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SUNDAY.....APRIL 8, 1900.

HIS TWO DISTINCTIONS.

In addition to the "distinction" of being a President afraid of certain "protected interests," Mr. McKinley has acquired that of "a President afraid of the courts." And the performance by which he became entitled to the latter is not less discreditable than that which gave him claim to the former. He established his right to the one by his flopping, tergiversation, and shiftiness on the Porto Rican tariff question, and to the other by his miserable evasion, with the assistance of Secretary Gage, of the Jorg Cruz issue. The story in both instances puts the administration in a most pitiable light.

A brief history of the Jorg Cruz matter is this: The New York Herald, with a view to getting before the United States Supreme Court a test case involving the question of the citizenship of natives of Porto Rico, imported Cruz, a Porto Rican, under a labor contract. For months the administration had been professing anxiety to secure an early decision of that tribunal touching the constitutional status of our insular acquisitions and their peoples, and here was its golden opportunity to prove the sincerity of its professions. The case would have carried into the court for determination all the constitutional points that have been raised in connection with the relations of the United States to their land-grabs, and the Herald had taken all necessary steps to push a prompt decision.

But when it came to the pinch the administration "flunked" in a most cowardly and contemptible manner. It confessed that the "trail was getting too fresh." Being fully aware that if the court did not decide that the Constitution followed the flag, and was operative in Puerto Rico of its own force, it would reverse and stultify itself as hardly any court has done since time began, Mr. McKinley and his mentors resorted to a most ignominious expedient in order to bar the way to a decision. Mr. Gage instructed the New York authorities to permit Cruz to land, with the reservation that the government might deport him any day within a year, the Secretary excusing this proceeding on the ground, first, that as Cruz had been imported to make a test case he had not come as a bona-fide contract laborer; and, second, that the department preferred to test the issue by suing the New York Herald for $1,000 fine for violating the law in bringing the Puerto Rican to New York under a labor contract.

Were ever excuses or explanations more suggestive of the essence of sublimated subterfuge? No one knows better than Mr. Gage that test cases to determine constitutional questions are perfectly permissible, and have been frequently made up. "The milk in the cocoanut," however, is that test cases, like the one the Herald sought to get before the court, are given precedence and hurried to decision. The fact is, that the administration does not want this matter settled, because it fears the court. A decision, in line with what might be expected from the record of the court as regards the vital principle at stake would undo all the results of Mr. McKinley's Puerto Rican tariff flopping, and weaken his grip on the interests that supply the Republican campaign corruption fund. The fight of the administration is for time, during which it may educate the country up to accepting its imperial policy as regards Puerto Rico. This contention receives emphatic support from Mr. Gage's expression of a preference for a substitute suit. No man understands better than Mr. Gage that a case in which the government is the prosecutor can be delayed indefinitely.

Oh, yes, Mr. McKinley will pass into history with both of the titles named. And while the Puerto Rican tariff issue and the Cruz case were so interlocked, in their bearing upon the President's policy and political interests, that being afraid of the protection bosses presupposed dread of the courts, posterity will be puzzled to decide which "distinction" represents the greater blot upon the administration.

Chicago feels that Dewey has sold her a gold-brick. For months the "Windy City" has been puffing and blowing about the big reception she was going to give the naval hero, but now, after all the other leading cities have exhibited the Admiral, he will go to Chicago as a presidential campaigner. There is a deep undercurrent of trust and it is said Dewey will be sent an "ultimatum" telling him that he can come only as the Manila hero or not at all.

ADMIRAL AND MRS. DEWEY.

Mrs. Dewey assures the public that she had nothing to do with the Admiral's determination to announce himself as a candidate for the presidency. That she speaks the truth we shall not permit ourselves to doubt, and yet, she may have influenced him unconsciously. He was exultant over his victory at Manila and he was mighty proud of being called a hero and being commissioned admiral. And his vanity was still further fed when he was able to win the pretty widow. All these successes, together with the applause of the people and the parades in his honor wherever he went, caused him to aspire still higher.

It occurred to him, no doubt, that Mrs. Dewey would cut a pretty figure in the White House, and after full consideration of the matter he arrived at the conclusion that if McKinley had sense enough to fill the presidential office Dewey could do it. When he returned here from Manila, and when he was first mentioned for the presidency, he said he was unfitted for the office; that he had had no training which qualified him for the duties. But life in Washington has changed his mind. To what extent Mrs. Dewey has contributed to the excellent opinion the Admiral now has of himself we are not prepared to say.

Admiral Dewey has a perfect right to aspire to the presidency; no man denies that. The trouble, however, is that he has made himself ridiculous. The method he adopted of announcing his candidacy and the views he therein expressed have made him the laughing stock of the country. At first he didn't think it necessary to state which party he belonged to. Now it appears that he never has voted, but on one occasion he purposed voting for Cleveland, but was unable to leave his duties to go home to do so. Even now he has not made it clear whether he will submit his name to the Kansas City convention or not. Really, it is to be hoped that he will "quit his foolishness" before that time.

It is not a pleasant thing to the people to see their heroes tumbling off their pedestals. From being the idol of the hour Hobson became an object of pity. His offence was by no means a serious one, considering his years and inexperience, but it showed that his head had been turned by adulation. The fact is, some noteworthy proverbs to the contrary, notwithstanding, it requires just as much mental equilibrum to stand prosperity as it does to stand adversity. Dewey's sudden success and the flattery bestowed upon him by well meaning, but too gushing, people, are responsible for the awkward position in which he now finds himself.

How he will get out of the "fix" we do not know, but it is certain that when friendly authors come to write his biography and pass eulogy upon him, the events of last week will compel them either to write him down as an old goose, or else to juggle with the facts.

THE PARKS.

The street-cars have caused our city parks to be much visited in recent years, especially by children and their mothers or nurses. Yet, it is remarkable that very little has been done in the way of making those pleasure resorts attractive to this class. It cannot be for lack of money, because a good deal of money has been spent on parks of late years. While the portion of Reservoir Park north of the lake is altogether unsupplied with drinking water, thousands of dollars have been spent upon the grounds.

At Chimborazo Park, drinking water is not to be had without a tramp from the end of the street-car line along a dusty road, and down and up a steep hillside.

There ought to be a hydrant on the level ground of Chimborazo Park. If a hydraulic ram, or windmill, could be put into place and made to pump up the spring water, so much the better. Think of the convenience that would be to thousands who now must toil up and down hill or else go thirsty!

At Reservoir Park better arrangements also are needed. The well and pump south of the lake are good enough in their way; but the fountain at the south end of the Boulevard is sometimes not supplied with a drinking cup. Certainly that was so last summer. But no matter about that; a hydrant, or, better still, a well and pump, is needed on the grounds north of the lake and east of the Boulevard.

Some day some daring Councilman is going to win distinction for himself, and earn the lasting gratitude of mothers and children, by becoming the champion of this cause.

Why should not there be plenty of good drinking water in easy reach in Reservoir and Chimborazo parks? The cost would be but a trifle. The need of it is unquestionable, but still money is spent plentifully in other ways, while it is withheld from those worthy objects! Who will become the children's champion?

IN THE PEOPLE'S HANDS.

Recently the Dispatch stated that there was a serious and well-concerted effort on foot to cause the people to send delegates to Norfolk who will vote "against" making the constitutional convention a party issue; also, that in order "to win our friends must meet organization with organization, and they need not fear to let it be known that they want a constitutional convention to disfranchise the negro voters, as far as it is possible to do so."

The Norfolk Landmark expresses the conviction that the Dispatch views the case aright, and continuing, says:

"Everything depends upon the people. If they do not take the reins in their own hands and seize the opportunity to get rid of the Underwood Constitution, they will find it fastened on them more firmly than ever. There will be strong opposition, in our opinion, to the indorsement of a constitutional convention by the Democratic State Convention in this city in May, and then there will be strong opposition when the vote of the State is taken.

There is not a proposition advanced by the Landmark that is not well grounded. Everything is in the hands of the people. They are forewarned, and if they would relieve Virginia from the odium of the Underwood Constitution, and the suffrage iniquity it saddled on the State, they must fight, and fight vigorously, to control the Norfolk convention to that end. This consummation can be attained only by sending delegates to that convention instructed to vote to make the question of holding a constitutional convention a party issue.

Ex-President Cleveland is to lecture, it appears, on "The Independence of the Executive." There are Democrats who will aver that he knows whereof he will speak.

WIVES AND HUSBANDS.

The New York Herald has been publishing recently a series of "conversations" on the "Rights and Duties of Wives and Husbands." The participants in these arguments are certain well-known and scholarly people, who evidently have given great thought to the subject, though it must be confessed that their views do not always harmonize. The ladies, for instance, are constantly at loggerheads with the men, as the former represent the more advanced feminine thought, while the representatives of the stronger sex appear to cling to old ideas. And so the reader finds a great deal of debate about the advisability of woman's entering the professions, giving up her home life, earning money, etc.

The Judge who figures in the debate is a fine, stubborn, old fellow, who will not yield one whit. Here is one of his ideas: "You may invent machines that will do the household work and you may invent machines that will take care of children after they are born, but you cannot get any machine to take the place of women in motherhood. Personally, I do not believe that a woman can ever make as great a success in any other profession as she can in that of being a woman. There is no objection to her taking up any kind of work that she can do, but it seems to me that the work of being a wife and a mother is the grandest work in the world and the work that woman alone can do. There she has no competitor."

One of the ladies, when asked what she thought was essential to make home happy for the woman, said: "A comrade or chum for a husband; freedom for herself, absolutely, and children whom she can rear in the way she thinks best."

When asked what would make things equally agreeable for the husband, she said, "The same thing, of course"; though this strikes us as bringing about a "conflict of jurisdiction." Suppose the husband wants a "say" in the rearing of the children! Suppose his absolute freedom trenches on that of his consort! Suppose he isn't a chummy sort of fellow! Suppose his ideas of freedom do not accord with his wife's!

One of the professors who participated in the "conversation" thought "a wife who is a comrade" constituted the first requisite for domestic bliss, while in the second place he put "children who are a pride and a comfort." And, furthermore, he thinks there must be "a certain natural and spontaneous agreement between husband and wife on practical questions." If they have got to come to an agreement as the result of too much argument and negotiation it takes a great deal out of life.

And then he adds the following, which is a practical suggestion:

"There is probably no one thing that will conduce so much to that end as an understanding between husband and wife that the wife shall have a definite income or a definite allowance, and be solely and absolutely responsible for the running of the house without any interference from the husband, and that the husband in like manner shall always be the final judge—though naturally asking and desiring the advice and the suggestions of his wife—as to any point of business that affects his income or his professional duty or anything of that sort. Now, that is a division of labor which will go a long way toward making a happy home."

Good. The man who meddles with the housekeeping and undertakes to boss the cook deserves to be unhappy. His wife should have exclusive control at home and her word should be law there—always supposing, of course, that the law does not apply to the husband.

And as to the Professor's suggestion about a "definite allowance" for household expenses, we think that a clever idea, too. But, of course, the husband ought to be the judge of the amount of the allowance.

Upon reflection, however, we think the whole subject is too broad for discussion. After all, each case requires individual treatment and there must be "give and take" on both sides.

THE CONVENTION POLL.

It appears that in the counties which have elected delegates to the Democratic State Convention, which is to be held at Norfolk May 2d, Augusta, Appomattox, Charlotte, Gloucester, Nottoway, King and Queen, Pulaski, and Franklin have given instructions "in favor" of sustaining the legislative caucus in the matter of endorsing the constitutional convention scheme.

In Spotsylvania, Richmond, Russell, Prince William, Middlesex, and Mecklenburg counties, and Staunton and Fredericksburg cities, the delegations either were not instructed, or were instructed "against" the proposition.

We are, however, assured by the Southside Sentinel that five out of the six delegates from Middlesex will be in favor of sustaining the legislative caucus.

The Orange Observer believes in expansion—that is, business expansion. And having, by "whooping" up the advantages of Orange until the business of the town has vastly expanded, the Observer has been compelled itself to expand in order to accommodate its increased advertising patronage, without decreasing the amount of news it has been in the habit of giving its readers.

Ex-Captain Carter recently made a partially successful attempt to escape from Governor's Island, where he is confined, pending the final disposition of his case by the court, it is reported. He is said to have gotten out of his prison and to have been caught in a boat.

It is snipe and tuck between the Boers and British in South Africa. The Burghers recently tuck five companies of Bobs's men, and now the Tommies are reported to have tuck two hundred Boer recruits. Sniping goes on all the time.

The Charlotte (N. C.) Observer has been obliged, by the pressure of advertising patronage, to expand from a 48- to a 56-column paper. We congratulate it. It is one of the newsiest of our southern exchanges.

If Admiral Dewey really wants his candidacy taken seriously, let him "tell it to the marines."

Dewey, we fear, won't dew.

The Wrong Take.

When just a year ago I plead
For Hawkins' daughter, Jane, he said,
"I'm willin', but I tell you what,
I ruther guess you'd better not."

I heeded not his warning look,
But for a wife his daughter took;
I've often wished since we were wed,
I'd taken his advice instead.

Literally the First.

They had just started a new cemetery in a certain town out West and the first candidate for interment therein was the wife of a well-to-do citizen. Shortly after the burial the bereaved one visited a stonecutter to leave an order for a tombstone, and after giving instructions as to size and design, he paused as if in deep reflection for a few moments, and then remarked:

"I would like to add some appropriate inscription, but I really cannot think of one just at present. Perhaps you can suggest one."

The gravestone artisan meditated for awhile, and then, with apparent gravity, replied:

"I can't think of anything more appropriate than 'she was the first lady in the land.'"

A Study in Natural History.

"Is there an animal they call
The ounce?" young Jack inquired;
"Oh yes. In Asia," said his Pa,
"'Tis raised and much admired."

Then Johnnie's interval of thought
Was with this notion crowned—
"And when they catch him, Pa, I s'pose,
They put him in the pound."

Almost a Hero.

Young Harry had often expressed a desire to lead the life of a soldier, and in keeping with this idea his father had enjoined upon him the need of bearing pain with fortitude, and making light of the trivial injuries that commonly drive children to tears. One day, however, when climbing a wall a stone fell upon his foot with such force as to seriously bruise it, and as he limped towards the house the tears rushed unbidden to his eyes. As he neared the door he saw his father hurriedly approaching, whereat he cried out:

"It isn't me that's crying, Pa. It's just my eyes!"

His Muscle Developer.

"I never met a young man with a more finely developed arm than young Hardman; he must have had a great deal of gymnasium practice in his day."

"Not a bit of it; I don't believe that he ever saw the inside of one."

"He didn't? How did he acquire those powerful muscles, then?"

"Why, he's been for years carving the meat in his mother's boarding-house."

Hard on the Barber.

Barber: I think you had better take my advice and try some of my restorative on that bald spot.

Customer (putting on coat and hat): No; I don't think I care to try it.

Barber: I think you'll have cause to regret it if you don't. It's my opinion that your hair will never come in again.

Customer (with hurried move to door): Neither will I.

He Was Consistent.

Dumbleton: I don't care to cast any reflections on Skemer, but it does really seem to me that his marriage to Miss Proffitts was prompted more by greed than love.

Flasher: You couldn't have paid him a higher compliment; his favorite motto all through life has been "Business before pleasure."

No Art in Him.

Jester: Fikkle tells me he's going to give up acting and take up art as a profession.

Quester: Don't say! Has he any gift in that line?

Jester: Not in the least; he can't even draw a good house.

Condemned.

Froth: Things are getting rather desperate with me; I have a good mind to go and get drunk.

Roth: You couldn't have said anything that would better demonstrate the fact that you haven't a good mind.

They were talking about the proper pose for sleep, and the lawyer couldn't seem to understand why they all laughed when he gravely remarked: "That's a question that never worries me; I can lie with perfect ease on either side."

It not infrequently happens that when a man is rapped in slumber it will wake him up.

Old Market Hall Sunday.

At 4 o'clock this afternoon Rev. J. T. Routten and the Denny-Street League will be at Old Market Hall to assist Rev. G. H. Wiley in the Gospel service.

One of the special features of these meetings is to sing the Gospel. Several attractive pieces of music have been prepared. A hearty welcome will be given to all who attend.

A series of revival meetings, to last for two weeks, will begin in the hall on April 22d. Mr. Wiley will be assisted by Mr. Mitchell, the well-known singer of Fairmount church. A large choir will be furnished by the churches of Richmond.

Woman's Baptist Missionary Circle.

The spring meeting of the Baptist Woman's Missionary Circle of Richmond and Manchester will occur on Thursday next at 4 P. M. in the Pine-Street church parlor. These meetings furnish an occasion for a grand rally of the missionary-workers in the churches. The society is the oldest, probably, in the South, organized by Mrs. Dr. Jeter, who was life president. Its present officers are Mrs. W. E. Hatcher, president; Mrs. J. D. Crump, Mrs. M. Ashby Jones, vice-presidents, Mrs. G. F. Williams, secretary.

Methodist Sunday-School Society.

The monthly meeting of the Methodist Sunday-School Society will be held at the Laurel-Street church this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Rev. Mr. Bosman, of Park-Place church, will address the society. The superintendent of Laurel-Street school has arranged interesting exercises by the children of the school. Captain Charles H. Philips will sing the Psalms, Mr. L. H. Mitchell will also sing.

Naphtha Launch for Richmond.

Mr. C. B. Richardson bought in Petersburg a fine naphtha launch. He went to that city yesterday, accompanied by several gentlemen, and brought the craft to Richmond by water.

FOR GOLF RASH

Heat Rash, inflammations, itching, irritations and chafings, undue or offensive perspiration, and many other sanative uses, nothing so cooling, purifying, and refreshing as a bath with CUTICURA SOAP, followed in the severer forms by gentle anointings with CUTICURA, the great skin cure and purest of emollients.

CUTICURA SOAP is beyond all doubt the most effective skin purifying and beautifying soap, as well as the purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and nursery. Sold throughout the world. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston. "How to Have Beautiful Skin," free.

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 PROFESSOR SEYMOUR EATON.

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

LESSON NO. 8.
HUITIÈME LEÇON.

A Few Useful Hints.

1. In former lessons we gave the student a brief outline of the article, i. e., the definite article "the." To make such important parts complete, we give now the indefinite article "a" or "an," and advise the student to compare it with the definite, making sentences with such nouns as he can remember.

The indefinite article "a" or "an" is expressed as follows:

Before any masculine noun in the singular, *un*, as: *un* frère, a brother; —— frayr.

Before any feminine noun in the singular, *une*, as: *une* hôtesse, a landlady; —— ohtess.

2. *Of* is usually translated into French by "*de*," as:

The size of the house.
La grandeur de la maison.
—— gron-duhr ——

3. If, however, *de* stands before a *vowel* or *l muet*, it is rendered by *d'*, as: of a (or) an d'un or d'une; dung; doon.

Memory Exercise.

1. Good-morning, sir; bonjour, monsieur;
2. Good-evening, madam.
Bonsoir, madame; —— swahr.

Note—The French do not say "good-morning" or "good-afternoon," but always greet one in the with "bonjour" (good-day) or "bonsoir" (good-evening). In leaving one another at a later hour, after supper, they say "bonne-nuit" (good-night; bonn-nwee.

3. I thank you, I am well.
Je vous remercie, je me porte bien.
—— ruh-mair-see ——

Note—Literally, "I carry myself well."

4. How do you like the exposition?
Comment trouvez-vous l'exposition?
Kom-mon ——
5. Have you been there?
Y avez-vous été? Ee —— zettay.
6. When were you there?
Quand y avez-vous été? ——
7. Are you going there again?
Y allez-vous encore?
Ee —— zon-kore.
8. When?
Quand? kong.

The French "how do you do" is expressed by "how do you go"—comment allez-vous—or "how do you carry yourself?"—comment vous portez-vous; —— por-tay voo.

9. How is your family? Comment va la famille? —— fam-ee.
10. Come to see us; venez nous voir; vennay noo voar.
11. I will see you later; à tantôt; —— taun-to.
12. Good-by; au revoir; o reh-vwar.
Au plaisir: o play-zeer.
13. Where is the barber shop?
Où puis-je trouver le coiffeur?
—— kwaf-fuhr.
14. Where is the telegraph office?
Où est le bureau de télégraphe?
—— tay-lay-graf.
15. Is a telephone in the building?
Y a-t-il un téléphone dans ce bâtiment?
—— ee-ah-teel ——
16. I thank you very much; merci bien.
17. Do not mention it.
Il n'y a pas de quoi.
Eel nee-ah-pa-duh kwa.

Note—In French we do not say "I am walking," but use the simple verb "I walk," which rule holds good for any verb in any person and number.

The student must remember that in order to render a verb interrogatively—that is, to ask a question—it becomes necessary to reverse the order of the verb and pronoun. Thus the verb is placed first and the pronoun last, both joined with a hyphen, as: Marché-je (walk I), meaning: Do I walk?

Note—The student will find it the greatest possible assistance to write and rewrite these verbs, as well as those which will be given in the following lessons, pronouncing them aloud and repeating them over and over again, until he grows thoroughly familiar with them and their equivalent English meanings.

Traverser; to cross; trah-ver-say.
Arriver; to arrive; arr-eev-ay.
Commander; to order; kom-man-day.
Manger; to eat; mon-zjay.

18. Speak slowly, please.
Parlez lentement, s'il vous plaît.
—— lant-mong ——
19. Pronounce the word.
Prononcez le mot.
Pro-non-say luh mo.
20. Repeat it again.
Répétez-le; ray-pay-tay luh.
21. Say it once more.
Encore une fois; on-kor oon fwa.
22. Do you understand me?
Me comprenez-vous? ——
23. I do not understand you.
Je ne vous comprends pas; ——
24. I have made a mistake.
J'ai fait une erreur.
Zjay fay toon er-ruhr.
25. Which language do you speak?
Quelle langue parlez-vous?
Kell long ——
26. I converse neither in German nor in French.
Je ne parle ni français ni allemand.
—— nee —— nee ——

Whenever negations, such as *pas* (not), *rien* (nothing), *jamais* (never), are used together with a verb, the word *ne* is required. *Ne* can be used with verbs only, and must precede them, as:

Je n'ai pas; I have not; —— nay pah.
Ne suis-je pas? am I not?
Nuh swee-zjuh pah.
N'avais-je pas? had I not? nah-vay ——.
Je n'étais pas; I was not; —— nuh-tay pah.

27. Watch; la montre; —— montr.
28. Clock; l'horloge; lor-lohge.
29. Figures; les chiffres; —— sheefr.
30. Hands; les aiguilles; laze-ay-gwee.
31. Dial; le cadran; —— kah-drong.
32. Timepiece; la pendule; —— pon-dool.

Note—The French reckon time thus:

33. One o'clock; une heure; —— euhr.
34. Five minutes after; une heure cinq. —— sank; (or) une heure cinq minutes. (The abbreviated time is preferred.)
35. Two o'clock; deux heures; —— zeuhr.
36. Twenty after 2; deux heures vingt.
37. Half past 3; trois heures et demie. trwa zeuhr a demee.
38. Ten to 4; quatre heures moins dix.

Note—Literally this means "four o'clock, less ten." The former sentence means "three o'clock and a half." The following means literally "3 o'clock and ten."

39. Ten after 4; quatre heures dix.
40. Fifteen to six; six heures moins un quart.
41. 12 a. m.; midi; mee-dee.
42. 12 p. m.; minuit; mee-noo-ee.
43. Twelve thirty; midi et demie (a. m.).
44. Twelve thirty; minuit et demie (p. m.).

Note—In speaking of time "douze heures" is never used. It means "twelve hours."

45. How much will it cost?
Combien coûtera-t-il?
Kom-bee-yan koo-tra-teel.
46. When will it be ready?
Quand sera-t-elle prête?
Kong-s'rah-tell pret.
47. To-morrow at 11 sharp.
Demain à onze heures précises.
—— zeuhr pray-seèze.
48. Without fail? Sans faute? sang fote.
49. Shall I send for it?
Faut-il l'envoyer chercher?
—— share-shay.
50. Give me your address.
Donnez-moi votre adresse.

Reading Lesson.

The following is the proper translation of the French exercise of last lesson. The student will carefully compare the same as far as he is able, 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, read each phrase aloud and study it by heart:

(1) The horses of Normandy are the finest in Europe. (2) The climate of this country is very mild. (3) It is milder in our country. (4) Many persons go to France to take the waters. (5) They are on the other side of the street. (6) What is that house at the corner? (7) Is that the Grand Opera House? (8) The vegetables in France are very fine. (9) Is the cooking in that restaurant good? (10) Here they give excellent meals and at reasonable prices. (11) We are going to have rain. (12) Do you think it will be fine to-morrow? (13) How is your father-in-law?

Note—The most important rule in the division of syllables in French is that they are divided between consonants and seldom between vowels. When a consonant stands between two vowels it belongs to the second syllable, not to the first. A consonant followed by "l" or "r" is never divided. Termination of verbs always marks the beginning of another syllable. There are a few exceptions to the above rules, but of minor importance. As for the rest, it is much the same as in English.

Vocabulary—Je ne puis pas; I cannot. Tard; late. Américain; American. Ressort; spring. Cassé; broken. Nettoyez; clean. Réparez; repair. A la fois; at the same time. Demandé; inquired. Combien? how much? (or) how many? Comprennent-ils? do they understand? A dit; has said. En français; in French. Mesdames et messieurs; ladies and gentlemen. Beaucoup; many. De nos compatriotes; countrymen of ours. Comptez-vous? do you expect? D'y aller; to visit it. Souvent; often.

Read and translate into English:

(1) Quarante-et-unième. Soixante-dix-neuvième. Cent soixante-et-unième. (2) Quatre cent neuvième. Six cent douze. L'année mil neuf cents. (3) Neuf heures vingt. (4) Quatre heures vingt-cinq. (5) Huit heures moins vingt-cinq. (6) Je ne puis pas beaucoup marcher. (7) A Paris nous dînons toujours tard. (8) Le ressort de ma montre est cassé. (9) Où demeure l'horloger américain? (10) Nettoyez-la et réparez-la à la fois. (11) Vous a-t-il demandé l'adresse? (12) Combien de langue comprennent-ils? (13) Il a dit en français: "Bonjour, mesdames et messieurs." (14) Il y a beaucoup de nos compatriotes à l'exposition. (15) Comptez-vous y aller sou vent!

Note—The English translation of this exercise will be found in the following lesson, which will be published on next Sunday.

RECENT SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES.

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

III.—DARK LIGHTNING.

Lightning appears to us in various forms. It was recently classified as follows: Forked or jagged lightning, branched lightning, heat lightning, sheet lightning, globular lightning, dark lightning. Forked lightning is the usual severe kind. Branched lightning intertwines and chases over the whole sky, forming an interlaced network. Heat and sheet lightning are but the general illumination of the cloud sheet from internal or distant discharges. Globular lightning is that peculiar and infrequent phenomenon in which a ball of fire seems to move with comparative slowness or to roll about over the ground like a foot-ball. Persons are occasionally found who aver that they have dodged or jumped over these fiery foot-balls, which then burst. What they are has not yet been determined, and there are not a few people who doubt their existence. Dark lightning—there is no such thing in nature as dark lightning. By the term "dark lightning" is meant a certain peculiar effect often produced upon a photographic film by lightning discharges. The name is due to the fact that the photographic image of a lightning flash, instead of being brighter than the surrounding sky, is darker. This refers, of course, to the print, not to the negative.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF LIGHTNING.

Within the last ten years it has become more and more common to attempt to obtain photographs of lightning discharges. A great many good ones have been obtained, and they have led to the increase of our knowledge as to the behavior of lightning. For obvious reasons these attempts are usually made at night. The camera is pointed in the direction of the storm, the lens uncovered, and the slide drawn. Then, after the occurrence of one or more good flashes, that plate is removed and a fresh one exposed.

MULTIPLE FLASHES.

Many instances might be given of the occurrence of several flashes side by side, sometimes as many as ten or fifteen, over exactly similar paths. If the camera were moved with sufficient rapidity, any severe flash would produce an image somewhat like this, because of its oscillatory character. If the camera is not moved, however, this cannot be the cause. The explanation is probably as follows: A single lightning discharge, in passing through the air, heats the air very greatly, and thereby creates a path of weakness through which a second discharge can pass more easily. Moreover, in the severe portion of the storm the wind is usually blowing with high velocity. This heated and weakened streak in the air is thus carried bodily onward with little or no distortion in shape for several seconds, at least; and if the electrical action is powerful enough, successive discharges will pass through the same portion of air, which has, meanwhile, moved onward, possibly ten or fifteen feet. Such action will produce in the photograph the effect of a multiple flash.

DARK LIGHTNING.

In addition to the effect just mentioned, it is often noticed that there exist, on the same photograph some white streaks, images of lightning discharges of the usual character, and one or more fainter streaks of the characteristic form, but darker than the darkness of the sky. These dark streaks often appear to be branches or off-shoots of the bright flash. The differences in tone in such photographs are so slight that it is impossible, for reasons which will appear in a later paper, to reproduce them successfully in a newspaper. Distinctions which are perfectly well marked on the negative would probably not show in the printed reproduction.

THE CLAYDEN EFFECT.

The cause of these dark flashes was for some time obscure. A partial explanation was given ten years ago by Professor Clayden, of the Royal Albert College, Exeter. He observed that if a plate which had received the impression of a lightning flash or electric spark was subsequently slightly fogged, either by exposing it to feeble diffused light, or by leaving the lens of the camera open, the flash or development came out darker than the background. If, however, the fogging took place before the image of the spark was impressed, the flash came out brighter than the background, as in ordinary pictures of lightning. This is, therefore, not the usual effect of photographic reversal, in which a very intense light, in the latter part of its action, undoes the work which was performed upon the film by the first part and blots out or completely reverses the image. The order in which the lights are used is important.

To quote from Professor Clayden: "A plate was then exposed in the camera to a series of sparks, then to the direct light of more sparks without the interposition of the lens, and finally to a second set of sparks. The image of the first set show reversal, while those of the second are direct.

"Next, a plate was exposed to one set of sparks, and without removing it from the camera the light of some more was diffused by holding a sheet of ground glass in front of the lens. Finally, a second set of sparks was photographed. The results were similar.

"These two experiments enabled me to reproduce the phenomenon of a bright flash crossing a dark one, and the reversal of one flash by the diffused glare of another."

WOOD'S EXPERIMENTS.

The matter has been taken up recently by Professor Wood, of the University of Wisconsin, to find the cause underlying the action discovered by Clayden. He repeated Clayden's experiments and obtained the effect without difficulty. It remained only to discover the exact property to which this effect was due.

The plate obtained by Wood, which, for reasons already given, it is impossible to reproduce here successfully, "shows a series of spark images—some normal, some partly reversed, and others wholly reversed. * * * The sparks were all of equal intensity, but after each discharge the iris diaphragm of the lens was closed a little. It will be seen that the borders of the bright sparks are reversed. In some the image is reversed with the exception of a narrow thread down the core. The images were impressed in succession on the plate by moving it in the camera. * * * Of course, the room was in total darkness. After exposure the plate was exposed to the diffused light of a candle for a second or two, and then developed.

"In this series of pictures the edges of the bright images of the sparks are reversed, the intensity on the border of the image being less than at the core. As the intensity of the spark becomes less and less the bright central core dwindles down to a mere thread, and eventually disappears, the sparks' image being feeble enough to reverse over its entire area.

"This explains why the dark lightning flashes are usually ramifications of the main flash. The ramifications are less brilliant discharges and reverse, while the main one is too bright to cause the effect."

Other experiments appeared to show a difference in action between two lights from different sources, sufficient to produce the same amount of blackening or development; but further careful work made it evident that the time element was the important factor, and that the effect did not depend upon any peculiar property of the electric spark, other than its exceedingly short duration.

This idea was confirmed by using an arc as a source of light. The extreme shortness of exposure was attained by means of a stationary and a revolving slit, through which the light passed only when they coincided. The plate was allowed to fall in front of these slits, and an exposure of 1-55,000 of a second was thus obtained. The effects produced were exactly similar to those obtained when the spark was the source of light.

Wood concludes "that the action of an intense light on a plate for a very brief time interval decreases the sensitiveness of the plate to light," and he says: "I am not prepared to say what the nature of the change effected in the plate is. Possibly, some one familiar with the theory of sensitive emulsions can answer the question." Experiments which, it is stated, are now in progress, may help to this final answer.

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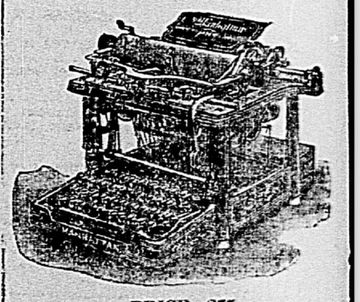

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