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With the coming of the autocrat the horse may publish his autobiography and retire.

Great Britain has 119 war vessels in course of construction, and will have a representative at the Czar's peace conference.

In achieving results through courts-martial, however powerful pen and sword may be, the tongue can become a formidable competitor.

The regularity with which the late Mr. Kewey kept his victims signing checks was perhaps the nearest approach to perpetual motion on record.

Owing to the flexibility of our jury system and of the English language, it is possible for a jury to hang a man and also for one man to "hang" a jury.

Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands has become a zealous student of economics. It beats the Dutch how so many women are taking to such things of late.

Keely made thousands out of that compressed air brought up from under the floor to run his motor, and this illustrates that it is in all wind that blows nobody any good.

People who thought they might break up the chewing gum trust by mast-jawing rubber are now confronted by a rubber "octopus." The only resource left is to stop chewing.

In England they give a naval hero a medal. In this country the girls kiss him to a standstill. Neither of these rewards is very much to be desired by a hero of the nation when he loses his job.

Hobson kissed seven hundred girls and is still open for engagements. A New Jersey man who started out to breathe the life into a dead girl and got run in. And yet they say the common citizen gets a fair shake.

A New England woman has had a monument raised over the grave of a dead money, but, of course, she is well within her rights. Anyone who is willing to take chances with the fool-killer is privileged to do so in this country.

The czar has resolved to reform the entire penal system of Russia, which probably can stand a great deal of improvement. Perhaps it will be just as well for the czar to get things fixed up in his own country before attempting to reform the world.

The rumor that Uncle Sam does not pay as large salaries as he should does not seem to discourage the thousands and thousands of persons who tumble over themselves year after year to their burning desire to serve their country in public office.

The flag floating over the White House in Washington indicates to who see it that the President is at home. Whenever he is out of that city the flag is carefully folded away. The same custom prevails at the Capitol. Whenever either house of Congress is in session the flag flies over the wing of the building which that house occupies. If there is an evening session a bright light in the dome tells the story. This is, in Washington, what might be termed the "language of the flag."

Secretary Wilson of the Agricultural Department had less to say on the President's trip South than most of the other members of the party. He did take occasion, however, to advise some of the colored people who were in the crowd and raise sheep and cattle. "The trouble," he said, "is that you keep too many dogs and too few sheep. The cost of feeding one dog would raise two sheep or one hog." Another economic statement was that all the salaries received by the politicians were compared with the value of the eggs laid every year, it would be found that there was more money in hens than in politics.

The commercial bodies of the South, the merchants and business men who are seeking for new fields, and the manufacturers who are seeking for wider markets, have a chance to take advantage of the results of the late war with Spain, says the Atlanta Constitution. Opportunity has come to their doors and stands there hat in hand. We cannot do better under the circumstances than to show equal politeness. We may do our own hats and shake hands with it and beg it to make its home with us. But if we fail to give it due recognition, or imagine that it is a tramp out of work, or something of that kind, then opportunity will go its way, not angry but wondering.

There are survivals of old-world superstitions still existing in this country which, though perhaps harmless, bring a curious wonder to a reflecting mind. "Penny-wanna" is a "man," whose wife had recently deserted him, ascribed her disappearance solely to witchcraft. The customary method of procedure among his people in such cases is to immerse a pair of delinquent's shoes in a pot of water, place the pot upon a hot fire and keep it boiling for twenty-four hours. This is supposed to be infallible. The belief is that it will break the spell under which the woman is laboring, and will cause her such uneasiness that she will gladly return home, but she will inflict dreadful pains upon the person who had bewitched her. The husband followed the formula, but the result is not stated.

More than nineteen centuries after Julius Caesar was stabbed to death in the hall of Pompeius his ashes have been found in their resting place in the Roman forum, beneath a column erected in his memory by Augustus. Perhaps no one who was present when the urn was placed beneath the marble gave a thought to the place that would be accorded Julius in history twenty centuries later. Most of them would have accorded Augustus the higher rank. This discovery, if authentic, is more interesting than the recent unearthing of the black stone said to mark the tomb of Romulus, but which Romulus failed to occupy. It is not impossible that Augustus the conqueror of the Niger Lapis be inscribed and placed in the forum in honor of the founder of Rome.

The fresh air ordinance recently passed by the city board of health of New Orleans suggests two observations: That it is peculiar of a large part of the American people to be negligent

In the regard of ordinary, though important, and healthy, as negligent in many cases that the necessity of ordinary care must be forced upon them; and, second, that the law in the present day is assuming much more responsibility than it has in the past. The ordinance passed by the New Orleans health officials is an unusual one, indeed, and, while the wisdom of its provisions probably will not be questioned, the question naturally suggests itself whether it does not touch too closely upon personal rights and privileges to be enforceable in its entirety. The "fresh air" ordinance requires all householders, whether owners or tenants, to open their rooms and freely expose them to the sun and air, particularly in cold, clear weather. The Board of Health will send around inspectors to see that the law is complied with. The New Orleans Pleasure is in thorough sympathy with the movement. It says: "Let the people open up their rooms and let the wind blow through them. Such airing is one of the simplest and at the same time one of the most important and efficacious methods of sanitation. Disease germs are creatures of filth and foul air. The sun and the winds of heaven are their worst enemies. There are bed-rooms in this city where the sun never shines, and where fresh air is but little known. Let them be opened up, so that all evil germs may be killed. By so doing these people will not only protect themselves, but they will greatly contribute to the general health of the city's population. The fresh air is not appreciated as it should be. There is no medicine that can do as much for the human system. People who are not sick need fresh air to keep them well, and for those who are sick there is no tonic like it. Because it is free, fresh air is not appreciated as it should be. Physicians say that lack of it causes much of the disease in the world. It should not be necessary to pass laws to force the people to take advantage of this heaven's gift. Goodness knows there is no need of such laws in any reasonable town. Then why sleep in a tight closed bedroom, and why work in a sealed up office? There should be fresh air in the home, in the school-room—everywhere. There is plenty of it for all.

BEN. FRANKLIN'S EDUCATION. Only Two Years of His Life Spent at School.

Few men have known more than Benjamin Franklin, yet few have had less education, in the common sense of the word. For not more than two years (at the age of 8 to 10) he went to a grammar school, and a private school in Boston; for the other four years and more of his life he learned without a teacher. His father's library was small, but he himself spent the little money that came into his hands on serious books and pamphlets. He proved deficient in arithmetic in his early youth, he afterward made a special study of mathematics, and for some time amused himself by constructing all sorts of magical squares and cubes, with rows of digits that would add up alike, whichever way they were counted. In this connection, Mr. Ford—a self-educated man himself, in that his only school was his father's immense private library—has this to say:

"His own experience served to teach Franklin that a strong mind needs no schooling to develop it, and that a poor mind is not strengthened by study. Poor Richard made merry over the fact that the learned and the ignorant fill their bellies; and of those who 'would live by their wits, but for want of stock.' A learned blockhead is a greater blockhead than an ignorant one," he asserted, and claimed that of the learned and the ignorant.

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This was satisfactory to the people, but it is asserted that later the county strip of the county of all protection conditions and agreed to deliver bonds when contracts had been let for masonry work. On Nov. 2, 1870, the bonds were signed and delivered. That was the last of the railroad. It has never been built and nobody asserts it was ever to be. But the holders of the bonds sold most of them and the judgment is based on the innocent third party holder law.

The people refused to pay the first tax levied to pay interest and learned of the issue of the bonds. They had repudiated the whole thing and set down satisfied no court would hold against them. But in 1873 suit was brought for \$80,000 of the bonds and decided against the county. Then Judge Dick issued a mandamus on the county court commanding the judges to levy the necessary tax. The judges learning of the coming of the marshal with this order took to the woods, and it was a long time before the officer was able to serve his papers.

When he did serve them the order was ignored. The judges were opposed to the tax, and even if they favored it knew the temper of their people too well to take chances. Then an order of arrest for contempt of court was issued and the judges hauled to Kansas City for hearing. Judges Asabel Heath, Thomas J. Younger, John Breeden, John P. Love and Thomas Henley were the first men to submit voluntary imprisonment rather than pay what they believed to be an unjust debt.

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COURT GOES TO JAIL.

A MISSOURI COUNTY REBELLION DEFIES SUPPRESSION.

Judges Serve Terms in Prison for Contempt of United States Court Order—Strange Story that Has Been Making History for Twenty Years.

Newhere in history is there an exact parallel to the story of the farmers of St. Clair County, Missouri, who steadily refused to obey a law of the land, and who find in their midst men who are willing to go to jail, men who serve their whole terms of office in jail—set after set of them volunteered to suffer for the common weal. For twenty-five years the United States court has declared St. Clair County indebted to certain bondholders for principal and interest on the bonds. The court has ordered that the money be paid. For twenty-five years the people of St. Clair County have answered the United States court that they did not owe this

money, either wholly or in part, and that no power on earth could compel them to pay it. The court has borne them up their all its gigantic strength. It has punished and pleaded; delivered upon them all its mandates, its dictums, its decrees and its wrath. And in twenty years it has moved them not one particle. To its every command, its every threat, its every application, the people of St. Clair County have answered: "We will not," and the history of their never-yielding response is the story of a fight without parallel in America; a story of steadfastness, stubbornness and unflinching, grim-jawed

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MAP SHOWING EXTENT OF HURRICANE SERVICE.

Anticipating the demands of the service the Government has established suitable headquarters for the West Indian storm-warning system, under the direction of the weather bureau, and has directed that the equipment be entirely remodeled and brought up to date. The first step in the new plan was the removal of the central office from Kingston to Havana. During the last six months the Government has been gaining valuable experience in the operation of the system in the West Indies, Central and South America and the Mexican gulf coast, and as a result it has developed a comprehensive plan of daily weather reports from that important region. Stations have been established at the principal points, and daily observations will be reported.

The most important points included in the system, as at present organized, are Havana, Santiago, Kingston, Cuba, Santo Domingo, San Juan, St. Thomas, St. Kitts, Dominica, Martinique, Barbados, Trinidad, Caracas, Vera Cruz, Coahuila, Tampico, Merida, Nassau, Guadalupe, and the accompanying map is a reproduction of one prepared by Willis L. Moore, chief of the weather bureau, showing the location of the points of observation and the cable connections already established.

UNCLE DICK OGLESBY. Farmer, Miner, Lawyer, General Senator and Governor.

No man in Illinois enjoys to greater extent the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens than Richard J. Oglesby. General, ex-Governor and former United States Senator. He has also been a woodsman, teamster, farmer, California miner, lawyer and teacher.

Uncle Dick Oglesby, as he is familiarly called, was born in Kentucky in 1824 and was left an orphan at the age of 8. He moved to Illinois about that time. He served in the Mexican war and in the war for the Union, resigning from the army in 1846 to become Governor of Illinois. He served as Governor until 1869 and from 1873 to 1879 was United States Senator. For almost half a century he has been a power in the Republican politics of his adopted State.

Speaking of his earlier career Uncle Dick says: "I tried farming one summer and cleared just \$6.50. It struck me then that I was not cut out for a farmer, and I decided to study law. I went down to Springfield to read with Judge Robbins, and, of course, I tackled Blackstone the first thing. I had never read a book through in my life then, and the big words nearly floored me. Judge Robbins suggested that I read English history along with my law books, and asked me what I could remember of my history. 'I have never read any,' I said. 'No,' he said. 'What an English history?' 'No,' I said. 'No American history?' 'No,' I said. 'Well, what have you read?' asked the Judge as he looked at me severely. 'Nothing, Judge; never read a book through in my life.' 'Why, Dick, how in the devil do you expect to become a lawyer?' asked Judge Robbins then.

"I told him," says the ex-Governor, "that I had read a book through in my life then, and the big words nearly floored me. Judge Robbins suggested that I read English history along with my law books, and asked me what I could remember of my history. 'I have never read any,' I said. 'No,' he said. 'What an English history?' 'No,' I said. 'No American history?' 'No,' I said. 'Well, what have you read?' asked the Judge as he looked at me severely. 'Nothing, Judge; never read a book through in my life.' 'Why, Dick, how in the devil do you expect to become a lawyer?' asked Judge Robbins then.

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