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SUNDAY.....FEBRUARY 25, 1900.

THE REPUBLICANS' BILL.

The Republicans in Congress are making ready for the presidential campaign. Recognizing that questions of finance and currency will be very prominent in political discussions this year, they have spent a great deal of time in framing measures designed to meet the wants of their party. Their necessities require that they should satisfy the magnates of Wall street and at the same time do something, or pretend to do something, to gratify the people in their demand for a more elastic and better distributed currency.

Republican members of House and Senate committees sat several weeks last summer and devised schemes to be submitted when Congress met. After undergoing some revision, that one emanating from the House members passed that body by a majority of about forty. But in the Senate it met with opposition. A number of so-called free silver senators belonging to the Republican party demanded that amendments should be adopted which would save them from the wrath of their constituents. The effort to sprinkle free silver in a gold-standard bill proved as difficult as the mixing of oil and water.

In the end, the disagreeing votes of the two houses were referred to a committee of conference, which has just reported. Inasmuch as the majority of that committee were guided by Mr. Hanna, and other leaders of that party, it is presumed that the conference report will be adopted by both houses.

Supposing that that expectation is realized, the Republicans will go before the country this year claiming credit and support for a law which, without referring to existing statutes on the subject, establishes the gold dollar as the standard of value and which contains provisions for maintaining all money at a standard of parity. Whether the law will actually do so under all circumstances will be questioned, but the Republicans say they are well satisfied that it will.

The Conference Committee reluctantly accepted the bimetallic clause of the Senate bill, with a change of language, which makes it less offensive to the single gold standard men than when it passed the Senate. The clause reads as follows:

"That the provisions of this act are not intended to preclude the accomplishment of international bimetallism whenever conditions shall make it expedient and practicable to secure the same by concurrent action of the leading commercial nations of the world, and at a ratio which shall insure permanence of relative value between gold and silver."

While that is a mere sop to Cerberus there are many gold standard men in the Republican party who regret that the provision was inserted and who say they are ashamed of it. It would seem that it would weaken the measure in the estimation of stalwart gold men, while it can scarcely recommend it to any honest, true-hearted silverite.

Provision is made for redeeming in gold the United States notes and Treasury notes issued under the act of July 14, 1890. For this purpose a reserve of $150,000,000 in gold—never to fall below $100,000,000—is to be created and maintained. And, as we understand the matter, a further reserve, if needed, may be created by the sale of 3 per cent. bonds.

For the redemption of such of its bonds as may be redeemed under the terms of the act provision is made for issuing a 2 per cent. gold bond, which, it is believed, can be sold at par, and will be sold at nothing less.

It is expected, of course, that national banks will become large purchasers of these bonds since it is proposed to let banks issue bank notes on them to their par value, while the tax on national bank circulation is reduced to one half of 1 per cent. per annum.

No bank is to issue more than one third of its notes of the denomination of $5. The bonds which banks now have on deposit with the Comptroller of the Currency they may exchange for 2 per cent. bonds under regulations to be made by the Secretary of the Treasury. The capital required for national banks is to be not less than $100,000, except that banks of a capital of $25,000 and over may be organized in any place having not more than 3,000 inhabitants. Banks with a capital of $50,000 may be organized at any place having not over 6,000 inhabitants. No bank can be organized in a city of over 50,000 inhabitants with less than $200,000 capital.

Of the silver certificates hereafter to be issued 90 per cent. must be of the denomination of $10 and under. Larger silver certificates coming into the Treasury will be cancelled and smaller ones issued. Silver bullion in the Treasury is to be converted into subsidiary coin and so is the worn and mutilated silver on hand; but $100,000,000 is to be the limit of outstanding subsidiary coin. Deposits of gold in the Treasury will be accepted and certificates issued therefor.

MONDAY, MAY 14TH.

At its meeting yesterday afternoon the Executive Committee of the Richmond Carnival Association fixed upon Monday, May 14th, as the day for opening the city's great Street Fair. The committee has given a vast deal of time and much earnest thought to the duties that devolved upon it, and its decision was reached after carefully weighing all contentions pro and con, as between a spring and fall date.

On looking into the matter thoroughly the committee found that many more attractions could be secured in the spring than in the fall. Due consideration was accorded the fact that a general election will be held in the fall, with the result that at that time public attention will be largely engrossed with politics, and it was recognized that an early date was better calculated than a late one to contribute to sustained and intensified interest in the fair.

These and other important reasons appealed to the judgment of the committee so strongly that the decision to hold the fair in the spring was unanimous.

And now that that much is settled, there should be no let up on the part of our merchants, manufacturers, and citizens, generally, in making preparations for the event. Its success will be exactly commensurate with the civic pride we shall illustrate, and the energy, enterprise, and enthusiasm we shall develop, between now and Monday, May 14th. If we address ourselves to stimulating these with a zeal in proportion to the possibilities the fair or carnival holds, in the matter of advertising Richmond and promoting her interests—mercantile, manufacturing, or what not—the exhibition cannot but prove memorable in our history, as advancing us along the road of progress and prosperity.

From the day that the question of having the fair was broached, our country friends began to take an interest in the movement, and urge that it be consummated. They will expect in the materialization of the scheme great things from us, and if we demonstrate that we intend that their expectations shall be realized, we may count upon, during fair week, the greatest gathering of Virginians within our gates the city has seen for many years. And we may confidently look for a consequent infinitely wider business and social contact with our country cousins than we now enjoy. Moreover, to render it manifest that we propose to make the fair all that it is within our power to make it will be to draw to the city thousands of persons from outside of the State, and acquaint them with Richmond's advantages as a residential city and a field for business and industrial investment. The week commencing the 14th of May should be a harvest week for Richmond in the matter of gathering new customers for her merchants and manufacturers, securing new friends and bringing capital to the development of commercial and industrial interests. But we shall reap in these things only as we shall sow and cultivate between now and the opening day of the fair. The size and character of the harvest depends on ourselves—on the work we do and public spirit we evince in the next seventy-seven days.

THE WORDS OF THE PEOPLE.

Yesterday, by a vote of 10 to 2, the House Committee on Roads reported favorably the bill to charter the Richmond and Washington Air-Line railway and dissolve Virginia's monopolistic partnership, and the House recommitted the bill to its Finance Committee. Thus the measure will go through the same committee mill that it went through in the Senate.

As to the House's recommitment, we are of the same opinion we expressed when the Senate gave the bill that direction. We think that the House's action was unnecessary. However, we cannot but assume that the consideration of the bill by the second House Committee, to which it has been referred, will be a mere matter of form. All the questions at issue in the matter of granting the charter have been thoroughly thrashed out; the provisions of the charter and the companion bills are satisfactory to the people, and the sovereign power behind the House expects it to concur in the course of the Senate.

This is shown by the tone of the State press in commenting on the verdict in the upper branch against a continuance of Virginia's alliance with monopolism. A southwestern contemporary, which can have no local interest in the building of the new road, after stating that the Senate "followed the only course open to it," has this to say:

"Virginia cannot enter into competition with her own people. It is the same as if a company of men were to form a business organization and then have to stand by and see the men they pay to run the organization do all they can to defeat the interests of their employers."

In these comments our contemporary voices the sentiment of the papers of the State generally, and the papers voice the sentiment of the public. As was the case with the Senate, so with the House. The only course open to the House is to vote to grant the charter, take Virginia out of competition with her own people, and vindicate the great Democratic principle of anti-mopolism. The fact is that, where our contemporary uses the word "cannot," in referring to Virginia and competition with her own people, the latter use the words "must not."

The Porto Rican question is being tested practically at New York, where a firm of importers has brought suit against a deputy collector on the ground that goods arriving from the island are not dutiable, the new territory not being a foreign country.

Boni de Castellane has reached Paris, but has not yet broken the bones of De Rodays, of Figaro, as he announced he would do on arrival. Instead, it appears, he will content himself with a suit for damages.

There is a threat of six separate "Sapho" companies to travel the country from New York. May the courts of the metropolis help to avert the plague.

CONSUMPTION IN PRISON.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Allow me to give one cogent reason why it is imperative that Virginia should have a new penitentiary.

The brick circle is hoary with age, and is a whitish-yellow sepulchre. From the point of modern sanitary construction, its hospital is so situated as to send deadly shafts of disease into nearly the entire circle of cells. The ablest authors on pulmonary phthisis (Flint and Welch) say: "This disease is never produced without the agency of the contagium, and the most fruitful source of infection is found in dried phthisical sputum. Experiments have shown that currents of air do not carry bacilli off from fluids or moist surfaces, but when the substances containing the bacilli are dry, these organisms are readily transported with particles of dust in the atmosphere."

So that the present penitentiary is not only a menace to the health and life of the convict predisposed to consumption, but to citizens so predisposed who live near the penitentiary and in the direction of the prevailing winds, which blow over it.

Then use your good and most potent influence for a penitentiary in a salubrious country district, near rail or water transportation, and the gentlemen who lease the shoe-shops will be glad to continue their contracts, for not so many men will be in the hospital, and the workmanship would be more satisfactory.

Consumption is the bane of all men and animals kept in confinement.

THOMAS R. EVANS.

For ten years past the Dispatch has advocated an enlargement of the penitentiary cell-building, and we earnestly trust, and honestly believe, that our Legislature will not adjourn without making an appropriation for that purpose. There is no lack of money in the State Treasury—$40,000 of net cash profit having been paid in there last year on account of hires of convicts. We must say, however, that the hospital in the penitentiary has been doubled in size within the past two years; also, that, as a rule, the consumptive convicts are now sent to the State farm, where they have a ward in the hospital to themselves.

How far the occupancy of the cells in the past years by consumptives may endanger the lives of the present occupants is not for us, but for professionals, to say. Many of the cells have been in use for nearly one hundred years. They are of brick and wood, and the most that can be done for them is to scour and whitewash them frequently.

According to the teachings of modern penologists there should be but one man to a cell. In other words, the Virginia penitentiary ought to have more than 1,200 cells, where it now has but 196!

So far as we are informed, the Legislature hasn't the slightest idea of selling out here and building a new penitentiary elsewhere. The expense would be too great. Maryland hasn't anything like the prison population Virginia has, yet her new penitentiary has cost a million and a quarter, and further appropriations are needed; but we must say that it is equal to any prison in the world, having steel-cells within a granite shell-building. Each prisoner has a cell to himself. Our prison authorities would be happy if they had to put no more than two or three men in a cell.

ALAS, POOR DAN!

The latter day public who read of the passing of old "Dan" Rice, the once famous circus clown, will marvel at the success this well-known man achieved. In his day he was a prince of humorists. Time was when he was the "whole show," and people would go miles to see him. His career, like that of most people whose business it is to amuse, was one of ups and downs. Sometimes he was rich and sometimes poor, but so long as a first-rate clown was needed, he could command his own price. At one time he drew a salary of $27,000 per annum, while at other times he owned shows of his own.

"Dan" used to say that people went to the circus to laugh, and that when he discovered this fact he made money out of it. His fame, when he was in the heyday of his success, spread all over this country, and even into Europe; but for all that he died a poor man. Unfortunately the modern circuses outgrew him. When shows had only one ring, and were held in tents which were infinitely smaller than those we now use, the clown was an important feature of the performance. In sooth, the peanut-eating crowds hung on his very words. His familiar figure was eagerly awaited, and the more the ring-master lashed him the greater was the applause. His jokes, grimaces, and antics could be seen and heard on every side, and he injected his tricks into every feature of the programme. In fact, he was a sine qua non. But by and by circuses began to get larger. Some few of the "mammoth aggregations of the world's wonders" advertised two rings, and a little later the number was increased to three. Other attractions came to the front, and the tents expanded to make way for race-courses, vaudeville stages, and scores of other things which now dazzle the spectators. With each stride of the circus the clown fell back one degree. More than a decade ago his glory as a joke-maker began to wane. In fact, the canvases became so large that his voice could scarcely be heard under them. If he wished to be funny, he had to be amusing in action and not in speech. His own natice ability and wit were no longer needed.

He became a dead-letter and a bore. In his stead were other funny features, and plenty of them, too, but they required grotesque make-ups and auxiliaries, which the clown of "Dan" Rice's day would have despised.

We who find an ever-increasing value attaching to the things of the long ago insist that the old-time circus and the old-time clowns were the best. We even say that three-ring shows give us the headache, but the younger generation would scorn the performances that once pleased us. And so, perhaps, 'tis not altogether lamentable that "Dan" is dead. He had outlived his generation, and was "professionally" obsolete, but, gracious, how he made our fathers chuckle!

Richmond will be Queen o' the May, with her carnival, as she is otherwise.

And is there a Royall road to State bank circulation, after all?

Colorable Fidelity.

"You'll keep my memory green?" he said,
With sombre look and tone,
As one who felt a fatal dart
Had marked him for its own.

"Of course, I will," she answered him,
With glance of purpose true,
"What other color could so well
Express my thoughts of you?"

No Limit Required.

Suitor: Bella, I can no longer resist the desire to speak my mind to you, and make known the intensity of that regard your charms have engendered. I hardly know in what words to express the sentiment which prompts me to address you. It is more than friendship; it is more than affection; it is—excuse me if I go too far—

Voice from the upper floor: You can't do that, young man! Afghanistan or Borneo wouldn't be a bit too far to suit the majority of this household.

Love's Mathematics.

"When we are wed we will be one,"
Said Griggins to his blithesome Sue;
"Your estimate is hardly true,"
She said, while twinkled eyes of blue;
"We will be three, so figures run,
For I'll be won, and you'll be, too."

A Flagrant Error.

Employer: In looking over the books this morning I see that you have made a grave mistake.

Clerk: How is that?

Employer: Why, you have entered the messenger boy's salary under the head of running expenses.

An Up-to-Date Definition.

Mrs. Pryer: I see that a western college has conferred on Mr. Rockyfellow the degree of LL. D.; what do those letters mean?

Mr. Pryer: Well, that depends; in this instance I think they mean Liberally Large Donation.

A Matter of Fact

She (out riding with a friend behind a team of roadsters): I wonder if horses ever really talk to one another.

He: Not when they're in double harness. You see, they've only one tongue between them.

A Crying Need.

Tommy (whimpering under the effect of a very fluent attack of influenza): Pa, didn't you say that the nose was an organ?

Pa: Yes, my son.

Tommy: Then, why don't it have stops?

Love's Evanescence.

Mr. Guile: Excuse me for asking you, Mrs. Bitten, but do you believe in second love?

Mrs. Bittin: Of course I do; I'm sure some men's love don't last a bit longer than that.

Their Natural Leaning.

"What do you suppose it is that makes all the waiters in this restaurant so lean?"

"It's because they're all on the tip, I suppose."

A Hint to the Pursued.

Dumbleton: There seems to be some evil fortune pursuing me all the time.

Flasher: Get a move on you, old man, and it'll never catch you.

An Easy One.

Sis: Pa, what are the colors of the Coldstream Guards?

Bub: Pshaw, Sis, that's an easy one. They're water colors, of course.

"There is no longer any health for me in this owe-zone," exclaimed the debtor, as he prepared to leave for pastures new.

It would seem, according to the eternal fitness of things, that every bicycle enactment should have its "rider."

The diamond is mainly responsible for the reputation some people have of shining in society.

The man of excessive choler is not infrequently given to cuffs.

SNOW-FIGHT AT YALE.

Sophomores in High Hats Too Much for the Freshmen.

(New York Times.)

NEW HAVEN, February 22.—In spite of the Yale faculty's rule against snowballing on the campus, the annual snow fight between classes came off this morning. An old Yale custom allows sophomores to wear high hats and carry canes for the first time during their college course on Washington's Birthday.

At 11 o'clock the sophomore class appeared with hats and canes and formed, 100 strong, on the green. They marched up Chapel street, pursued by 300 students and a storm of snowballs. In front of Vanderbilt Hall they made a plucky stand, but fell back before superior numbers to their stronghold, the "fence." There the freshmen, encouraged by some upper-class men, formed and charged the sophomores in an endeavor to take the "fence." They had succeeded only partially when time was called. Although the "scrap" was of the liveliest description, the utmost good feeling prevailed. A few broken windows in Chapel street and a black eye or two were the only ill result. In the rush, however, the students abandoned snow and used mud until many of the men were plastered from head to foot.

The faculty may take action.

Donald Thompson, a freshman from Allegheny City, Pa., was arrested by the police for taking part in the snowballing, and Inslee B. Green, of Belvidere, N. J., another freshman, was arrested for resisting an officer. Both were released on bonds.

The Brook of Life.

Prattling from lap of mother mound,
It stops at her foot and plays 'round,
Then off it goes,
On crystal toes,
Dancing over its mossy path;
But whither goes,
Cares not nor knows,
It only needs must laugh and laugh.

Adown youth's dale with heart atune,
From flow'rs that breathe love's sweet perfume,
It gathers gold,
Their bosoms hold,
And bears abreast with beams of spring;
But whither bears,
Knows not nor cares,
It only needs must sing and sing.

Soon shadows flit its smiling face,
'Till laughter's sunshine off they chase,
And in their wake
Woe's storm-clouds break,
And muddies with sorrow its flow;
But on it goes,
With joys and woes,
To turn the wheels of toil below.

Whither, after many a fall,
Its bosom swells to duty's call,
Though tinged with regrets,
No past cloud reflects,
But all the brightness earth could give;
And while it slaves,
Memory waves,
With shimmering dreams run back to live.

And as the shades of eve creep o'er,
A call comes from an unseen shore,
And with doubt's glows
It trembling goes
In the sobbing sea of "nevermore";
But 'yond deep sobs
The great truth throbs,
Its "soul and source" lives evermore.

For, see o'er death's engulfing wave,
The rainbow "Faith" spans high the grave,
A bridge of gold,
To bear the soul
Beyond the scenes of tear-stained eyes,
Where perfect rest
Awaits the blest
Upon the shores of Paradise.

CHARLES A. FLOYD.

Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey

cures coughs, colds, grip, asthma, bronchitis and consumption. It stimulates the blood. The greatest known heart tonic.

The Richmond Dispatch's Home Study Circle.

TWENTY LESSONS IN FRENCH CONVERSATION.

[Copyright, 1900, by Seymour Eaton.]

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH'S HOME STUDY CIRCLE:
DIRECTED BY PROF. SEYMOUR EATON.

NOTE.—These lessons have been prepared for the *Dispatch's* Home Study Circle by Prof. Benno Kirschbaum, of Philadelphia. They are intended primarily for Americans who propose attending the Paris Exposition. These lessons will include (1) common French words and phrases, (2) easy conversation, and (3) simple reading lessons.

DEUXIÈME LECON. LESSON No. 2.

Hints on Pronunciation.

1. The student has seen in the preceding lesson that many letters of the French alphabet are like the English. The chief difficulty of the French pronunciation is confined to the sounds *u*, *eu* and the nasals. It would, therefore, seem best to familiarize oneself with these vowels as soon as possible. To effect this successfully they should be gone over and rehearsed daily for some time, first singly—viz., *u*, *eu*, *an*, *in*, *on*, *un*, and then united to the other letters, using for that purpose the words of the exercises and phrases as they will appear in the lesson—viz., *lundi*, *mercredi*, *printemps*, *jeudi*, *deux*, *premier*, *dernier*, etc.; lung-dee, mair-cre-dee, prang-tong, juh-dee, duh, prem-ee-ay, dare-nee-ay.

2. Among the consonants are two requiring special attention, soft *g* and *j*, which ought both to be pronounced like *z* in azure; the soft *g* is always followed by *i* or *e*; otherwise it is hard.

3. The final *s* is generally mute in French; it is blended with the following vowel, then it sounds like *z*. See lesson 1.

4. There are three accents in French: (1) Aigu, ay-gu (´), a mark from the right to the left over *e*, as été; (2) grave, grahv (`), a mark from the left to the right over the letters *a*, *e*, *u*, (à, è, ù,) as père; (3) circonflexe, ceer-kohn-flex (^), a double mark composed of the former two, over the letters *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, *u* (â, ê, î, ô, û), as tête.

5. Another important mark is the so-called "cédille," say-dee-y (¸), which is placed under the *c* (ç) before the vowels *a*, *o*, *u*, thus making the sound of *c* like that of *s*—viz., reçu, re-suh. No cédille is required before *i* or *e*.

6. The "trait-d'union" mark, trai-doon yon (-) connects one word, syllable or letter with another—viz.,

Voulez-vous me donner un timbre-poste?
Voo-lay voo muh donn-nay un-tang-br poh-st?
Will you give me a stamp?

Memory Exercises:
Much-Needed Words and Phrases.

1. The hôtel; l'hôtel.
Lo-tell.
2. The office; le bureau.
Luh bu-roh.
3. The manager; le gérant.
Zja-rang.
4. The elevator; l'ascenseur.
L'ass sen-suhr.
5. The waiter; le garçon.
Luh gahr-sson.
6. The chambermaid; la femme de chambre
Lah-fahm duh shombr.

Note—The student will observe that the letter *h* is used in the pronunciation in place of the short vowel-sign, as: *de*, duh; *le*, luh, etc.

7. How much per day? Combien par jour?
Kom-bee-yan pahr zhour?
8. By the week; par semaine.
Pahr s'men.
9. The story; l'étage
Lay-tazh.
10. On the second flat; au second.
O s'gond.
11. Where is our hotel? Où est notre hôtel?
Oo a no-tr ——
12. Rivoli street; Rue de Rivoli.
Ru duh ree-vo-lee
13. What number? Quel numéro?
Kell nu-may ro.
14. Send me a cab; envoyez-moi un fiacre.
On-vwa-yay mwa un fee-akr.

NOTE—The definite article "the" is expressed as follows:

le, before any masculine noun in the singular, as *le* jour; luh zjouhr.

la, before any feminine noun in the singular, as *la* semaine; lah s'men.

l', before any noun beginning with a vowel or *h* mute, as *l'hôte*; lo-tell.

les, before any noun in the plural, as *les* fiacres, lay fee-acr.

15. Are you the landlord? êtes-vous le propriétaire?
Et voo luh prop pree-a-tare.
16. Service is extra; le service est à part.
Sair vee-ce ate ta par.
17. Give me a room on the first floor; donnez-moi une chambre au premier.
Don-nay mwa oon ——o prem-ee-ay.
18. On the second floor; au second.
Oh s'gon.
19. Is there an elevator? Y a-t-il un ascenseur.
Ee at-teel ung ——.
20. Are the beds clean? Les lits sont-ils propres?
Lay lee song teel propr.
21. A pillow; un oreiller.
Un or-ray-a.
22. A bolster; un traversin.
Un trah-verce-ang
23. A blanket; une couverture.
Oon-koo-ver-toor.

Note.—The two genders in French, masculine and feminine, are determined by nature, spelling and derivation.

24. Take up my baggage; montez mes bagages.
Mon-tay may ba-gahje.
25. What is your name? Quel est votre nom.
Kell-ay votr nong.
26. The hours of the meals; les heures des repas.
Lays u're day repah.
27. The number of my room; le numéro de ma chambre.
Luh noo-may ro duh mah shombr.

NOTE.—All the French verbs in the infinitive end either with *er*, *ir*, *oir* or *re*. From this classification the different conjugations are formed. We shall occasionally give a practical rule which will aid the student materially in forming and using the French verbs.

28. Give me a candlestick; donnez-moi un bougeoir.
—— ung boo-zh[illegible]r
29. Make a fire in my room; faites du feu dans ma chambre.
Feht du fuh dong mah ——
30. A rocking chair; un fauteuil à bascule.
Ung fo-tiyh ah bas-kule.

NOTE.—Here follow very useful words and idiomatic expressions. The student will carefully try to study them. If possible commit them to memory. The numbers and the names of the months will be given in the next lesson.

31. Wait a moment; attendez un instant.
Att-aun-day zun nans-tant.
32. Who's there? Qui est-ce?
Kee-ace.
33. The gas; le gaz.
Luh-ghaz.
34. Open the door; ouvrez la porte.
Oovray lah port.
35. Shut the window; fermez la fenêtre.
Fair-may lah fen-nettr.
36. The register; le calorifère.
——kalor-eef-air.
37. The mantelpiece; la cheminée.
——shemin-een-ay.
38. Lower the blind; baissez le store.
Bay-ss-ay luh store.
39. At the hotel table; à la table d'hôte.
Ah lah tabl' dote.
40. According to the menu card; à la carte.
Ah lah cart.
41. The bill of fare for the day; la carte du jour.
Lah cart du-jouhr.

Monday; lundi; lung-dee.
Tuesday; mardi; mahr-dee.
Wednesday; mercredi; mair-cre-dee.
Thursday; jeudi; juh-dee.
Friday; vendredi; vong-dr-dee.
Saturday; samedi; sam-dee.
Sunday; dimanche; dee-maun-sh.

NOTE.—The days of the week, also the days of the months, are written with small letters.

Reading Lesson.

The following is the proper translation of the French exercise of Lesson 1. The student will carefully compare the same with his work, noting the difference in the construction of the two languages. It is advisable that each exercise be corrected, copied and again compared. When all is found to be perfectly correct, study each phrase by heart:

(1) I am an Englishman; I do not speak one word of French. (2) I come from London. (3) I left Enland on Monday. (4) I arrived in Paris in the evening. (5) Come into my furnished rooms. (6) I have seen "to rent" in the window. (7) There is the exit. (8) I do not understand French. (9) Do you speak French? (10) No, sir, I do not speak French. (11) Please bring me some soap, some hot water and a towel. (12) As well as some matches. (13) The refreshment room is closed to-day. (14) Smoking prohibited in this room. (15) Is there a letter-box in this hotel? (16) I do not know.

Vocabulary—Montrez; Show. Sonnez; ring. Quelque chose; anything. Je veux; I wish. Déjeuner; breakfast. Bottes; shoes. Tasse; cup. Thé; tea. Sonnette; bell. Verre; glass. Cracher; to spit. Besoin; need.

Read and translate into English:

(1) Garçon, montez mes bagages dans ma chambre. (2) Quelle heure est-il? (3) Il est neuf (9) heures. (4) Réveillez-moi à sept (7) heures. (5) Où est le cabinet de toilette? (6) Sonnez si vous avez besoin de quelque chose. (7) Cirez (blacken) mes bottes. (8) Donnez-moi un verre d'eau. (9) Je veux une tasse de thé chaud. (10) Où est la sonnette? (11) Je veux un timbre-poste (postage stamp).

NOTE.—The English translation of this exercise will be published next Sunday.

Recent Scientific Discoveries.

(Copyright, 1900, by Seymour Eaton.)

Note—These papers on Practical Science have been prepared for the Dispatch's Home Study Circle by Professor William J. Hopkins, of Drexel Institute.

I.—LIQUID AIR.

(Continued.)

Critical Temperature.

Of the substances familiar to everybody, some occur, under ordinary conditions, in the three states of gas, liquid, and solid. Water, for example, under the usual pressure of the atmosphere, passes into steam at 100 degrees centigrade or 212 degrees Fahrenheit, and freezes at 0 degrees centigrade or 32 degrees Fahrenheit. If the pressure is increased the boiling point rises, and if the pressure is lowered the boiling point falls accordingly. The pressure and the temperature must both be taken into account. If the temperature is kept high, as in a steam boiler, a greater pressure must be exerted to maintain the water in the liquid state, and if the ordinary temperature were, on the average, 400 degrees centigrade higher than it is water would be known to us only as gas. That is, steam at a temperature above 358 degrees centigrade, or about 67 degrees Fahrenheit, cannot be changed to liquid by any pressure, however great.

The researches of Andrews showed clearly that a similar state of things exists for every substance. That is, there is for every substance some point of temperature above which it cannot become liquid, and this temperature is called the "critical temperature." His most instructive experiments were made with "carbonic acid gas," or carbon dioxide, which has a critical temperature easily reached. The first step, then, in the liquefaction of any gas must evidently be to reduce its temperature below the critical point. Then, and not before then, will pressure become effective in reducing it to a liquid. Evidently, also, any gas will be easy or difficult to liquefy according as its critical temperature is high or low. Oxygen, whose critical temperature is 118 degrees below zero, centigrade, resisted all efforts at liquefaction for many years; nitrogen, with a critical temperature of 146 degrees centigrade, was still more refractory, and hydrogen, whose critical temperature has not been exactly determined, had to be cooled to about 235 degrees or more below the zero of the centigrade scale before it yielded.

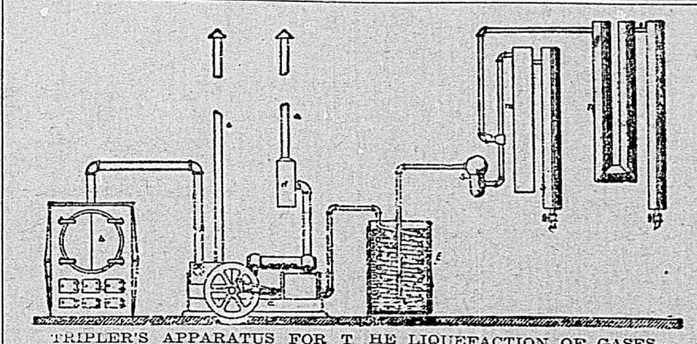
The attainment of these extremely low temperatures was a matter of great difficulty, and was accomplished only gradually, through years of experiment. The means upon which chief reliance has been placed until recently is the heat change occurring when a substance which melts or boils at a low temperature is allowed to change from the solid to the liquid or from the liquid to the gaseous state.

HEAT CHANGES IN MELTING AND BOILING.

When a solid is melted heat must be continually supplied to it until the melting is completed. This heat is used in doing the work of separating the particles from the close bonds which make it a solid. It produces no change in temperature, and is, therefore, called "latent" heat. The use of ice in drinking water is a common illustration of this action, or the freezing of ice-cream by the melting of a mixture of ice and salt. In the latter case part of the necessary heat is supplied to the melting mixture by the ice is frozen. The heat is used in work at of the cream being higher than the melting point of the mixture.

Similarly, when a liquid is changed to a gas, a steady supply of heat is necessary, much greater than is needed to melt the same quantity of the substance. It is possible to evaporate water so rapidly under a reduced pressure that the water itself is frozen. The heat is used in work at a rapid rate and is taken from the body of water which is evaporating. Small portions of substances which are usually gaseous have been solidified in this way.

By means of this action, and by a proper choice of substances, very low temperatures have been produced. The method is still used and must continue to be. In the past it has been an expensive method, because the substances which were used as cooling agents were themselves liquefied or solidified with more or less difficulty. It is not necessary, however, that a substance should be in the liquid or solid form to produce a cooling effect. A gas may be made to cool itself.



TRIPLER'S APPARATUS FOR THE LIQUEFACTION OF GASES.

HEAT CHANGES IN COMPRESSION AND EXPANSION.

Everybody who has ever pumped up a bicycle tire with a hand pump knows that the compressed air is hot. The work done upon the air by the pumping increases its store of heat and raises its temperature. If the air thus compressed is allowed to escape into the atmosphere, it has to push away the outside air, doing work upon it, and is cooled in the process. Moreover, if the compressed air has been allowed to cool to the ordinary atmospheric temperature before it is released, the issuing jet of expanding air will be felt to be distinctly cold. This is the action upon which the modern "regenerative method" is based.

THE REGENERATIVE METHOD.

This method is used on a considerable scale, chiefly by three experimenters—Linde, in Germany; Hampsin, in England, and Tripler, in America. As Tripler's operations seem to be the most extensive, as well as the most interesting to us for other reasons, his method will be described so far as it is publicly known. It is almost absurdly simple. There is an air compressor operated by steam power, coils in which the compressed air is cooled to the temperature of the water running over them, and a "liquefier," as it is called, from which liquid air is drawn by the gallon when the plant is in operation.

The air is compressed three times, with cooling between; first, to about [illegible] pounds above the atmospheric pressure, then to about 400 pounds, and last to 120 pounds to the square inch. The dust is filtered from the air before it enters the compressor and there is another separation at the highest pressure to take out the last traces of foreign matter. The air at 2,500 pounds pressure and at the temperature of the cooling tanks then passes to the liquefiers, of which there are two. Just what the construction of the liquefiers is is not publicly known. Their essential parts are a long coil of copper tube surrounded by a cylinder which is thoroughly wrapped in insulating material. The compressed air passes through the copper tube and is released at the end by means of a needle valve, said to be of some particularly advantageous design. At this point it expands to about the atmospheric pressure, and is very greatly cooled in the process. This expanded and cooled air then passes backward over the coil of pipe and escapes, cooling the compressed air within, which, in its turn, expands at the valve and is still further cooled. The process, is, therefore, progressive and cumulative in its cooling effect, and the lowering of temperature at the release point soon becomes so great that part of the air liquefies and collects in the lower end of the liquefiers, from which it can be drawn off like so much water by opening a tap.

Not the least wonderful thing about it is that this liquid air, at a temperature far below any of which we can have an adequate conception, is handled in apparently the most careless fashion without injury, poured about like water, and transported hundreds of miles in open buckets.

Note—The study of "Liquid Air" will be concluded next Sunday.

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