Rogers. George W. Hamilton should visit the Pacific slope, for he is the only man in America that can reach that limit in a broad, single standing jump, and he has already jumped over 14 feet 6 inches.

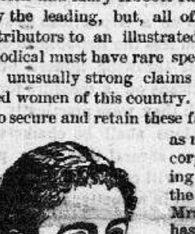
## MRS. LOUISA KNAPP.

**A Popular Woman Editor—What She Has Accomplished—Her Large Salary.**

[Special Correspondence.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—When such highly esteemed American writers as Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Rose Terry Cooke, Marion Harland, Jennie June, Harriet Prescot Spofford, Josiah Allen's Wife, Christine Terhune Herrick and Mary Abbott Rand become not only the leading, but, all of them, regular contributors to an illustrated monthly, that periodical must have rare special attractions and unusually strong claims upon the educated women of this country.

To secure and retain these favorite authors, as members of her corps of entertaining instructors, is the task to which Mrs. Louisa Knapp has devoted herself. Fully appreciating the necessities and practical economy of American households, she knew that her thousands of readers in every section of this land of homes would be best edified and amused by those to whose pen labor none were strangers. As editor of The Ladies' Home Journal, she determined, at the outset, to have at her command the best writings by her own sex that money would purchase. Mrs. Knapp is both clever and liberal. As a practical housekeeper she knows to a nicety what interests and moves practical, energetic women.



MRS. KNAPP.

Louisa Knapp was born in Boston, Mass., thirty-five years ago. She became the wife of a newspaper publisher, and in 1876 removed with her husband to Philadelphia, where her first editorial labor was to take charge of the household department of an agricultural journal. This paper was entitled The Tribune and Farmer. Her original single column of space was gradually extended to a whole page, and so thoroughly was her work done that more than 40,000 women subscribers were added to that publication's list of regular patrons.

The first number of the magazine which she now edits was issued in December, 1883, and from the first its success was an accomplished fact.

She draws a salary of $5,000 per annum. Her rare intuition and administrative force have been chief factors in her success. Her literary work is done at an elegantly appointed home in Camden, N. J. Her correspondence with prominent authors is steadily maintained, and its results are apparent in each new issue of The Ladies' Home Journal.

ALLAN FORMAN.

## CANADA'S PARLIAMENTARY LEADERS

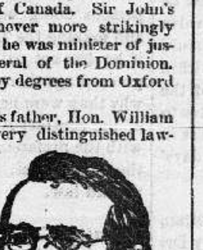
**The Two Men Who Are Contending for the Dominion Premiership.**

The parliament of the Dominion of Canada has been dissolved and a new election ordered. The Conservatives, under the leadership of the present premier, Sir John Macdonald, feel confident that the elections will result in a vindication of the government's policy, while Mr. Edward Blake, who is the standard bearer of the Liberals, is equally sanguine of victory for his party. The northwest territories will enjoy the right of franchise for the first time, and it is claimed by the Conservatives that Sir John's prompt and decisive conduct during the Louis Riel half-breed rebellion fully justifies them in expecting that section's support at the polls. In the maritime provinces—Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, etc.—the vote will be exceedingly close, both parties claiming them. The new parliament will convene on April 7, upon which date the writ ordering the election has been made returnable. The new franchise will for the first time be tested. It is equivalent almost to universal sufferage.

Sir John Alexander Macdonald, the Conservative leader, was born at Kingston, Upper Canada, Jan. 11, 1815. He was educated at the grammar schools of his native place, and was admitted to the bar at the age of 20 years. His first appearance in the political arena occurred in 1844, in which year he was elected to parliament from Kingston as a Conservative. Through the various official grades his career has been upward and onward, until to-day he is the responsible head of the government of Canada. Sir John's great abilities were never more strikingly manifested than while he was minister of justice and attorney general of the Dominion. He has been honored by degrees from Oxford and other universities.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD.

Hon. Edward Blake's father, Hon. William Hume Blake, was a very distinguished lawyer, having been at one time chancellor of Upper Canada. The subject of this sketch first saw the light at Middlesex, Ont., Oct. 13, 1833. He graduated from the Toronto university with high honors in 1857. He first entered politics as a member for South Bruce, in the Ontario assembly, 1867, acting as leader of the Opposition for several years. He has also represented the same constituency in the Dominion parliament. In 1871 he succeeded Hon. John Macdonald as premier of the Ontario legislature. He was minister of justice and president of council of the Mackenzie ministry. Temporary ill health compelled him to refuse two very important offices which were tendered him. Mr. Blake is an Independent Liberal in politics, and it is universally conceded that he is the brainiest man in the Dominion parliament. The Liberals follow his lead without question.

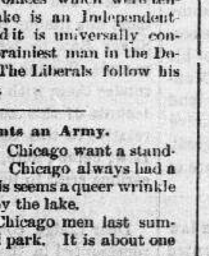


BLAKE.

### Chicago Wants an Army.

Sixty-six citizens of Chicago want a standing army at its gates. Chicago always had a way of its own, but this seems a queer wrinkle even for the big city by the lake.

A number of rich Chicago men last summer, bought Highland park. It is about one square mile of land lying on Lake Michigan, twenty-five miles north of Chicago. It was bought by the Commercial club. Among its purchasers one finds the name of the new Illinois senator, Hon. C. B. Farwell. Soon after the park was bought, a resolution was introduced into the senate, by Mr. Logan, authorizing the secretary of war to accept as a gift a deed of Highland park to the United States government. Seeing that the United States has a good deal of land lying about loose already, this seemed a queer gift.




HIGHLAND PARK.

But the final clause of the resolution read thus, "for military purposes." The land was to be donated to the government on condition that a military garrison be maintained there. Chicago's rich men, feeling uneasy in their minds, want United States troops permanently stationed within call. They are afraid of the Anarchists. They want twelve regiments. The resolution passed the senate, and was sent to the house.

The mince meat used at the White House is made by Mrs. Folsom.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3. The courts have decided that refusing to take the newspapers or periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is *prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud.

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Remittances by draft, check, money order, or registered letter, may be sent at our risk. All Postmasters are required to register letters on application.


## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

**Curious Queries on Many Subjects Carefully Answered.**

What was the origin of the Spanish nation.
X.

From remote antiquity the elevated regions in the interior were peopled by the Celtiberians, a race formed by a mixture of Celts and Iberians. The Phœnicians came next, then the Greeks, who applied the name of Iberia, which was changed by the Romans to Hespania. After the first Punic war the Carthagenians established themselves in Spain. The Greek colonies applied to the Romans for aid against the Carthagenians. Scipio, a Roman general, expelled the latter in 219 B. C. and finally the Romans conquered the whole country. When the Roman power declined the Germans appeared in Spain. It was subdued by the Visigoths, and still later on by the Moors. Christian and Mohammedan contended till Granada, the last Moorish province, yielded to Ferdinand and Isabella.

### The Machinist's Trade.

Will you please oblige me by stating if there is an institution in the United States where the machinist's trade is taught.
R. S.

The Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, N. J. The Rose Polytechnic institute at Terre Haute, Ind. There is also a similar institution at Cincinnati. At New York and Chicago there are training schools for boys.

### Bunker Hill.

Who won the battle of Bunker Hill, the English or Americans?
W. T.

The Americans were driven from their redoubt on Bunker Hill, and the British remained in possession of the ground; yet the loss of the British was so great that the moral effect was in favor of the Americans.

### Theory of Tides.

Please state why the tide rises and falls.
A.

The most probable theory is as follows:

Suppose the earth to be a smooth sphere covered with water of uniform density. The attraction of the moon on the pliable water nearest to her would be greater than on the solid earth, causing a heaping of the water toward her. So far the matter seems very simple, but there is also another heaping up of water on the opposite side of the globe at the same time. This is explained by the fact that the water on the side away from the moon is attracted less than the solid earth, and the earth is therefore thrown away from the water, thus causing the water to be heaped up, though not so much as that directly under the moon on the opposite side. The sun has two-fifths as much influence on the waters as the moon. But since the earth revolves on its axis, and the moon at times acts in a direct line with the sun, and at times in a contrary direction, these motions never give the waters time to take a spheroidal shape as they would do when at rest. An imperfect form of it travels around the earth in a lunar day, and the tide rises later as the moon does. When the sun and moon attract in the same direction we have the highest tides and vice versa.

### A Question of Right.

Not long ago, while on a visit, I became acquainted with a young lady, and on my return home began a correspondence with her. She has written me to address my letters to an assumed name, as she fears her father may object if he discovers our correspondence. Now, I don't wish to offend her father or act dishonorably. Yet I wish to continue our correspondence. What shall I do?
JOHN T.

There may be special circumstances which render it essential for her to ask you to act clandestinely, but on general principles we should say that there is a want of strength of character in the young lady. Most women of high principle would correspond openly or not at all.

Please state (1) if President Johnson was impeached. 2. Give the name of our currency which is a legal tender. 3. How many cities of the United States have elevated railroads?
B. C. H.

1. No; a two-thirds vote was required, but was not secured. 2. All United States currency is legal tender. 3. New York and Brooklyn. Some other cities have cable roads leading to bluffs.

### Locke's Moon Hoax.

What was Locke's moon hoax? I have frequently seen it referred to, but do not know what it is.
S. P. W.

A newspaper hoax perpetrated in 1833 in The New York Sun. The auther was Richard Henry Locke. It was known that an eminent astronomer—Sir John Hershel—was at the Cape of Good Hope, with instruments of great power. The article in The Sun purported to be taken from The Edinburgh Journal of Science. It gave an extraordinary account of Hershel's discoveries with what they declared to be a seven-ton glass, describing Lunar scenery as if but a hundred yards away, and Lunar inhabitants like men bats. After hoaxing nearly everybody in America it was published in England, where it met with almost equal success, and was even discussed in the French Academy of Sciences. It was, in fact, read all over Europe.

### Presidential Candidates.

I would be obliged if you would give the names of the presidential candidates of 1860.
POLITICS.

The Democratic national convention met at Charleston, S. C., and adjourned to meet at Baltimore, where it nominated Stephen A. Douglas and Hershel V. Johnson. The Constitutional Union convention met at Baltimore and nominated John Bell and Edward Everett. The Republican national convention met at Chicago and nominated Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin. The Democratic convention composed of seceding delegates to the Charleston convention met at Baltimore and nominated John C. Breckenridge and Joseph Lane.

### Castle Garden.

How did the emigrant station Castle Garden derive its name? and what was it formerly used for?
A. G.

It was originally built in 1807 for a fortification. Later it was converted into a place of amusement. Jenny Lind, Sontag, Mario and Grisi and other notables in the musical world sang there. Its circular form and its location now—what was formerly the park of New York—the Battery, gave it the name of Castle Garden. It was originally built out in the water. Some thirty years ago the intervening space was filled and it is now on the mainland.

### The Great Eastern.

Can you tell us what has become of the mammoth steamship the Great Eastern, which was so much talked about more than twenty years ago?
H.

The Great Eastern soon after being built and used in laying the Atlantic cable was run for a while between England and Australia. She is now employed as a refrigerator ship for the transportation of meats from South America to England.

### Victoria's Coronation.

Can you decide a question as to the coronation of Queen Victoria? I have seen it stated that she was crowned in 1837, also that she was crowned in 1838.
V. N.

Victoria became queen on the death of her uncle, King William IV, June 20, 1837. She was crowned at Westminster abbey, June 28, 1838.

### The Calcium Light Doomed.

The calcium light, which has done so much for stage representations in the past, is doomed. As the old gaslight has been superseded by the electric light, so also must the lime light give way before it. Every known shade in stage lighting can now be produced by electricity. We can get a warm yellow glow, a deep canary shade, a white light, a pale blue effect, a weird greenish tint, or a bright and effulgent red light, to say nothing of a soft, continuous non-dazzling illuminating flame. Chemistry and other sciences have also contributed much toward realism on the stage.—New York Mail and Express.

Silver plated bon-bon trays, with tongs, have been introduced at the fashionable luncheon parties in New York with undoubted success.