Worthington Advance.

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A. P. Miller,

Editor and Proprietor.

The Worthington Advance.

FREE THOUGHT, FREE SPEECH AND A FREE PRESS.

VOLUME VIII. WORTHINGTON, NOBLES COUNTY, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1880. NUMBER 20.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

CRIMES AND CRIMINALS

A boy in Springfield, Ill., by the name of Daniel Decastro, aged 14, committed suicide by hanging himself the other day.

Postoffice station F. 401 third street New York, was entered by burglars on the night of Jan 7. the safe blown open and $4,000 stolen.

Stephen Longfellow of Boston, Mass. nephew of the poet has been held for trial for forging the name of the latter to a check for $1000.

M. Moore, druggist of Morris, Stevens county, Minn., was arrested Jan. 8. charged with rape on Mrs Zimmerman. The evidence being claimed insufficient he was discharged.

At Zama, Rock Island county, Ill., Jan. 10, two men quarreled in regard to their respective claims to the hand of a lady. when one seized a hammer and inflicted fatal wounds upon the head of the other, fracturing the skull.

John Harris, deputy sheriff of Panola county. Miss., was assassinated at Sardis on the night of Jan. 3, by being shot while sitting his office. Scandals are said to be at the bottom of the affair.

An unsuccessful attempt was made Jan. 6 to wreck a train on the New York Central railway between Niagara Falls and Tonawanda by placing rails on the track. The engine pushed aside one obstruction and the train was stopped before it reached the other.

In the Cholio district, Georgia, Jan. 7, during an election for tax receiver, M. A. Smith, a bailiff, called Jasper Spence one side to talk about the election. Smith, without warning, snatched a pistol from a bystander and shot Spence dead. Smith and Spence had ill feelings towards each other for some time, but had settled the difficulty. A large party is hunting Smith. He will stand a poor chance if caught.

CASUALTIES.

Five children were amusing themselves on the ice, on a mill pond in Readville, Mass. Jan. 8. when the ice gave way and two were drowned.

On the seventh of January, Mrs. H. W. Haynes, assistant teacher in the high school at St. Paul, Minn., slipped on the ice and broke her right leg above the ankle.

A still in Lombard and Ayer's oil works in New York exploded Jan. 6. and set fire to the building and factory burned one, to death, and seriously burned another of the workmen.

At Woodbridge, N. J., on the morning of Jan. 6, on the Long Branch railroad, a locomotive and four freight cars fell through a fifty feet draw of a bridge that had carelessly been left open. The wreck took fire and the cars were burned. The engineer was slightly injured.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

The Massachuttes legislature organized Jan. 7.

Gov. Perkins of San Francisco was inaugurated Jan. 8.

The symptoms of the Empress of Russia are officially reported to be increasingly unfavorable.

Lloyd S. Brown, member of the last Ohio legislature, fell dead in a street car in Cincinnati, Jan. 6.

Thomas Alfred Starkey was consecrated Bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Northern New Jersey, Jan. 8.

Dispatches from Augusta, Maine, of Jan 9, contradict the rumors of the serious illnes of senator Blaine.

Gov Long was innaugarated for his new term of Governor of Massachusetts, Jan. 8 and delivered his message.

The President has nominated George W. Hazelton. of Wisconsin, United States attorney for the eastern district of Wisconsin.

The California House of Representatives, January 7, by a vote of 68 to 3, recommended John F. Swift for minister to China.

The Governor of Alabama, has appointed Luke E. Pryor United States Senator to fill the vacancy caused by the recent death of Senator Houston.

The greenback conference at Washington, Jan. 9, fixed upon June 10th as the time, and Chicago as the place of holding their National convention.

The special Senate committe appointed to investigate the negro exodus consists of Voorheees, Vance and Pendletons, democrats and Windom and Blaine Republicans.

Frank Leslie, the well-known publisher of illustrated papers, died at his residence in the City of New York on the afternoon of Jan. 10, from a fibrous tumor in the throat.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Strawberry plants are in bloom in the gardens around Richmond, Virginia.

The Butchers' Union held an open air meeting in Chicago, Jan. 8. Some 10,000 persons were present. The strikers are disposed to compromise with the packers upon any basis but giving up the union.

The striking butchers at Chicago, compelled non-union workmen to leave their work Jan. 5. Both sides express a determination to hold out, and the employers are especially indisposed to make concessions to the refractory strikers.

The fact that the women captured by the Ute Indians, at the White river agency massacre, were brutally outraged by their captors, has, for some unexplained reason, hitherto been concealed. The Pueblo (Colorado) *Chieftain*, on New Year's day, contained the following card from Mrs. Meeker, whose husband was slain: To the editor of the Colorado Chieftain. Greeley, Dec. 30. Dear Sir: I arise from a sick bed to state a few facts which you and the people of Colorado demand. We three captives of the Utes—Mrs. Price, myself and daughter—were all interviewed separately, being put under oath by the officers of the government to tell the whole truth of our treatment by the Indians. I gave in my testimony for the use of the government, to do with it as they should see fit. There was nothing whatever said about its being suppressed on either side. I just simply gave my testimony to the government officers, innocently supposing they knew their duty and would do it I also thought I had done all that belonged to me to do by telling these officers the sickening and most humiliating misfortune that can befall a woman, and if they and the interior department have not done their duty by the people of Colorado, it is they who are to blame, not me. On arriving home in Greeley I found myself completely broken down in mind and body, and have had a long spell of severe sickness, and from which I am just recovering. Yours truly. Mrs. N. C. MEEKER.

The Cheyenne leader adds the following: Immediately after captivity the women were forced, under threats of torture and slow death, to yield to the lust of their hideous captors. The women, suffering untold agony on account of the murder of their husbands and fathers, were dazed and bewildered, and were powerless to resist. Poor old Mrs. Meeker. over 60 years of age, and suffering from a flesh wound in the rear portion of the thigh, became the victim of Douglas, who afterward boasted of his protecting care. Josephine Meeker was held by Persune, and Mrs. Price by Johnson. The unbearable indignities were simply augmented by other Utes, friends of the three mentioned. In the hellish outrages the bucks were assisted by squaws. These female savges seemed to gloat over the horrors perpetrated upon the white captives of their own sex. During their captivity the sufferings of the three women were indiscribably horrible. The hellish fiends renewed their crimes time and time again The poor women feared they would never be delivered from a thraldom worse than death, for death is unconsciousness, while their existence was a living death and an earthly hell every day.

The Mark Lane *Express*, of Jan 6, in a review of the British grain trade for the past week, says: Recent frosts prevented the sowing of much of the land intended for wheat, especially in Midland and a few other districts, where it is reported only about half the usual quantity has been sown. As the frost has now disappeared, some of this deficiency, at any rate, should be speedily remedied. It is impossible as yet to state the effect of the frost, upon growing wheat, but It may be remarked, increased apprehensions are felt on this point. In France roots have been much injured by the frost, and it will be difficult and expensive for cattle owners to tide over the winter. Damp weather has rather deteriated freshly threshed grain. The quantity offered at Mark Lane has been small and prices were not quotably lowered. Trade in foreign wheat was only slightly affected by holiday influences the past week, and the full rates of last Monday have been obtainable. The supply for the moment is doubtless in excess of the demand, and stocks are are increasing. Holders, however, do not seem inclined to press sales. There seems to be a general inclination to await further developements of the situation in America. If prices here had continued as abnormally depressed as during the first half of the year 1879 the great speculative enterprise which is now afloat in America could hardly have failed to be successful. The only note-worthy change in feeding stuffs being a decline in maize of about one shilling. In consequence of large arrivals and flagging demand arrivals at ports of call have been moderate. Wheat in the early part of the week fetched [illegible] pence to a shilling per quarter, but it since partly recovered. Maize was in less demand at six pence to nine pence reduction. Wheat to arrive inactive. American offerings still too high. Maize flat with a declining tendency. New crop of mixed American was offering at 26s and 26s 6d per 180 pounds for January and February shipments. Sales of English wheat last week, 24,574 quarters, at 46s 11d per quarter the corresponding week last year. Imports into the United Kingdom week ending December 27 849,866 hundred weight wheat, and 222,914 hundred weight flour.

MAINE ELECTION TROUBLES.

Augusta, Jan. 8.—Governor Garcelon ceased to be governor at midnight last night. Mr. Lamson, the President of the Senate, is now acting Governor. Both houses of the legislature assembled quietly to-day at 10 A. M. The crowd was greatly diminished from yesterday. Sentinels were placed at the doors. he police force continued to be under the sheriff and mayor. A committee was appointed to investigate charges of alleged bribery by the Senate. On the opening of the House an impatient crowd rushed in. Quiet was soon restored. The records of yesterday were read and showed that not more than 72 votes were cast for any candidate in organizing the House, that number being less than a quorum. The republican members who withdrew yesterday, were present and ready to be qualified. Acting Gov. Lamson refused to qualify them at present, not being sure of his power, but would inform himself. The House then adjourned.

Augusta, Jan. 9. Doubt, distrust and excitement still continues. The military power looms up. Gen. Chamberlain consults civil authorities. The last night's conference at Blaine's house continued until a late hour in the morning of the 9th. At the Augusta House every person was closely watched till two o'clock in the morning. In the morning, politicians were nervous, and fusionists panicky. Gen. Chamberlain early in the morning, issued a general order to the effect that he would assume command and protect the property and institutions of the State, in trust for the people, until a governor is duly elected and qualified. By this order, Gen. Chamberlain assumes temporarily the office of Governor and commander in-chief. The entire police force of the State house was changed, those indicated by Gen. Chamberlain taking the place of those there for several weeks The change was quietly made. On the opening of the senate. but one Republican appeared and took his seat, Locke of Cumberland. The vote on the bribery order was reconsidered, and the order laid on the table. In the House only 72 members appeared, all fusionists. Swann and Harriman stated that they had each been offered $1,000 by Wallace R. White not to appear at the organization of the legislature.

Advices from Agusta, to Jan. 10, stats that the House have attained no quorum, and the legislative status was substiantly unchanged. By order of Gen. Chamberlain, the state arms brought from Bangor and placed in the State House, were returned to the arsenal in Bangor. The Portland *Advertiser* says it is understood that White accused of bribery will reply that he received the resignatious and certificates as stated, but did hold the alleged interview, and that the money payments is a pure falsehood

Augusta, Jan. 11, Wallace R. White has published a card, denying in the most positive and emphatic terms the charge of bribery made against him, and demands at the proper time, an investigation. James D. Lamson, fusionist, has issued a proclamation, as president of the senate, assuming the functions of acting governor of the State. This may bring on a conflict with General Chamberlain.

ASSAULTED BY A MANIAC.

A few days ago, John Galvin reached St. Paul Minn. from Morris, Stevens county, to visit a brother-in-law. He had wandered away about six miles from the city and Saturday afternoon, Jan. 10th, he appeared at the residence of Mr. Townsend, who was engaged in cutting up meat in a frame addition to his house. Galvin inquired which way he could best strike the road, from which the house is about one mile distant. Mr. Townsend gave the necessary instructions. after which the stranger made himself obnoxious by indulging in personal remarks that were highly improper Believing that the man was a tramp, Mr. Townsend attached no particular weight to the remarks, until suddenly the brute reached over and seized the knife with which he was cutting meat. Being under the impression that the man intended to take his life, the attack was stoutly resisted. The maniac siezed the knife by the blade, and in trying to wrench it from Mr. Townsend, almost severed his right wrist. The encounter was now desperate, as Mr. Townsend knew that life depended on the issue, while the rage of the lunatic became furious. With the alacrity of a cat the lunatic released his hold on the knife and jumped for an axe which stood in a corner of the room, with which he dealt Mr. Townsend one or two blows on the head, the force of which was partially broken by that gentleman. Mr. Townsend managed to seize the axe, and after a fearful struggle he felled the maniac to the floor. after which he was securely pinioned. He was taken to the city hospital in St Paul. His right hand is almost severed at the wrist, and he has two ugly gashes in the head, besides many bruises It is not thought he will recover. Mr. Townsend received a severe cut in the head and other injuries none of which are fatal.

FORTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

SENATE, Jan. 6.—A large number of bills and petitions were presented and appropriately referred, after which on motion of Senator Morgan, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Senator Houston of Alabama, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE, Jan. 6.—A resolution was adopted providing for an investigation of the origin of the Ute Indian outbreak at the White river agency in Colorada. Without transacting other business the House adjourned as a mark of respect to the memory of Senator Houston.

SENATE, Jan. 7.—Senator Pendleton introduced an amendment to Senator Bayard's financial resolution. Referred. A communication was received from the Secretary of the Interior, pursuant to a resolution of the Senate, concerning the Ute Indians. On motion of Senator Pendleton a bill in reference to the investment of Indians' fund held in trust was allowed to go over subject to Senator Pendleton's call. A bill to prevent cruelty to animals in transportation was postponed till tomorrow.

HOUSE, Jan. 7.—The States were called for bills for reference. A large number of bills and resolutions on a variety of subjects were introduced and referred. Among them one to restrict Chinese emigration. One for the recoinage of the trade dollar. One to invite Mexico and Brazil to enter into treaties One to inquire in to the expediency of abolishing all envoys extraordinary and minister residents of the United States to foreign countries. Mr. Cox chairman of the committee on foreign affairs reported back the bill to regulate emigration. It was read and sent to the committee of the whole on a point of order.

HOUSE, Jan. 8. A resolution was adopted directing inquiry as to the cause and extent of the probable difficiency in postal service for the fiscal year of 1878-9. Mr Prescott presented a communication from Horatio Seymour, asking for an appropriation for the erection of a monument to General Herkimer. Referred. The House considered the report of the committee on the revision of the rules, when a debate of considerable length, participated in by several members, ensued, but without further action adjourned.

SENATE, Jan. 8.—The Sergeant-at arms brought to the bar of the senate three witnesses in the Ingall's investigation case, charged with contempt in not obeying the summons of the senate. The witnesses explained. Discussion followed, and they were discharged, having purged themselves of contempt. Senator Wallace presented the petition of Drexel & Co., and others of Pennsylvania for withdrawal of the legal tender quality of treasury notes. A bill was reported appropriating $21,618 for erecting a new military hospital at West Point. Adjourned.

SENATE, Jan. 9.—A bill was introduced admitting free of duty, clothing and other articles destined for the relief of colored emigrants. A bill was introduced granting pensions to each survivor of the Mexican war, who was not engaged in the late rebellion, and who did not abet the same. Referred.

HOUSE, Jan. 9.—At the expiration of the morning hour the House went into the committee of the whole, Mr. Cox in the chair, on the private calendar. In advocating one of the bills on the calendar for the relief of Calvin Bronson, of Ohio, Mr. Tucker referred to Garfield as his distinguished friend who had received not so much what he wished as what he merited, which remark was received with applause on the Republican side. The committee arose and reported the following bills to the House: For the relief of Samuel Lord, Jr.; for the relief of Thos. Langton, of Michigan, for the relief of Calvin Bronson of Ohio. The bill then passed. Adjourned till Monday.

Exact Justice.

There is a famous case on the books of a Norman hotel-keeper and the customer who ordered a six-egg omelette prepared, but went away in a hurry without paying for it, and, when he returned, fifteen years later, offered the landlord 6 francs, being for the original cost of the eggs and the interest thereon compounded. The landlord claimed a fabulous sum, alleging that the six eggs would have produced so many chicks, from which would have issued so many hens; that, with the product of these innumerable fowls, he would have bought a farm, which, in so many years, would have yielded so much money, which, being invested, etc., etc. The court, however, non-suited the landlord because the eggs had been broken for the omelette, and so could not have been hatched.

This case has been outdone in an Indian court. A, B, C and D buy cotton in partnership, and store it in a warehouse which is infested with rats. To discourage these vermin they buy a cat, of which each is to own a leg. The cat breaks that one of her legs which is owned by A, who binds it up with cotton soaked in oil. The wrappings take fire, the cat takes refuge in the midst of the cotton bales, and the whole property is destroyed; whereupon B, C and D sue A, alleging that it was his leg which caused the conflagration. The court promptly decides against them with costs, and orders them to pay A for his cotton, and bear their own losses, on the ground that the cat couldn't walk on the broken leg, so that it was the three sound legs which carried her into the cotton.

Unanimously Elected.

In Prussia the voters elect electors who elect the members of the national parliament.

In one electoral district only one voter put in an appearance on election day.

"For whom do you vote?" said the returning officer.

"For myself!"

"If elected will you serve as an elector?"

"No."

"Then," said the returning officer, smiling at the strange simplicity of the man, "I must ask you the first question over again. Whom do you vote for?"

"For myself."

"Oh, then you have made up your mind to serve if you are elected?"

"No."

"In the name of Bismarck I adjure you, you chuckle-headed ass," yelled the returning officer at the top of his voice; "tell me, for the third and last time, whom do you vote for, then?"

The voter, with dignity: "Having been thrice honored by my fellow-citizens with a unanimous election to this important trust, after I had twice declined the honor they would thrust upon me, I feel that I can no longer resist their appeal, but must sacrifice my personal preferences to my anxiety for the public welfare. I vote for myself and will serve if elected!"

THE London *Telegraph* indulges in the following display of remarkable knowledge: "John Quincy Adams left the whole of his property, valued at £10,000, to his son, the subsequent President, Charles Francis Adams, who died a rich man, having married a lady of great wealth."

WE should enjoy our fortune as we do our health—enjoy it when good, be patient when it is bad, and never apply violent remedies except in an extreme necessity.

Inauguration of the Minnesota State Officers.

The inauguration of State officers in Minnesota has uniformely taken place in the Assembly Hall at the capitol, in the presence of both branches of the legislature, and of such other citizens as might choose to attend. But as the legislature now meets only once in two years, this being "the off year," no legislature was near to witness the ceremony of inauguration. It was a mistaken arrangement, not to have State officers and members of the legislature elected the same year, a mistake that ought to be remedied. The inauguration this year was as quiet and unceremonious as the swearing in or inauguration of a Justice of the peace. Two years ago the inauguration ceremonies took place January 10, dating from which the two years service of the State officers, then inaugurated, expired January 10, this year. Accordingly, the officers declared to be elected, were qualified on Saturday, Jan. 10. The officers elected at the late election were Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General and Railroad Commissioner, the other elective officers, Auditor and Clerk of the Supreme court holding over. Of the officers elected, only the Governor and Railroad Commissioner were re-elected, all the others are new officials. It was a disappointment that none of the Judges of the Supreme court were present to administer the oaths to the officers elect In this emergency Samuel H. Nichols, clerk of the supreme court administered the oath of office to the elect officials in the Governor's room at the capitol, the proceedings occupying not more than five minutes. The officers thus qualifying were: John S. Pillsbury, Governor; Fred Von Baumbach, Secratary of state; Charles Kittleson, Treasurer; Wm. R. Marshall, Railroad Commissioner; C. A. Gillmore, Lieutenant Governor was not present; and it is not known that he has taken the oath of office. Charles M. Start, Attorney General took the oath of office, Jan. 8, and entered upon the duties of his office.

OFFICERS AND SALARIES.

As a matter of interest this connection a list of the several state oficials is appended with the assistance in their respective offices and the salaries attached to each.

GOVERNOR'S ROOM.	Salary.
John S. Pillsbury, governor	$3,800
Pennock Pusey, private secretary	1,500
Coleman Macy, clerk	1,200
SECRETARY'S OFFICE.	
Fred. Von Baumbach, secretary	$1,800
Theodore Sander, assistant and commissioner of statistics	2,000
Victor Hjortsburg	1,000
STATE AUDITOR.	
O. P. Whitcomb, auditor	$3,000
M. D. Kenyon, chief clerk	1,500
Land commissioner's clerk	1,500
Extra clerk hire	1,000
STATE TREASURER.	
Charles Kittelson, treasurer	$3,500
Angus Ames, deputy	1,500
ATTORNEY GENERAL.	
C. M. Start	$2,000
Clerk hire	200
In addition to this sum the officer gets $10 per day for every day actually in court, whether in St. Paul or elsewhere, and traveling expenses when obliged to go abroad in the discharge of his duties.	
RAILROAD COMMISSIONER.	
Wm. R. Marshall	$3,000
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.	
D. Burt, superintendent	$2,500
C. H. Burt, clerk	1,200
PUBLIC EXAMINER.	
H. M. Knox	$3,500
Clerk hire and contingent	1,000
SUPREME COURT.	
J. B. Gilfillan, chief justice	$4,000
John M. Berry, associate	4,000
F. R. E. Cornell, "	4,000
Samuel H. Nichols, clerk	1,500
In addition to the above sum the clerk receives certain fees, which are said to make his office the most valuable in a pecuniary sense, of any of the State elective offices.	
INSURANCE COMMISSION.	
A. R. McGill	$2,000
Chas. Shandrew, clerk	1,200
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Col. W. H. H. Taylor, librarian	$1,500
H. P. Van Cleve adjutant general	1,500
Chas. E. Chappel, janitor	1,200
Geo. R. Morton, engineer	1,200
C. E. Davis, arsenal keeper	400
Geo. Symonds, assistant janitor	600
— Nelson, night watchman	600

The above compilation does not included, the office of Lieutenant Governor, whose compensation is governed by the service rendered as President of the Senate at the rate of $10 per day aggregating $600 for the sixty days' legislative session allowed by law. There being no session this winter it will make little pecuniary difference to the duly qualified lieutenant governor. There is also an annual contingent voted the Governor, usually $1,000 which is not included in the above, nor is the salary of Mr. Young, secretary of the State board of agriculture, $1,200

THE TREASURY.

The following is the condition of the treasury as shown by the examination made by Mr. Kittelson, the incoming treasurer:

January 9, 1880.

Balances in treasury at close of business:—

	Dr.	Cr.
Revenue fund	$17,651 13	
State Institutions fund		$ 40,207,66
Interest fund		
Sinking fund		21,487 62
Seed Grain Sinking fund 1878		2,836 26
Permanent School fund		4,726 99
General School fund		64,786 15
Permanent University fund		7,653 44
General University fund		6,719 56
Internal Improvement fund		2,136 18
Internal Improvement Land fund		6,162 89
Inebriate Asylum fund		76 41
School Text-Book fund		687 41
Totals	$17,651 13	$157,480 57
Deduct Revenue fund		17,651 13
Actual amount in treasury		$139,829 44

Deposited as follows:—

In First National bank	$59,650 61	
In Second National bank	11,893 24	
In Merchants National bank	33,830 95	
In German American bank	34,454 64	
		139,829 44

Invested bonds: For the permanent school fund:

Minnesota, United States and Missouris	$1,508,000
Permanent University fund	142,000
Internal Improvement fund	140,000
	$1,890,000

A Cruel Husband.

"Did you wipe your feet on the mat, Fred, as you came in?" "Well, no, I didn't, deary. I thought—" "That's just like you; coming right in on this brand-new carpet without once thinking of the labor it costs to—" "But I thought, my own one—" "Yes, I suppose you did think, but not as you should have, or you wouldn't have come in on such a muddy day without wiping your feet." "But I thought—there, now, let me finish—I thought, you know, it would do if I wiped my shoes on the mat, and deferred wiping my feet until I'd shelled off the outside wrappers and there was a towel handy." Alas! for the evasion! She could forgive him all but that.

VALUE OF WORN GOLD COINS.

Letter of Information From the Coiner at the New Orleans Mint.

Inquiries are daily made at the mint as to the least current weight at which the Government will receive gold coins at their nominal value. Under the fourteenth section of the Coinage act of 1873 it is provided "that gold coins reduced in weight by natural abrasion not more than one-half of 1 per centum below the standard weight, after a period of circulation of twenty years, and a proportionate rate for a less period, shall be received at their nominal value at the United States treasury and its offices."

The following statement exhibits the standard weight and least current weight of gold coins after a circulation of twenty years, and at which least current weight they are receivable in payment of debts to the United States:

	Standard Weight in Grains.	Least Current Weight in Grains.
Double eagle	516	513 42
Eagle	258	256.71
Half eagle	129	128.36
Three dollar	77.4	77.12
Quarter eagle	64.5	64.18
Dollar	25.8	25.67

The legal deviation from the standard weight of the gold dollar being one-quarter of a grain, it will continue current until reduced in weight below 25 55-100 grains. All double eagles which have not been artificially reduced in weight will be found within the limit of natural abrasion allowed by law. The same rule will apply to eagles coined since 1845, half-eagles coined since 1855, and quarter-eagles coined since 1860.

The double eagle should continue current for fifty years from the date of coinage; the eagle for thirty-five years; the half-eagle for twenty years; and the three-dollar piece and quarter-eagle at least fifteen years. The deviation from standard weight of one-quarter of a grain allowed by law in the coinage of the gold dollar exceeds the legal limit of wear by nearly one-eighth of a grain. All pieces of this denomination coined since 1860 will be found within the legal tolerance, if not fraudulently reduced in weight.

These periods are estimated for coins when they constitute a part of the circulating medium, or are frequently transferred in treasury and customs transactions. In this country, as in England, there is no "least current weight" for silver coins fixed by law or treasury regulations. The natural abrasion of silver coins is not so great as generally supposed. It is expected that fully fifty years will elapse before the coins issued under laws passed within the last five years will need renovation. Careful observation and experiments in this country show the average loss from natural abrasion of the whole body of silver currency, when in actual circulation, to be about 1 per cent. in twelve years, the smaller coins, quarter-dollars and dimes, showing a greater percentage of loss than half-dollars or dollars.

Teachers and Task-Masters.

The public have not held teachers to their true responsibility. We send a young lad or a young girl to school, and find that, while we are paying out a great deal of money for them, they are gaining nothing. We complain, and are informed that our children are not industrious, that they do not seem interested in their studies, that they are absorbed in play, etc., etc. In ninety-nine cases in 100, our disappointment is entirely the fault of the teacher. He or she is simply incompetent for the duty they have undertaken. A first-class teacher always has good pupils. Lack of interest in study is always the result of poor teaching. We send a boy to college, and find that he regards his studies as a grind—that he is only interested in getting good marks, and that he is getting no scholarly tastes, and winning no scholarly delights. We inquire, and find him in the hands of a young tutor, without experience, who really pretends to be no more than a task-master, and who knows nothing, and seems to care nothing, about the office of teaching. The placing of large masses of young men in the hands of inexperienced persons, who do not pretend to do more than to set tasks and record the manner in which they are performed, without guidance or assistance, is a gross imposition of the college upon a trusting public, and it is high time that an outcry so determined and persistent is raised against it that it shall procure a reform.—*Dr. J. G. Holland, in Scribner's Monthly.*

Why the Law Is Uncertain.

Language is an imperfect instrument for the expression of ideas. Not a few of its forms are ambiguous; that is, they speak in two ways. Reader and hearers are left in old Isaac's perplexity. The voice is that of Jacob, the hand is that of Esau.

Many of the terms of language are equivocal. They have two meanings, so that the reader is in doubt as to the mind or intention of the writer.

Those who draft statutes know how difficult it is to frame a law which shall be free from ambiguous expressions or equivocal terms. Judge Story once told a personal incident, which illustrates this difficulty.

He was employed by Congress to draft an act. So important was it that he spent six months in trying to perfect its phraseology. His purpose was to make the statute so clear that the most astute lawyer should not be able to cast the shadow of a doubt upn its meaning.

The draft, proving satisfactory to the lawyers in Congress, became a law. In less than a year, a suit, involving the interpretation of this very law, came before the court over which Justice Story presided. Having heard the arguments of the able attorneys, the Judge confessed that he was unable to decide upon the meaning of a statute which he himself had framed.

He, of course, knew what he had meant to put into the law. But the criticisms of the two lawyers showed him that he had used such ambiguous expressions that it was doubtful if he had said what he meant to have said.

THERE is a legend common in Scandinavia that a dishonest hand-maiden of the Blessed Virgin purloined her mistress' silver scissors, and that she was transformed into a lapwing for punishment, the forked tail of the bird being a brand of the theft, and the bird was doomed to a continual confession of the crime by the plaintive cry, "Tyvit, tyvit," that is, in Scandinavian, "I stole them, I stole them."

THE great ranchmen of the plains have to guess at the number of cattle they own.

WOMAN GOSSIP.

My Lover.

My lover is not young nor fair;
No knightly armor does he wear,
Nor title of degree:
He has no princely lands, nor gold—
No jewels rare, no treasures old—
To bring and offer me.

But, to me, dearer far than lands
His fond, true heart; his willing hands;
His spirit firm and bold.
More precious, though unknown to fame,
Is his untarnished, honest name,
Than mines of glittering gold.

Riches take wings and fly away;
Earth's treasures tarnish and decay,
And youth's fair features fade;
But love, true love, smoothes life's rough ways.
And sings of brighter, better days,
Nor asks to be repaid.

CHAMBERSBURG, Pa. E. A. O.

An Eastern Bride.

A girl, after she is betrothed, is cooped up in a small room, with shackles of gold and silver upon her ankles and wrist. If she is to be married to a man who has discharged, dispatched or lost a former wife, the shackles which the former wife wore are put upon the new bride's limbs, and she is fed till they are filled up to the proper thickness. The food used for this custom, worthy of barbarians, is a seed called drough, which is of an extraordinary fattening quality. With this seed and their national dish, cuscusoo, the bride is literally crammed, and many die under the spoon.

Bound to Marry in That Family.

After many devious windings through the troubled waters of the course of true love, a well-to-do farmer has finally drifted into the haven of wedlock. He courted a young lady for a year, became her accepted lover, and then was jilted. He next made love to her sister, induced her to name the day, paid for the wedding cards, and then at the last moment was shown to the door. Another day was set, and again the maiden said, "We must part." In sheer desperation he reopened negotiations with his first sweetheart, and made such quick work of it that before the girl had time to change her mind he was her husband.

Kissing.

Girls take naturally to kissing—there's not the slightest doubt of it. A man slides as awkwardly into his first kiss as into his elder brother's tail-coat, and his vanity is equally great on both occasions. He considers them as steps up the ladder of life, and would have his promotions proclaimed from from the housetops, and shouted from the church steeples, but such is his modesty in his family circle that when a younger brother quietly mentions them he looks red and feels unfraternal. The female sex obtain their remarkable proficiency in kissing by perpetual study and constant practice. They are early distinguished for their aptitude in the art, for what girl is not ready to kiss a baby at all hours and all seasons? This sort of kiss eventually develops into the genuine love-kiss—pleasant to experience and contemplate.

Josh Billings on Marriage.

Sum people marry bekase they think wimmin will be scarce next year, and live to wonder how the stock holds out.

Sum marry to get rid of themselves, and discover that the game was one that two can play at and neither win.

Sum marry for love without a cent in their pocket, nor a friend in the world, nor a drop of pedigree. This looks desperate but is the strength of the game.

Sum marry in haste, and then set down and think it carefully over.

Sum think it carefully over fust, and then set down and marry.

No man kan tell jist exactly what calico has made up her mind tew do. Calico don't know herself. Dry goods of all kinds iz the child of circumstance.

Rather Lose $20,000 Than Remain Single.

A Philadelphia widow has lost $20,000 by marrying a second time. One of the clauses of her first husband's will ran: "I give and bequeath to my wife the interest of the sum of $20,000 of my estate, to be paid to her semi-annually for and during all the term of all her natural life, if she shall so long remain my widow. In case of her marriage the interest of the said sum shall cease. After her decease or marriage, as the case may be, I give and bequeath the said sum of $20,000, together with all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, to my father, Phineas Hough." The woman married again, and her father-in-law by the first marriage brought a suit for the money. Judge Ashman has decided that the widow's claim ceased with her widowhood.

A Woman's Glove.

A woman's glove is to her what a vest-pocket is to a man, but it is more capacious, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred it is much better regulated. A man will carry $200 worth of small change, four matches, half-a-dozen toothpicks, a short pencil, and yet not be able to find a nickel, or a match, or a pencil, or a toothpick, or a card when he wants it. Not so with a woman. She has the least bit of a glove, and in that glove she carries the tiniest hand, and a wad of bills and the memoranda for her intended purchase of dry goods, and car-tickets and matinee checks, and maybe a diminutive powder-bag. We have no idea how she does it—how she manages to squeeze those thousand and one things into that wee space. But she does it every time, and the glove never looks the least discomposed, or plethoric, or ruffled. And when a woman wants any article concealed about that glove, she doesn't seem to have the least trouble in the world getting at it. All that is required is a simple turn of the wrist, the disappearance of two fairy fingers, and the desired article is brought to light! It is a wonder no savant can explain.

Those Wives.

In San Francisco and other large towns of California it is said that many of the married women past the middle age have been the wives of two, three and sometimes four or five different men, owing to the freedom of divorce which used to exist, and still exists in a modified form, in the State. Women were in plentiful lack in the days of the Argonauts, and for some time after; and when one appeared in the community with good looks, intelligence and magnetism to recommend her, she was well-nigh fought for. As a rule, the women who migrated to El Dorado were not of the finest. Many of them were more or less adventuresses, and, seeing their extreme marketableness, enhanced their value by very broad coquetry, and disposed of themselves to the highest bidders. After securing one husband they entertained proposals for another, and not infrequently slipped away from No. 1 to No. 2, through some legal trick, before No. 1 had any idea that he had proved maritally unsatisfactory. It is related that about 1853 three members of a San Francisco firm had each in turn the same wife in the space of twenty-four months. Some of the most matrimonially enterprising women in the country journeyed thither twenty to twenty-five years ago, and made their marriages remunerative by getting settlements cash down before the tying of the nuptial knot. The lives of not a few of them would, if faithfully chronicled, read like the most sensational of sensational novels.

Celia Thaxter.

A romantic story is connected with Appledore island, one of the Isles of Shoals, off the coast of New Hampshire. Years ago the island was purchased by Mr. Leighton, a lawyer and prominent local politician of Portsmouth, who bought it with a view to living on it permanently, on account of his dissatisfaction with his party. He took his wife and child—a daughter—there, built a rude house, and expressed his determination never to return to the main land. He adhered to his word inflexibly, for he had grown soured and misanthropical by his political disappointment. When his daughter had become 15 or 16 a young lawyer asked the privilege of boarding in Mr. Leighton's isolated family for the benefit of his health. The privilege was reluctantly granted, and the attorney, being thrown into the society of the daughter (described as a very pretty, bright and unconventional girl, as she would likely be with her peculiar surroundings), fell desperately in love with her. The cynical father was furious at the interloping gallant; but, as the latter could not be bullied or driven off, he was finally allowed to take the girl to wife, and the two went to the mainland and lived there. The lady is now known to the literary world as Mrs. Celia Thaxter, a favorite contributor to the *Atlantic Monthly*. She is very fond of Appledore, doubtless through early romantic associations, and spends most of her summers in a cottage near the Appledore House, kept by her brothers, who were born on the island, and have grown to be inn-keepers by a process of evolution gradual, but irresistible.

A Woman's Evidence.

"I want to know, Mrs. ——," interrupted Hubbard, "I want to know on which side of your house the L is—north, south, east, or west?"

"It's on this side," replied the lady, motioning with her hand.

"The east side?"

"No."

"The west side?"

"No, it's straight across from Mrs. B.'s parlor window, not twenty feet from it, you—"

"Mrs. ——," shouted the Captain, "will you tell me if that L is on the east, west, north, or south side of your house?"

"It ain't on any side of the house," replied the witness, compressing her lips; "it's at the end. You know as well as I do. You've seen it many a time, and there ain't no use—"

"Come, come, Mrs. ——," interrupted Judge Cromer, "tell the gentleman where the L of your house is situated."

"Haven't I been telling him just as plain as I could?"

"Where is the L situated?" said Hubbard, desperately.

"Right in the lot, back against the end of the house."

"Will you answer my question?" shouted the affable Captain, running up his hair in desperation.

"What question?"

"Is the L on the east, west, north, or south side of the house?"

"Judge, I've told him just as plain as ever a woman could. I didn't come here to be sassed by no one-horse lawyer. I know him and his father before him. He ain't got no business putting on airs. What kind of a family—"

"Silence!" thundered Cromer. "Now, Mrs. ——, which side of your house does the sun rise on?"

"That one," said the witness, indicating.

"Is the L on that side?"

"Yes, sir."

"Then it's on the east side?"

"Yes."

"Why didn't you say so, then?" asked the exasperated Captain.

"'Cause you never asked me, you bald-headed old snipe. I know a thing or—"

"That will do," said Hubbard. "Take the witness," he added, turning to Tom Wren, the opposing counsel.—*New York World.*

A Russian Jury.

Russian jurors make up their verdicts without the slightest reference to the evidence. Toward the close of 1877 and the beginning of 1879 frequent complaints were made to the chief postal authorities in St. Petersburg of letters not having reached their destinations, and, inquiry being made, a letter-carrier named Alexeyeff was arrested on suspicion. In his lodgings were found, among other things, about 220 letters, with over thirty money-orders, in consequence of which he was brought to trial. It was proved that he had gradually stolen a large sum of money which he did not deny, but he excused himself on the double ground that he was very often drunk and had no time frequently to deliver all the contents of his bag. These pleas must have seemed of overpowering cogency to the minds of the jury, for they pronounced him "not guilty," and he was acquitted.

The Sale