THE PLAYHOUSE.

By Nixon Waterman.

It wasn't a house at all, you see
But only a big, flat stone;
Yet they called it a house, did the sisters three,
As they tarried there and sipped their tea;
And each was as glad as a queen might be,—
A queen on a golden throne.

And one was like a lily fair,
And one was like a rose;
And one had stolen a happy share
Of blended grace from the other pair;
And all were lovely beyond compare,—
My queens of the long agoes.

The house was close by the garden gate,
And under the apple trees;
In whose broad branches, early and late,
The robin sang to his happy mate
As a lithe limb, feeling his happy weight,
Swung low in the summer breeze.

And many a golden afternoon
The sisters chatted there,
With hearts as glad as the skies of June,
With hearts as soft as a mother's croon
With hearts that withered and all too soon
With a grief they could not bear.

I wandered far in the paths of men,
I lingered long ano late
To win the golden prize and then
I set my heart for the "home" again,
But the world seemed change and cheerless when
I stood by the garden gate.

In woe I sat me down to weep,
For my heart was sad and lone,
And my gold seemed all so poor and cheap,—
There was little left I cared to keep,
And I wished I were wrapped in a dreamless sleep
And under the big flat stone.

—L. A. W. Bulletin.

THE STING OF THE VIPER.

BY H. S. KELLER.

"Maledictions upon that white-faced fool! The girl was interested, attracted by me ere he came. That interest which I had taken so much pains to foster might in time have ripened into love. I could be patient, for I am a Peruvian. Now, the lily-fingered dandy from the North has stepped between me and the object of my love. The blood of a Peruvian brooks no defeat. I will not submit tamely to Marie's coldness. I have her proud old father in my grasp; he must clear this white-faced fool from my path. If he be powerless to do this, then the viper's sting shall do the work for me."

Savagely, almost insanely, the words fell from the speaker's lips.

Don Jose Le Garde had taken Caracas by storm when he first appeared among its elegant high circles. Rumors of his immense wealth had preceded him, and when he arrived at the gay Venezuelian city the doors of the best society were opened to him—this fabulously rich silver king of the mines of Peru.

Impressionable mammas were completely carried off their feet by his glitter of gold, and laid many a trap, each baited by a beautiful daughter, to capture the charming Peruvian. In the wine room, the dance hall, or at the gambling table, he carried all before him. He played, not to win, so he said, but for the intoxication of the spell of chance. He drank, not because he was a drunkard, but for the spirit of triumph which came to him when he saw his boon companions drop, one after the other, while he remained clear-headed, sober as ever.

He turned upon his finger the tiny circle of gold once or twice; tapped it with his finger tips and smiled sardonically as he rung for his valet. He was quickly dressed and ready for the ball which was to take place at the spacious palace of the old Venezuelan merchant, Marie's father.

The rooms of the grand pile were filled with the elite of Caracas. Don Jose gritted his white teeth and smothered an oath under his inky mustache as he entered the ball room. There, at the farther side of the brilliantly lighted room, was seated Marie, more charming than ever, and leaning upon the back of her chair, bending over her beautiful shoulders and fanning her with a scarlet-feathered fan, was the object of the Peruvian's mad hatred—Leon Stevenson, of the United States.

"Sir, a word with you," said Don Jose touching his aged host upon the shoulder.

The old gentleman started, glanced at the pair on the other side of the room, and followed his guest into the conservatory.

"You still permit that white-faced fool to dangle at your daughter's apron-strings."

"Don Jose, not so loud, I beg of you; some guests—"

"And unless you relieve me of the hated presence of this rival, every guest under your roof shall know about the cloud hanging over the rich Venezulian merchant."

"For the sake of Heaven, do not speak so loudly! You will ruin me!" interrupted the old gentleman, laying his hand upon the other's arm.

"Will you, once for all, command your daughter to dismiss this Stevenson?"

"I—I—can only try."

"You must succeed! You have promised me Marie's hand in marriage. I have sworn to take her back to Peru as my bride. Until this fair dandy came from the North my path was clear. I like not his presence. Remove him or—your house falls, and ruin stares you in the face!"

"I will do my best," uttered the old man, as he quivered with rage. For the sake of transient pecuniary relief he had placed himself in the man's power. The rich Peruvian held his notes, which must be met or which would be destroyed upon the marriage of Marie to Don Jose.

"And now I desire to see Marie here; kindly tell her to come to me," utterd the Peruvian.

His imperious air of command made the blood of the old Venezuelian boil; but choking back his anger—for he was in this man's power—he returned to the ball room, leaving the other to pace up and down the conservatory, filled with rich, gaily-hued tropical plants.

A soft step caused him to turn. The beautiful form of Marie approached nearer. He reached out his hand, and the girl drew back as the thin, feverishly hot fingers almost crushed her soft hand. The grasp of those slender fingers felt to her touch like the clasp of a band of steel; the very touch sent the blood back from her heart, and her lovely face grew pale as a lily.

"Marie—for I the right to call you thus—your father has given his consent to our marriage. No, do not start. I have spoken of this before to you. It is not a new subject. Be my wife. Come with me to Peru, and I will make of you a queen among women, and surround you with the lavish adornments of wealth unlimited. What is your answer?"

"I thank you as before; but I must, as before, decline the honor," fell from the girl's lips.

"And why? Do you love the stranger from the States?"

"That, sir, you have no right to ask."

"And there was no need to ask it. I knew it! He stands in my way. I have never been defeated in my life. Still, I relinquish you, Marie. You see this ring? It's sting is sudden, sure death. I go to congratulate the more favored one." And he bowed and passed into the ball room.

Marie's eyes dilated with horror as they followed the tall, elegant form of Don Jose. She saw him bow to Stevenson. Horror of horrors! She saw their hands meet! She covered her face with her trembling hands and crouched down among the beautiful flowers to bide the fated scene from her sight.

And then a scream, a man's mad cry, came to her ears. She dashed the palms aside and peered into the ball room.

Upon the floor, writhing as though in the pangs of mortal agony, was Don Jose. Kneeling by his side, and trying to relieve him, was the fair faced Northerner.

One more convulsive struggle to catch his breath, to choke back the strange thing that was crushing his heart, numbing his brain and blinding his eyes, and the Peruvian rolled over upon his back and was dead.

Pressed into the flesh of the palm of his hand was the head of a tiny gold viper attached to a ring upon the second finger. The palm was livid, and the face assumed the same horrible color soon after he was taken away. Stevenson was as rich as the Peruvian, and he easily relieved Marie's father from his pecuniary difficulty. And a six months afterwards the elite of Caracas gathered at the wedding of their fairest tropical belle, who stood by the side of the fair-faced man from the States.

ODD VIEWS OF POLICE DUTY.

People Who Want Postage Stamps, Ice Water, Door Keys and Money.

"It's easy to criticise the police department," said a sergeant in the back room of a station-house, "but the general public has no idea of the many different things we have to do and of the annoyances to which we are subjected. When I was on duty in some of the south side precincts people used to come to the station and ask for the queerest things. Hardly a day went by that some one didn't come around and ask for postage stamps, while in the summer time they used to come in droves for a drink of ice water. When he remonstrated with them, they'd say: 'Vel, don't ve pay taxes for de ice, and shouldn't ve drink it, what?' As a matter of fact, the ice is paid for by the policemen themselves, but you couldn't make them understand it.

"One night about 10 o'clock, when I was on the desk, a big, stout German came in and walked up to the rail.

"'Sergeant, my vife is gone out mit der key und I am locked oudt,' he said.

"'Well,' I said, 'what can I do about it?'

"'Vy, sendt a policeman und make me get in der house, dot's vhat.' I didn't spend my time arguing with him, you can bet.

"But that was not the worst case by any means. A poor tailor living on the top floor of a tenement down that way committed suicide after a quarrel with his wife. The man was dead when the ambulance came. A few hours later the widow sent her little girl around to the house to say that she had no money, and unless some one helped her out the man would have to be buried in the potter's field. The police are often called on in similar cases, so the boys chipped in all around and raised $19. I gave that to the child and sent her away. Soon after it was time for roll call and another sergeant came on duty. He was busy writing up the blotter when the same girl returned.

"'My mudder says can I get any more,' she said.

"'What?' said the sergeant, who had been asleep and didn't know about the collection.

"'My mudder says can I come around next month an' git some more money,' was the reply. She didn't get any more, and that incident was somewhat of a damper on charity in that particular station for quite a while."—Chicago Tribune.

A French Battleship's Narrow Escape.

The well known French battle-ship Admiral Baudin was nearly sunk in Brest harbor the other day. It seems that a young sailor, interfering with a seacock below the waterline, turned it on. The water rushed in so fast that the sailor lost his presence of mind, and rushed on deck. By the time assistance was obtained the water had risen so high that the cock could not be reached, and as the vessel had no steam up the situation was perilous. A steam tug with heavy pumps on board was signalled, and, coming alongside, set to work to pump. Other tugs with pumps, as well as a land fire-engine and the fire brigade, came to the assistance of the battleship, and while all the pumps were working, amid a scene of great excitement, two divers donned their costumes, went down the hold, and turned the cock off. The vessel had sunk two feet.—Westminster Gazette.

Complimenting in Advance.

The other day, as a little Utica girl was being dressed to attend a child's party given at a neighbor's her grandmother told her to be very sure and not forget when she was about to come home to say to the mother of the little girl giving the party: "Mrs. ——, I have had a very pleasant time."

The child looked up inquiringly and innocently asked: "Well, grandma, won't it do just as well if I tell her when I first get there, before I forget it?"—Utica Observer.

A New "Oldest Town of the United States."

The settlement of Ponce de Leon at Caparra, near the site of Pueblo Viejo, across San Juan Bay, is now by more than fifty-five years the first town established within the present borders of the United States. Historians, therefore, must give the prestige of antiquity, not to the Spanish town of St. Augustine, Fla., of 1565, as formerly, but to Caparra, founded in the year 1509.—San Juan (Porto Rico) News.

What's in a Name?

Mme. X. had been married to two brothers. After the elder one died she was wedded to the younger. The painted portrait of No. 1 hangs in the public art gallery. She stood before it, weeping gently, and was asked sympathetically, "is he a member of your family?"

"Yes, yes," she replied, between sobs; "he is my poor, dead brother-in-law."

POLITICS OF THE DAY

THE NEXT PANIC.

It is not a pleasant task to sound a note of alarm, but it is necessary in this case. When the end comes it will be a bitter one. The crash will, we are afraid, equal any that has ever preceded it in this country. The panic of 1893 was of tremendous magnitude, but we question if that was as terrible an event as that which will be produced by the present trust movement. When that much-to-be-dreaded day comes it will be necessary to look to other agencies than Congress to initiate restorative measures. We do not, in fact, see how it is going to be possible to produce a change for the better until the panic has run a long course. By the time the crash arrives there will be several billions (par value) of "water"—judging from present appearances—to be squeezed out. It will be impossible to save it. Of course, as we said last week, all the common stock of trusts so far authorized has not yet been issued; but it will be very largely worked off in the course of the next few years, and will be found eventually in the hands of "innocent holders;" that is, in the hands of persons who paid good money for it.

Now these people have got to stand for a terrible loss, and the number of them will be so great that the suffering will be widespread throughout the country. The next panic will work in two ways, at least. It will destroy credit at the start, and well-conducted enterprises will accordingly suffer for a time along with the general run of misguided trusts, and will wipe out hundreds of millions of property in the possession of the owners of trust shares—property represented by certificates which should never have been issued. It may be asked when all this will happen. That, of course, no one knows. The lean period will come in time. We have in previous articles traced the causes that will wreck the trusts. Competition will eventually prove too much for them. By competition we mean the adverse conditions to which they will be subjected by the organization of new companies with legitimate capitalizations and the latest improvements.—United States Investor.

The Trust Puzzle.

The twisting, squirming and maneuvering of politicians to avoid the odium of trusts and take advantage of the unpopularity of the enormous combinations recently formed furnish a subject for serious thought. There is no doubt that all parties in the next national campaign will adopt platforms violently against trusts. The Republican party will be so vindictive in its language against those institutions that no other party can exceed its violent abuse. The question to be solved is: Will the people ever find out who is responsible for trusts? The gold standard is the father of all trusts because gold standard contraction creates falling prices which make it necessary for business men to combine to save themselves from bankruptcy. Who is responsible for the gold standard—the party led by McKinley or the party led by Bryan? Every trust organization in the United States will contribute its money and its influence to elect the Republican candidate. Will that fact satisfy the people that the Republican party is the party responsible for trusts? Why should every trust in the United States be Republican, from the gold combination down to the manufacturers of matches? If the American people are not stark mad they will have no difficulty in finding out which party is responsible for the trusts, and if they are really opposed to the trusts they will vote for the other side. Unless the majority of the American people vote as the trusts vote, the Republican candidate will stand no show whatever of winning in 1900.

A Fatal Disorder.

Sherman was forced out of the Cabinet "on account of ill health." Vice President Hobart is to retire from politics "on account of ill health." J. Addison Porter, McKinley's private secretary, has gone to Atlantic City, and it is reported that he will soon be out of a job "on account of ill health." It is really remarkable how service for Hanna's administration is conducive to ill health—except for buzzards like Alger, to whom such carrion as "embalmed beef" is as dainty as "angel food." Meanwhile Uncle Sam is bearing up under many afflictions, and the people must rescue him in 1900 from a prolonged siege of "ill health," for the Hanna kind of "ill health" appears to be infectious and contagious.—Mansfield Shield.

A Verdict in 1900.

President McKinley, in his zeal to defend the beef trust, who were rewarded with fat contracts in consideration of past and future favors, has gone too far. The soldiers represent all of the States and all shades of politics. They went into the service of their country as patriotic Americans, and they realize that the nation opened its heart and its purse and ordered that they should have the best the nation afforded. It will be difficult for Mr. McKinley and his defenders to explain the disgraceful conduct of the War Department in a satisfactory manner to the soldiers and their friends.

Mr. McKinley may, through the aid of the beef trust and the other trusts, secure the Republican nomination in 1900, but the disgraceful conduct of his administration in the matter of caring for our soldiers in the field will cause him to lose thousands of votes in every State in the nation. The final jury on the beef inquiry will render their verdict in the election of 1900, and it will be on the side of the soldiers and not on the side of the beef trust.—National Watchman.

Coming State Elections.

Elections will be held on the 6th day of next November in eleven States of the Union—practically one-fourth of the entire sisterhood. Unusual significance will attach to the result of many of these campaigns, on account of the proximity of the presidential year and the fact that next fall the people will have an opportunity of passing upon some recently-created issues for the first time.

Iowa will elect a Governor and State officers. Kentucky will do likewise. Maryland will elect a Governor and Legislature. Massachusetts will elect a Governor, State officers and Legislature. Mississippi will elect a Governor, State and county officers and Legislature. Nebraska will elect a justice of the Supreme Court and two members of the Board of Regents. New Jersey will elect eight State Senators, sixty members of the House and county officers. New York will elect two justices of the Supreme Court in the First Judicial District, one in the Fifth, three in the Eighth and 150 members of the General Assembly. Ohio will elect a Governor, several State officers, county officers and Legislature. Pennsylvania will elect a State Treasurer and several judges. Virginia will elect a Secretary of State, some minor State officers and the larger portion of her Legislature.

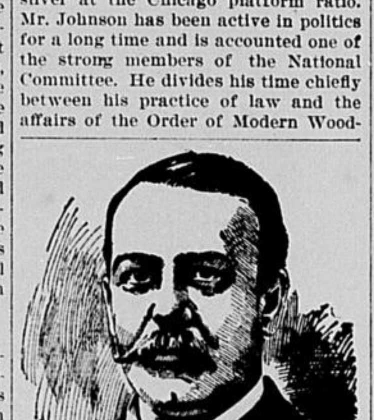
At this distance from the election the certainties in these States seem to be that the Democrats will carry Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey and Virginia; the Republicans will carry Iowa, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania; while the results in Ohio, Nebraska and New York at this time cannot be classed otherwise than as doubtful. The opposition to imperialism in Massachusetts may cause that State to waver in the Republican column, and there are many astute politicians who predict a corresponding Republican slump in Ohio.—Columbus Post-Press.

They Will Live to Abolish Hannaism.

There are plenty of newspapers in the country who are declaring that Bryan and Bryanism are dead, and yet those same papers are devoting a great deal of space to both the man and the ism. This is a singular state of affairs. It is strange that these editors should take so much pains and so much apparent delight in kicking a corpse. If Bryan and what he stands for are dead, let them rest in peace. There is nothing gained by contending against them. But the fact is they are not dead or dying. They are the two most alive propositions to-day before the country. They stand for pretty much everything that Hanna and Hannaism do not stand for.—Cleveland Recorder.

Committee's New Head.

J. G. Johnson, who has been placed at the head of the Democratic National Committee during the absence in Europe of Senator Jones, is the Kansas member of the committee, and is a warm friend of William Jennings Bryan and a stanch advocate of fusion and silver at the Chicago platform ratio. Mr. Johnson has been active in politics for a long time and is accounted one of the strong members of the National Committee. He divides his time chiefly between his practice of law and the affairs of the Order of Modern Woodmen, of which he is the head. This leads him to visit Rockford often, for that city is the headquarters of the Woodmen. The temporary head of the Democracy was born in Brooklyn, and early removed to Peoria, Ill., and thence to Peabody, Kan., where he resides.



J. G. JOHNSON.

Ticket the Trusts Will Vote.

Every trust in the United States will vote the Republican ticket in 1900, yet in that year we will hear the Republican stump orators screeching themselves hoarse in denunciation of trusts in order to induce the people to vote the same ticket that the trusts are supporting. The trusts cannot be beaten in that way. The only way that the trusts can be beaten is to elect the candidates that the trusts are opposing.—Washington National Watchman.

Naval Officers Too Chatty.

It has been suggested that among the other improvements of the United States Naval Academy which are now being made and are in contemplation, the establishment of a chair of reticence would be advisable.—Atlanta Constitution.

OUR EXPENSIVE AND EXPANSIVE MILITARISM.

—Chicago Chronicle.

THE STATE OF IOWA.

OCCURRENCES DURING THE PAST WEEK.

Woman's Federation Chooses New Officers—Winding Up of a Clinton Failure—Woman Dies in a Cistern—All Iowans Must Be Vaccinated

The biennial convention of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs was held in Burlington, and an interesting program was presented. The following officers were chosen: President, Mrs. Mabel Hutchison, Ottumwa; vice-president, Mrs. J. T. Illick, Burlington; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Bailey, Des Moines; recording secretary, Miss Harsh, Creston; treasurer, Miss Dodge, Council Bluffs; auditor, Mrs. Warren Garst, Coon Rapids; delegates to the general biennial in 1900, Mrs. Mabel Hutchison, Ottumwa; Mrs. Alice French, Davenport; Mrs. Maria Weed, West Union; Mrs. R. P. Dart, Des Moines; Mrs. J. J. Seerley, Burlington; Mrs. Heminway, Cedar Falls; Mrs. C. F. Van Vechten, Cedar Rapids; Miss Leoni McMillan, Oskaloosa; Mrs. T. C. Fletcher, Marshalltown; Mrs. Rich, Iowa City; Mrs. Mayne, Emmettsburg.

End of a Bank Failure.

The closing chapter of the failure of the bank of Haywood & Son at Clinton, which occurred in 1894, is perhaps now being enacted. Murray Haywood, the surviving member, has filed a petition in bankruptcy. He alleges he is unable to meet the heavy expenses incurred by the failure, which attracted wide attention at the time the collapse came. There is a long list of creditors, showing numerous depositors. The indebtedness is given at $72,873.11, divided as follows: Unsecured, $14,730.73; secured, $51,342.88; other claims on which the petitioner is liable, $6,800.

A Woman's Suicide.

The wife of Hans Harris, living near Soldier, committed suicide by throwing herself into a cistern. Mrs. Harris' health had been quite poor for some time. Mr. Harris was afraid to trust her alone and was keeping watch over her actions, but while he was attending to some duties about the place she committed the act. She was still alive when rescued, but died shortly afterwards.

Aged Couple Wed.

At the residence of Justice Alva McLaughlin in Lyons, that official united in marriage George A. Griswold of Almont, aged 74, and Mrs. Viola Rasmussen of Clinton, 56 years old. The groom has been a resident of Clinton County since 1839 and for years has been president of the Territorial Pioneers and Old Settlers' Association of Clinton County.

Iowans Must Be Vaccinated.

The State Board of Health adjourned after two days' consideration of the smallpox situation in the State. Resolutions were adopted ordering the local boards to have every person in the State vaccinated at once against smallpox. In case the parties are not able to afford the expense the local health boards will pay it.

Brief State Happenings.

The last outstanding warrant against the State has been paid off.

A forty-acre addition has been platted to the town of Carson.

Ottumwa capitalists have offered to start a bank at Libertyville.

One of the largest breweries in the West is in prospect at Des Moines.

Dr. Newton Richards, aged 76 years, a pioneer of Atlantic, dropped dead.

After June 1 the gasoline street lamps in Des Moines will be discontinued.

The postoffice at Dresser has been discontinued. Mail goes to Ida Grove.

The Woodmen at Dows have decided to build an opera house, costing $5,000.

The total assessed valuation of railroads in Iowa County amounts to $130,720.

The treasurer of Warren township has held that post for thirty successive years.

A number of herds of sheep in Tama County are seriously afflicted with scab.

Henry Solome, aged 12, fell from a raft in the river at Burlington and was drowned.

The State Bank of Ringsted has filed articles of incorporation, with a capital of $25,000.

The wages of the section and bridge men of the Iowa Central at Marshalltown have been increased.

The mangled body of a man was found on the Northwestern at Lombard, but was unrecognizable.

The girls employed in the Green-Wheeler shoe factory at Fort Dodge have struck for higher wages.

The old ferry boat John Taylor, at Burlington, was destroyed by fire. She was insured for $2,500.

Two men were discovered burglarizing the store of Alex Pertl at West Bend, but made their escape.

Will E. Green, a prominent young business man of Oskaloosa, died suddenly from heart disease.

Joseph Smith of West Point committed suicide by shooting himself while despondent over ill health.

The 18-months-old child of James Bash of Centerville was terribly burned by fire falling upon its clothing.

Wreckage from the Kirksville, Mo., cyclone has been picked up at Troy, a distance of sixty miles away.

The motormen and conductors on the street cars in Des Moines have had their wages increased 10 per cent.

T. C. Gibson, a carpenter of Montour, fell from a scaffold and is badly injured about the head and shoulders.

The residence of William Scott, at Underwood, together with contents, was destroyed by fire. Insurance small.

The Fort Dodge Plater Company of Fort Dodge has filed articles of incorporation. The capital stock is $100,000.

A man giving the name of Harry Jones was sentenced in Marshalltown to six years in the penitentiary for burglary.

Suits aggregating $5,500 for injuries alleged to have been sustained on defective sidewalks are pending at Mason City.

Ed Y. Culbertson, superintendent of the Ames school, charged with assault and battery, in his trial was found not guilty.

The Calhoun County fair is now a thing of the past, and the buildings on the grounds are now being torn down.

The officers of the Tama County fair have renewed the lease on the old fair grounds for a period of five years.

The Iowa Telephone Company has commenced rebuilding its long distance line between Burlington and Ottumwa.

The board of directors of Vernon township will build cyclone caves at seven different school houses in the township.

The sawmill companies of Muscatine have restored wages of employes to what they were several years ago. It had become difficult to hire men at the lowered rate.

Joseph Smith, a prominent citizen of West Point, committed suicide by shooting himself in the head. He had been in ill health for some time and was very despondent.

Marion S. Jessup and Miss Callie M. Yelverton, both of Pittsburg, met in Dubuque by appointment and called the Rev. Mr. Hopkins from his bed to perform a marriage ceremony at midnight.

Lawrence, the 8-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Border, near Victor, fell from a plow, his leg being caught and twisted round the wheel, and injured in such a manner that there is not much hope for saving the limb.

Judge Shiras has sustained the demurrer in the case of C. H. Heath, trustee in bankruptcy, against W. G. Schaefer et al. in Dubuque, deciding that the United States Circuit Court has no jurisdiction in bankruptcy proceedings.

The Denison fair grounds have been sold.

A brass band has been organized at Clermont.

Mason City is arranging for a ten-hour bicycle race.

There were fifty deaths in Des Moines during April.

Burlington is after this year's Northwestern Saengerfest.

Work has begun on the new Methodist Church at Monticello.

The Garrison bank will build a new building this summer.

Fort Dodge claims to have the first motor carriage in Iowa.

Rock Valley people are subscribing to a district fair association.

The Northwestern Iowa Teachers' meeting was held at Algona.

Over 1,100 men are employed in the three sawmills at Clinton.

The Davenport high school students publish a monthly magazine.

The mother and five children of a Fontanelle family died of measles.

There are 17,000 volumes now in the Dubuque Young Men's library.

The building fund of Drake University has been increased to $65,000.

The contract for a $9,000 Catholic school at Bancroft has been let.

Grinnell fruit growers report that strawberries are killed out by the winter.

Muscatine's street car lines are to place more cars and expedite the service.

Walt Butler is to lecture through Illinois and Iowa on the Paris exposition.

A young man in Toledo died from the effects of excessive cigarette smoking.

The grand jury at Keokuk found but one indictment, and that against a woman.

The contract has been let at Davenport for the erection of the German free school.

A petition has been circulated for a postoffice between Village Creek and Elon.

Some gentlemen of Waterloo are building a summer hotel at San Souci to cost $6,000.

Dr. J. D. Reynolds, a prominent physician and pioneer resident of Creston, is dead.

Business men of Libertyville are considering a proposition to establish a bank there.

Fontanelle has shelled and shipped 50,000 bushels of corn during the last two weeks.

Birmingham has voted to issue bonds for $8,000 for the erection of a new school house.

That part of Oskaloosa's bicycle ordinance requiring a lamp is held to be inoperative.

Prof. F. M. Bruner of Des Moines, an educator well known throughout the west, is dead.

The postoffice at Collett has been re-established with Wm. E. Thompson as postmaster.

It is reported that there are some 200 cases of typhoid fever in and around Marshalltown.

The School Board of Marshalltown finds it necessary to increase the assessment for next year 4 mills.

The independent school district of Centerville has now only about $16,000 worth of bonds still unpaid.

A judge in the District Court at Des Moines granted thirteen divorces by default one day recently.

A man named Huffman, living near Toledo, was severely injured by a horse kicking him on the face.

Harry Jones, convicted of burglary at Marshalltown, has been sentenced to three years in the penitentiary.

Ivol, the 5-year-old son of Samuel Branson of Oskaloosa, was fatally injured by being kicked by a horse.

An inmate of the Allamakee County poor house claims to be the heir to an estate of $60,000 in Norway.

Barney Cone committed suicide at South Centerville by taking carbolic acid. Ill health and poverty the cause.

The Rock Island contemplates the erection of foundry and construction shop buildings at Valley Junction.

A Council Bluffs dog is said to have committed suicide by hanging himself from a window with his chain.

The contract for the new electric light building at Iowa City provides that it must be completed in six weeks.

A committee of Des Moines business men is touring the country seeking proper locations for the proposed army post.

J. B. Ramp of West Burlington was drugged by intending robbers at St. Louis and found in an unconscious condition.

The little son of Everett Westcott of West Union had his face badly injured by accidentally pouring carbolic acid on it.

Oskaloosa is making preparations to entertain 500 delegates to the State Sunday school convention, to be held there June 20-23.

The Business Men's Association at Davenport is considering the matter of developing the water power in the rapids of the Mississippi.

A man supposed to be W. W. Patterson of Iowa City was found dead in a hotel room at San Jose, Cal. He had committed suicide.

The loss to Dubuque County for the replacing and repairing of washouts and damaged bridges will reach a considerable figure.

The sixth annual debate between the universities of Iowa and Minnesota, held at Iowa City, resulted in a victory for the Iowa college.

The Fort Dodge and Omaha road is to lay out and establish a new town seven miles west of Manson. It will be known as McCarville.

Beverly Clark, a colored boy, broke the State record for a high jump in the East Des Moines high school meet, clearing 5 feet 10 inches.

A modern flour mill is to be erected at Atlantic. An elevator with a capacity of 20,000 bushels will be built and operated in conjunction therewith.

The city of Dubuque has sued the street car company for $9,108.27, claiming that amount expended in street improvements which should have been made by the company.

A large barn owned by Levi Osgood, near Marshalltown, was struck by lightning and destroyed by fire, together with 1,500 bushels of grain and a few head of swine.

Vera cottage, belonging to Mrs. N. Barrett, at Waterloo, was destroyed by fire. Will Barrett was badly burned and the other members of the family had a narrow escape from cremation.

Don Allen, the little son of a Washington clergyman, and John Stewart, son of the railroad agent, were drowned in a reservoir east of the depot. The boys were playing on a raft when it tilted, throwing both into the water. Neither could swim and they sank before passers-by who witnessed the accident reached the tank.

The recently reported cases of smallpox in Leclaire have proved to be the real disease, notwithstanding the denial of a physician and his statement that the ailment was only an aggravated outbreak of chickenpox. The Iowa State Board of Health has made a thorough examination of four suspected cases and declared it to be smallpox.

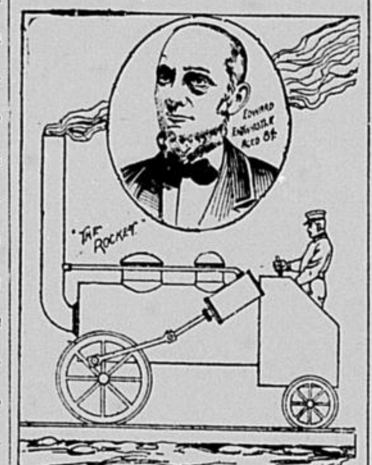
It is impossible to find an idle man in Clinton, and a contractor has importuned the police department to release several hoboes in the jail so that he might give them work. His plea won, and the vagrants are now laborers, earning $1.50 per work day of eight hours.

At Mason City, Tom Durkin, aged 15, was shot by Mrs. Ford. The woman met the boy on the outskirts of the city and accused him of improper conduct toward her daughter. Tom denied the accusation and a heated controversy arose. Finally Mrs. Ford pulled a revolver from her waist and fired, the ball striking the motory nerve. The woman then ran away. Doctors fear the wound is mortal.

RAN ON THE ROCKET.

Edward Entwhistle, the First Passenger Engineer, Is 84 Years of Age.

Edward Entwhistle, who has recently celebrated his 84th birthday at the home of Mrs. Thomas O'Dea, his granddaughter, in East Des Moines, Iowa, has seen the great railroad systems of the world develop from their very beginning. He was the first railroad passenger engineer. Despite his age he is hale and hearty and looks confidently forward to several years of life.



ENTWHISTLE AND THE ROCKET.

Mr. Entwhistle as a boy of 14 held the throttle on the first trip of the Rocket, Stevenson's pioneer engine.

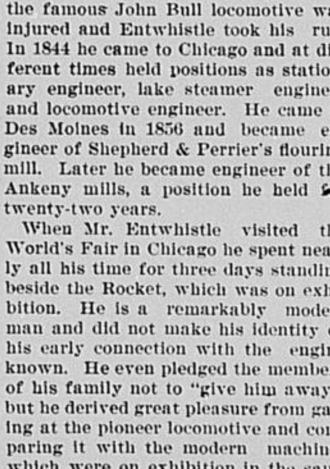
Edward Entwhistle was born March 24, 1815, at Tilsey's Banks, Lancashire, England, and while a mere boy was apprenticed to learn the machinist's, or, as it is known in England, the engineers' trade. The Rocket was built in the shops in which he was employed and the interest which he took in the machine attracted the attention of Stevenson, who recommended that he be permitted to ride on the engine on its first trip over the Liverpool and Manchester line, for which it was constructed. Young Entwhistle made the trip and on the return journey he held the throttle. This was the beginning of his career as a locomotive engineer. He ran the Rocket for two years, making two round trips between Liverpool and Manchester, a distance of thirty-one miles each way. The work wore on him and he was obliged, because of nervousness, to resign. Stevenson then secured for him a place as second engineer on one of the duke of Bridgewater's coasting steamers. He came to America in 1837 and became engineer on the Troy, a Hudson river steamer. Soon after the engineer of the famous John Bull locomotive was injured and Entwhistle took his run. In 1844 he came to Chicago and at different times held positions as stationary engineer, lake steamer engineer and locomotive engineer. He came to Des Moines in 1856 and became engineer of Shepherd & Perrier's flouring mill. Later he became engineer of the Ankeny mills, a position he held for twenty-two years.

When Mr. Entwhistle visited the World's Fair in Chicago he spent nearly all his time for three days standing beside the Rocket, which was on exhibition. He is a remarkably modest man and did not make his identity or his early connection with the engine known. He even pledged the members of his family not to "give him away," but he derived great pleasure from gazing at the pioneer locomotive and comparing it with the modern machines which were on exhibition in the same building. The picture which accompanies this sketch is from a photograph taken about the time of Mr. Entwhistle's visit to the World's Fair.

A RED HENRY WARD BEECHER.

Chief Half-Moon Bore a Striking Resemblance to the Noted Preacher.

Chief Half-Moon of the Sin-Ka-Use or Columbia Indians, is dead. Half-Moon, better known as Moses to the white people in the State of Washington, had three claims on fame. One, and to him the most important, was that he bore close resemblance to Henry Ward Beecher, the facial likeness being startlingly similiar. Another was that he was a first cousin to the redoubtable Chief Joseph of Nez Perce reputation, and masqueraded a great deal in the guise of a good Indian. Half-Moon's third claim to fame rested on the assertion of his kinsmen that he was between 100 and 200 years old. This latter claim, however, seems to be merely a bit of Indian hyperbole. Pioneer residents of Washington put Half-Moon's age at 75 years.



CHIEF HALF-MOON.

Half-Moon came of bad parentage. His father was a bloodthirsty, murderous savage, and Half-Moon inherited all of his worst traits. Previous to the subjugation of his tribe he was continually at war with the whites, and participated in many murders and brutal massacres.

Personally, Moses was a commanding figure, standing nearly six feet in hight, and weighing about 250 pounds. He was by far the biggest Indian in the bunch and strong as an ox. His strength had, however, become merely a tradition, for, since he became the petted ward of the government, with its $1,000 annuity, he had no ambition or excuse to do aught but live in idleness and splendor, preferring only to take up the white man's burden in the shape of bearing a load of Kentucky rye under his belt. These occasions, however, were only periodical with the aged chief in his later years, as he had long been a sufferer from Bright's disease, which finally carried him off.

One Ear Best.

A well-known professor asserts that the smallest intervals of sound can be better distinguished with one ear than with both. It takes the full complement, however, to hear the alarm clock at 5:30 a. m.

Deserted Capitals in India.

A remarkable feature of India is the number of deserted capitals. There are no fewer than three old Delhis, all close to each other, and south of the present city.

A man always rises in his own estimation when he gets on familiar terms with a person of whom he once stood in awe.

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY

The Issue of Paper Money.

Every honest man insists on the Government carrying out all of its pecuniary contracts. There is some difference in opinion as to repaying some of the war loans made by the Government, in paper or in coin; but this is not the silver question. It is impossible to drive the idea out of the heads of some people that paper money is the only common sense money and that metallic money, made of the precious metals, is a relic of barbarism. If it is barbaric to believe in this kind of metallic money, I have inherited the belief from my barbaric ancestors and hold them responsible. A post-mortem examination of my brain may possibly show why this belief sticks to me so tenaciously. I want to see the restoration of silver to its old place, as an agent of valuation, at its existing coinage ratio of sixteen parts of silver to one of gold. For the convenience of the people we sound money bimetallists advocate the issue and use of abundant paper representatives, but always redeemable in coin by the Government at the option of the people; but we insist that the Government should always be allowed to exercise the commanding option of a debtor and decide as to the kind of coin, gold or silver, they must use for redemption. I look upon paper representative money simply as an evidence of debt. It is indispensable and fills an exceedingly important position in civilized life.

The issue of paper money is one of the most commanding and powerful functions of a civilized government. It should be most strenuously held by the Government alone. The Government has the taxing power to obtain coin when necessary for redemption; this power will never surrender to any corporation. Surrendering the issue of paper money to partially private corporations would, in my estimation, be one of the most pernicious of economic blunders. A powerful organization, backed up by almost unlimited means and the most influential of the metropolitan press, is in existence for the purpose of depriving the Government of this duty and giving it over to our lenders of money. The dangers that seem to menace this nation from this cause are probably now as great as the dangers that threatened us for other reasons in 1860. In 1865 our people knew more than they did in 1860. They were taught by sad experience. In 1860 it was easier to fight than to think. It seems to me that the Almighty paralyzed the brains of the American people in 1860 for some inscrutable purpose. Is there not a terrible mental paralysis evident to-day? The choice of gold alone in 1873 rather than silver as the sole money standard is an immaterial question. The choice of silver alone rather than gold would have put us in a similar financial position and would probably have been just as mischievous. We must, for stability and safety, stand on both metals as debt-paying standards. Civilized society must have money or its representatives in abundance, and the real center of battle to-day is the effort to take away the power to issue this representative money from the people or our representatives, the Government, and hand over this powerful agent to a small, select class of people whose sole function is to loan money. To drive the Government out of the banking business, as they falsely describe it, is the potent force actuating the single standard leaders, who advocate gold alone. It is the gold standard question in a nut shell.

The average bimetallist has no objection whatever to the Government issuing bonds, if necessary, in order to get coin to liquidate coin obligations; but to issue bonds to purchase gold to liquidate coin obligations is most emphatically condemned. One of the strongest evidences of a want of statesmanship is the condition of our national fiscal affairs and the low prices and hard times among the people. Neglecting to deprive the Secretary of the Treasury of the privilege of borrowing gold, which privilege he has so notoriously abused, is an evidence of national mental paralysis, such as afflicted our nation in 1860. We have millions of coined and uncoined silver in our vaults which can legally be used, and should have been used, to liquidate any coin obligation against the United States. Must we wait until 1900 to awake to a realization of our situation? is the question for our statesmen to investigate, and for the plain people to decide. Let us use every reasonable effort to reach a wise conclusion.—John A. Grier.

Scarcity of Currency.

Bankers continue to make more or less complaint regarding the scarcity of currency. The crop-moving season has brought with it the usual demand for notes as the most convenient form in which money can be shipped to the interior in response to such needs. While the banks, both in New York and other cities, are amply supplied with gold, the expense of shipping it and the difficulty of getting it into general circulation are sufficiently obvious. There has been a suggestion that the treasury might with advantage return to the practice of issuing gold certificates against coin deposited with it. These gold certificates, which were authorized under the act of 1882, were suspended in 1893, when the treasury gold reserve fell to less than $100,000,000, and their issue has not since been resumed. It is urged that the ability of the banks to convert their extremely large gold reserves into gold certificates would be, under existing conditions, a great advantage to the financial and business community, but it would seem that the treasury officials oppose such a course on the ground that the issue of gold certificates not only turns the United States treasury vaults into a free-storage warehouse, but prepares the way for future trouble by facilitating the hoarding of money in the form of gold or facilitating withdrawals of gold from the treasury.—Exchange.

A Paying Business.

An exchange remarks: "Did you ever give the national statements which are published semi-occasionally by the United States Treasury any attention?" Well, yes, we have, and we find that the banks of this country have about five or six times as much money loaned out on which they are receiving interest, as there is in existence in the country, and this is not all. We find further that the greater part of the real money in them and which forms the base of their "working capital," belongs to their depositors. This bank business is a great "graft" for the bankers.

It is impossible that an ill-natured man can have a public spirit; for how should he love ten thousand men who has never loved one.—Pope.