

# ALMA RECORD

C. F. Brown, Editor and Publisher.

ALMA. MICH.

Washington gossip, who are always looking for a new sensation, have been saying of late that General Grant's widow had been snubbed by President and Mrs. Cleveland. They assert that Mrs. Grant called on Mrs. Cleveland and that the latter did not return the visit nor even send a card to the former mistress of the white house. There is not the slightest foundation for these allegations.

The following "ad" of a grocery firm of Kirksville, Mo., is a very good temperance sermon: "Any man who drinks two draughts of whiskey per day and pays ten cents a drink for it, can have about 50 sacks of flour, 200 pounds of granulated sugar and 75 pounds of good green coffee for the same money and get \$2.50 premium for making the change in his expenditures."

Thomas Nast, the caricaturist, is in San Francisco, and is uncertain whether he is still connected with Harper's Weekly. He says he is getting too old or Harper's Weekly is getting too young, or he is getting too young and the paper too old, for somehow there is a lack of harmony. The paper is becoming too conservative for Mr. Nast and his cartoons are rarely found in its pages now.

President Charles Kendall Adams of Cornell university, in reply to a question about co-education, says: "The experiment we think, is a success. The girls have been sedate, studious and circumspect in their conduct. There has been no scandal in the college and nothing has occurred to make any of us regret co-education or make a change in our views regarding it."

The following was recently turned in as a bona fide composition by an Indiana schoolboy: "The human body is made up of the head, the thorax and the abdomen. The head contains the brains when there is any. The thorax contains the heart, lungs and diaphragm. The abdomen contains the bowels, of which there are five, A, E, I, O, U, and sometimes W and Y."

A clever editor of words may find a chance for his skill in manufacturing a suitable name for the product of the typewriter. The difficulty lies in deciding whether it is best to be termed manuscript or type matter. The present adjective, "type writer," is of advantage, inasmuch as it meets both conditions. Still, Americans are nothing if not inventive.

The Edison Transcript renews the old warning about soda water containing free sulphuric acid which eats holes in the stomachs of those who drink large quantities of it. Let us see: it is proved that whiskey, beer, soda water and ordinary water are deleterious to the human system. What some one please inform the world what fluid can be drunk with safety.

The Hon. Robert C. Winthrop has given to the Connecticut state library the commission of his ancestor, John Winthrop, to be a marble case at Mansfield, New London. It is dated Oct. 27, 1647, and is in the handwriting of Edward Hopkins, the second governor of Connecticut.

Governor Martin of Kansas sent a strawberry blonde doll to the Grand Army fair in Washington, and a note explaining that she has caught in the meshes of her hair the light of the Kansas sun, and in her eyes the violet shadows that tint the Kansas sky at evening.

The late Mrs. Erminie A. Smith, who was deeply read in the language, ethnology and customs of the Indian tribes and had been adopted by the Tascorans, is to have her memory perpetuated by a prize fund and a portrait at Vassar College.

St. Paul expects to be the metropolis of America when the through line railroad to Pekin, China, by way of Behring Strait, is built. The distance is 5,169 miles, and it is expected that trains will run to Pekin in ten days.

James Russell Lowell was 69 years of age on the 24th of Washington's birthday. In a recent letter he says: "I had the misfortune to be born on the 23d, and thus to be brought into competition once a year with the most august figure in our history."

Hon. Wyndham Robertson, ex-governor of Virginia and one of the sages of the old whig party, is just deceased in the eighty-fourth year of his age. He was a descendant of the gentle Princess Pocahontas and a Virginia gentleman of the old school.

The lovers of the cigarette will need to be a little cautious for a time. Word comes from Europe that 3,000,000 Turkish cigarettes, "out of condition," have been sold at about 30 cents a thousand, and are about to be shipped to New York.

That old maxim which compares a bungling dentist to a blacksmith is probably founded on fact. The following advertisement appears in the Redington (Neb.) Press: "G. W. Lowry, blacksmith and wagonmaker, also extracts teeth."

Now that General Lew Wallace has moved from Crawfordville and settled permanently at Indianapolis, they are talking loudly about him as a strong republican candidate for governor of the state.

Miss Rose Elizabeth Cleveland is going to write a life of St. Augustine. She has been studying his works for many months.

FORCED strawberries for dinner parties are obtainable in New York at church steeples prices.

The "Great She" is the name of the latest gold mine speculative company in London. The mine is said to be in South Africa.

The proprietor of the Florida House at St. Augustine is serving on his tables watermelons, cucumbers and Jamaica ginger.

MISS KITTIE C. WILKINS, of Owyhee county, Idaho, owns between 700 and 800 horses, and finds the ranching business very profitable.

INVITATIONS to a ball given by a colored society of Fort Dodge, Iowa, contained the information that no distinction would be made between plain and colored people.

There has just been added to the New York Law Library, at Albany, a well preserved copy of "Tolomy's Geography," printed in 1511, at Venice, by James Pontius.

There is in Japan a temperance association whose members are firmly pledged not to use even a drop of alcoholic liquor until the waters of the earth change to the same drink.

There is a snake in Africa, Stanley tells us, so deadly that its presence in a neighborhood is known by dead natives found lying around in what is thereby inferred to be its tracks.

ONE hears occasionally of high stakes in card playing, but Mr. Cass, of New South Wales, breaks the record by winning lately in a single game of euchre \$1,000,000 worth of stock in a silver mine.

The Osage Indians number 1,600. They have \$7,000,000 of capital drawing five per cent interest, a reservation of splendid land and an annuity of \$250,000. They are, therefore, the richest people in the world.

A SANITARY expert, who has been looking into the causes of the epidemic of typhoid fever at the Jackson (Mich.) State Prison, expresses the belief that the disease was carried from Minneapolis in a consignment of flour.

ACCORDING to the Geological Survey large quantities of crude petroleum exist near the surface in the far West, and this petroleum is now under examination in the laboratory to discover the best methods of refining it.

OLD COMMODORE VANDERBILT, being asked one day what he considered to be the secret of success in business, replied: "Secret? There is no secret about it. All you have to do is to attend to your business and go ahead."

W. H. PRATT, of Davenport, Iowa, once wrote out the emancipation proclamation in such a manner as to have the letters group together in a perfect picture of Abraham Lincoln. The picture is now in the possession of the Iowa Historical Society.

MISS ISABEL E. HAPGOOD, the well-known translator of Russian and French works, is now in St. Petersburg. Her translations of Tolstoy's works have been heartily approved by that author, and he will provide her with an early copy of the novel upon which he is now engaged.

The name of Grant is inscribed on a great many American vessels. Nearly a dozen ships are called after Andrew Johnson. Three boats bear Ben Butler's name, while live use the name of Winfield S. Hancock. Gen. McClellan has eight vessels named for him. Robert E. Lee three and Jeff. Davis one.

A YOUNG lady in the City of Mexico, Senorita Matilda Montaga, having been the first of her sex to devote herself to medical studies, the young men of the city were struck with such admiration of her courage that they got up a bull-fight in her honor lately. It was a real fight, as the fact that two of the toreros were seriously hurt proved. The receipts were devoted to the purchase of books and instruments for the outfit of the lady.

The prince of Wales is always accompanied by two detectives. They dress as gentlemen, and are ever at his heels. At the theater they sit back of his box, at the races they stand just behind him, and it is their business never to leave him out of their sight. He has no responsibility of them, but they can never leave him off their minds. They live at Marlborough house on the fat of the land, but their position is not one that is coveted by their brother professionals at Seelgard Yard.

CARDINAL MANNING, while an arch-deacon in the Protestant church, married a Miss Sergeant, who survived the union only a few months. Mr. Manning's deep sorrow at his loss was the cause of his complete change of life and thought. He threw over his Episcopal orders and entered the Romish church, it was supposed for the sake of future peace and retirement in a monastery, but he gradually drifted to the Romish priesthood, and by degrees to fame and the purple of a prince of the Vatican.

## THE THERMOMETER.

Its Value in Scientific Researches, and the Erroneous Ideas Regarding It.

The frequent reference to the thermometer at the time of a "cold wave," and every sudden rise and fall in the temperature, may be regarded as affording evidence of the universality of confidence manifested in its indications; and when properly constructed, with an accurate graduated scale, it can be almost invariably depended upon as a reliable indicator of the temperature, says a correspondent of *The Boston Free Press*. But when cheap and imperfect instruments, made by persons who know but very little, if anything, as to their proper construction, are palmed off on the public by notorious vendors claiming to be dealers in scientific apparatus, it is not to be wondered at, nor should it be very surprising, that our thermometers vary greatly in their indications, even when hung in the same locality, and that we hear of so many conflicting reports about the temperature and the number of degrees below "zero" to which various persons claim the mercury has fallen during every "cold snap" that prevails in any portion of the country. How frequently do we hear of thermometers, hung not far from each other, that vary in their indications all the way from one to eight or ten degrees, owing partly, no doubt, to some having been more exposed to the wind than others, and not being suspended as they should be, but chiefly to imperfections in the instruments themselves.

The thermometer, regarded as a scientific instrument, may be rightly called one of the most valuable and wonderful inventions of the world, and is entitled to be ranked in importance with the barometer, with which it is commonly employed as an almost indispensable companion in nearly all meteorological and other scientific investigations. Among all the inventions of scientific ingenuity, the thermometer, together with the barometer, has not only become of general use in the practical avocations of life, but has proved a valuable attendant to man through all the various climes and countries of the world. To it alone we owe the knowledge we have acquired regarding the differences of climate in various regions and heights of the earth's surface, the information we possess relating to the variations in the average temperature of seasons and days; and, moreover, what we are able still to say respecting heat and its effects, would greatly lack precision if the means—which we find in the thermometer—were not at hand and available to measure its power.

The ordinary purposes for which the thermometer is used, are known to all; and its employment as a means of determining the temperature of the sea at great depths; its importance to the analytical chemist, and to the aerial navigator in studying the upper regions of the atmosphere; its value in ascertaining the heights of mountains or balloons by the falling of the mercury; and its more recent application in medical science, and employment by physicians in obtaining the temperature of the human body in sickness, are among the numerous examples of its usefulness. Familiar to almost every person who is acquainted with the teachings of natural philosophy and meteorology.

The thermometer, in its simple form, was invented by a Hollander named Cornelius Drebbel, who it appears made the first instrument, which he called a "heat measurer," in the year 1624. His thermometer was of simple construction, and had numerous defects, consisting of a glass ball at the top of a long tube, the lower end being placed in a vessel filled with water, colored by a solution of nitrate of copper. This instrument was improved upon, and its defects gradually removed by others; but it was Halley, the famous English astronomer, who first proposed the use of mercury as a fluid for the thermometer.

There are now three kinds of thermometers in common use throughout the world; but the one invented by Prof. Daniel Fahrenheit, an ingenious German in the year 1724, and from whom the instrument has been named, is the one generally employed in this country, and with which nearly every intelligent family in the land is provided, though the "centigrade" thermometer is rapidly becoming more and more adopted in all countries as the standard scale for scientific reference; and like the metric system, its general use in this country is doubtless merely a question of time.

Mercury boils and vaporizes at a temperature of 692° Fahr., and for obtaining any higher temperature than this a metallic instrument called the pyrometer is made use of, and which is not so generally known. It remains to discover some more accurate method of measuring degrees of heat higher than 600 by the Fahrenheit thermometer. At a temperature of 39° below zero mercury freezes and becomes a solid mass under the hammer, and for lower temperatures, pure alcohol (spirits of wine) colored red with carmine, is usually employed, but as in the case of the pyrometer, its indications upon the thermometer have not as yet been found to be slow to recognize the advantages possessed by mercury as a fluid for the tube of the thermometer. Mercury as a fluid is more susceptible to the changes of temperature than all other fluids. It is much more elastic than alcohol, which, even when prepared with the greatest care, often contains air as well as other substances; and alcohol is sometimes rendered thick by great degrees of cold, and under the higher degrees of heat it expands excessively and uniformly.

In the Fahrenheit thermometers the space between the freezing and boiling point of water is divided into 180 equal parts or degrees, the former being 32° and the latter 212° above zero, which was recalled by the inventor from the fact that he supposed it to indicate the point of absolute cold, or the very lowest degree that could be produced and measured by any instrument. But the lowest degree that has been produced, and is now estimated to be 523°, and the greatest artificial cold ever produced is 942° by the Fahrenheit thermometer. The zero point of a thermometer does not indicate the total absence of heat, as commonly supposed, and the term seems to imply, for an absolute zero of temperature has never yet been attained, and has only been approximately determined, though it is considered "convenient as a heat starting-point." The zero of a Fahrenheit thermometer is the temperature of a mixture of ice and common salt, which is usually employed in the operation of freezing ice cream.

The zero point of a thermometer should always be carefully verified, unless the instrument is known to be correct. To do this immerse the bulb in a vessel filled with snow and pounded ice, and press lightly a layer of several inches around it, so that the stem, which should be exactly perpendicular, is covered with snow as high as the freezing-point on the scale. Do this in a room the temperature of which is above the freezing-point, as that point indicates the temperature of melting snow. Then in about half an hour read it, taking care to have the eye exactly perpendicular to the column of mercury, and moving the thermometer about freely in the mixture. In case the top of the mercury and the freezing point on the scale do not correspond, note the difference. Some instruments are so constructed as to admit of loosening the screws and sliding the glass tube holding the mercury up or down a distance equivalent to the error, but it is not advisable to make frequent mechanical changes of this kind. The correction above indicated should be applied to each reading of the scale.

There are so many erroneous ideas among persons who use a thermometer, as to the correct temperature during twenty-four hours, and how to obtain it correctly, that a few practical suggestions from one who has for many years kept a daily record of temperature by the thermometer, may be deemed to be depended upon, will be opportune, and doubtless acceptable. Having given no little at-

tention to the indications of the thermometer under varying conditions, we feel prepared, after careful observation and reflection, to offer some instructions for the benefit of those who may wish more accurately to determine the temperature of the atmosphere at any time. In the first place then, the temperature of the air at the time of an hour of the day or night is not the temperature of the circulating air, and is of no use in attempts to obtain the exact degree of heat or cold. A wall will radiate its heat more rapidly than one of bricks or stone, and the man who hangs his thermometer on a wood wall can force the mercury below another hung against a brick wall. The proper way to hang a thermometer is to surround it with a high wood frame, covered with slats, like shutter work, and roofed over. This will protect it from the wind, the direct rays of the sun, and reflected heat. Run a light wood bar across the center of your shelter, to which you can attach the thermometer, which should always be, when properly exposed, hung by a cord on the north side of the building, and at least one foot from all surrounding objects.

If the above directions are carefully followed we shall not hear of so many erroneous reports about the temperature, and the exaggerated reports regarding the extreme cold weather will not find their way into print so often. It is not an unimportant matter for a newspaper to report twenty or twenty-five degrees below zero, when twelve or fifteen degrees represented the truth, and the temperature of the atmosphere. Such reports frequently result in doing much harm, and no doubt greatly retard the growth of many towns or cities throughout the country, as they produce a false impression among persons abroad regarding the temperature and climate of any particular locality. There is a good deal of truth in the humorous remark of an enthusiastic writer, who said: "Every thermometer has its own liar, and the liar who has the last change always has the best instrument. The thermometer that will rise the highest in summer and fall the lowest in winter is a joy to the farmer, if that is the only object to which an accurate thermometer is a great rarity. The accuracy of the instrument depends entirely on the care given in its manufacture. The evenness of the bore and the size of the bulb are what determine the accuracy of any thermometer."

If the tube of a thermometer contains air the mercury frequently divides itself into two globes, the smaller one, separated from the other, and thus the instrument is rendered useless until the threads are made taut. The best way to accomplish this, if the thermometer is well made, and contains but little air, is to cover the bulb with a cloth, and swing it violently around with a circular motion, when the central force will drive the air to the top of the mercury together, down into the glass, and the instrument will be ready for use. The instrument should be held so that the whole will again be united. When it is required to determine the temperature with the utmost accuracy, and the most reliable indications are desired, it is advisable to employ for the purpose a "bimetallic" thermometer, the glass tube, instead of a metal frame, as in all ordinary thermometers—and, when properly constructed, such instruments are usually depended upon. The United States, and most meteorological observatories, employ two kinds of thermometers—the "dry bulb" for temperature, and the "wet bulb" for "relative humidity," though the latter is seldom employed except for scientific purposes.

In conclusion, the following general rules may be given for properly using a thermometer: Before using the bulb of the instrument, the instrument should be allowed to acquire the temperature of the medium in which it is placed, and this, in general, will require several minutes to do so. The temperature of a room, the instrument should be freely suspended from nine to twelve inches from any neighboring object, so as to take the temperature of the atmosphere alone. In determining the temperature of the outside air, the instrument should be hung some distance from any building or tree, sheltered from the direct action of the sun's rays, and, moreover, should be protected from winds and all currents of air. The bulb should be so placed that it will not rest against a wooden or metal back, but be free from both the scale and the frame of the instrument, and lastly, in reading the indications of any thermometer, it is very important that the eye of the observer should be exactly at the same height as the top of the mercurial column, or otherwise an erroneous reading is likely to be made.

## A Negro Exodus Folly.

Whatever may be the motives that underlie the scheme to transplant colonies of negroes from the Southern States to Brazil will be set down as utter nonsense. The headquarters of the movement, it is said, will be in New York, and agencies will be established in the other large cities. It is an alleged philanthropic enterprise based upon the cool-and-bull proposition that 18,000 colored people have been killed in the South for political reasons in the last fifteen years and that the situation of the race is unbearable.

Beneficent people have already contributed funds for the purpose, it is given forth, and are expected to continue to do so. The next expedition is to start about May first. After the negroes are gone some one of the promoters of the movement, the Southern whites will learn too late what their oppressive conduct has cost them.

It will be instructive, in the consideration of this project, to estimate what an impression upon the colored population of the United States the proposed emigration would be likely to make. It would take the present Cunard steamship service between New York and Liverpool, carrying 1,500 passengers a vessel, twenty years to transport less than one-sixth of the American negroes as now enumerated to a much less distance than they would not do so much, and even to appreciably retard the increase of the negro home population. We take it benevolent people will not give more than enough to sustain a steamship service equal to the one already existing, and we are sure that the scheme is a preposterous one on its face. If the negroes could be taken to Brazil they would be greatly worse off than they are here. Let no one be misled into throwing away money on this humbug.—*New York World*.

## Damages for Being Robbed.

A suit is to be tried in Kansas City which may furnish an important precedent. A commercial traveler was recently robbed in one of the streets of that thriving town, and he now claims damages from the corporation upon the principle that it is bound to protect the lives and property of its citizens and of the strangers within its gates.

There are some reasons to believe that it would be well if cities, like inn-keepers, were made responsible, under proper limitations, for robberies committed or damages inflicted for want of proper care within their precincts. Taxpayers would then form an insurance company against losses of the kind, and the law would be a public sentiment would thus be created which would bring those able-bodied people who have no visible means of support forward to explain themselves and, if necessary, to be taken care of.

If this city had to make good to victims their losses through the criminals living here, the large colonies of professional thieves and burglarizing certain localities and perfectly well known to the police would not then enable these gentry to live in peace upon the proceeds of their recognized calling. The authorities would be required to exercise a salutary influence upon the character of the citizens, and characters that would send them elsewhere. When a city has learned not to tolerate dens of human beasts and birds of prey, any more than it would tolerate other vermin, it has learned a lesson well worth paying for.—*New York World*.

The *New York World*, says an exchange, is nothing if not original. The other day there was an execution in Gotham. Neither telegraph, telephone nor messenger service being available for the work, a series of signals was arranged to be put up to permit of the dispatching the news within two seconds to the office. The *World* had the news on the street long before its contemporaries.

## THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE.

What Chance Volapuk Has—The Telegraphic Code—Pigeon English—The Growth of English Proper.

The *New York Times* has been interviewing Francis A. March, professor of English and comparative philosophy at Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., who probably has not over a single peer (Prof. William D. Whitney, of Yale,) as a philologist in this country, on the subject of a universal language.

"There is a great demand for a universal language," said Prof. March, "a thousand times as great as ever before. Commerce is universal. Every part of the world wants the news from every other part. Newspaper correspondents and telegraphic operators communicate between peoples speaking hundreds of different languages. You know, I suppose," he continued, "that the telegraph operators have a universal language of telegraphic signs called pasigraphy. I made some remarks about it in my address to the American Philological Association in 1874 which were prophetic."

Being asked to repeat the prophecy, Prof. March supplied the reporter with a copy of the document. It proved to be his annual address as President of the association, and contained the following paragraph:

"We must also look after pasigraphy. The telegraph operators who send messages between countries speaking different languages are agreeing on signs, each to stand for all words of the same sense in all languages with which they have to do, just as Arabic figures do over a large part of the world, and a kind of universal language for the telegraph will soon grow up, to the astonishment of the world and the encouragement of linguists in times succeeding to attempt a universal vocal language."

The professor continued: "Five years later Schleyer invented and published Volapuk. He is a German linguist and a Roman Catholic priest. It is a very German kind of universal language, and not at all like the universal language which the philologists have expected. There are some other general languages in use, notably Lingua Franca, around the Mediterranean, and Pigeon English (that is, Business English, from the Chinese pronunciation of the word 'business'), all along the coasts of China and Eastern Asia. Probably more persons of more dialects speak Pigeon English than any other speech in the world. When such a language grows up, the speakers of different languages who have to talk with each other need up the prominent syllables of a few prominent words in each of their languages and let the rest go, so that the new talk is as simple and brief as may be. Our monosyllabic and non-grammatical English is a general language of that sort for communication between the Normans and Saxons or the Romanic and German languages.

"Will Volapuk be difficult of acquisition by English-speaking races?" "In its present form, extremely so. Volapuk, to an Englishman, is exactly the opposite of the general languages I have just described. It is an old-fashioned, long-winded, polysynthetic-looking affair. A page of it looks more like a page of Turkish in Roman print, or doctored Sanskrit, than an invention of the era of the telegraph. It is impossible to imagine any Englishman making such a language. It starts off with three German uninflected vowels (a, o, u), the despair of all penmen and printers and phonetists out of Germany. The word 'judge' would be written co-e, 'cats,' ka-z, and 'sheep' j-i-p. The noun has four cases. There are four voices of the verb—active, passive, reflexive, frequentative—seven modes, and so on. No common business man, who knows no language but English, can learn all this grammatical machinery. It will take a German to do it, or a Russian, or some other of those polyglots in Eastern Europe. It is said to have spread in Austria mainly, and I should think it likely. There are dozens of the most difficult dialects altogether there, and all of them of this long-winded type."

"What chance has Volapuk of spreading throughout the world?" "It may possibly gain a foothold generally in Germany and adjacent regions, and then German enterprises may push it into other countries as a business necessity. In this way they may make it necessary for every great telegraph office, newspaper, corporation and merchant in every great center of business to have at least one Volapuk clerk. That will make places for 100,000 German clerks all over the world."

"Have any steps yet been taken toward the simplification of this new language?" "If Volapuk succeeds pretty well it will most likely be changed, simplified, made more like English. It has already been proposed to hold international conventions of Volapukists, and all others interested with a view to improve it. It is possible that a universal business language may be developed in this way."

"Is there a possibility that it may in time supersede English as the most widely-spoken language?" "I am supposing that English shall be superseded. English has been rapidly becoming the universal language. One-fourth of the population of the world is now ruled by English speaking nations. Over one-half of all the letters carried by post are written, mailed, and read by English-speaking populations. These populations have more books and papers printed than all the rest of the world combined. Their ratio of increase is greater than that of other nations. In a hundred years there will naturally be 850,000,000 persons speaking English, and 124,000,000 speaking German. In 200 years the whole of the rest of the world and English would be practically a universal language. It is eminently fitted for the destiny in every respect but one—its spelling. Gladstone says if he were a foreigner and had to try to learn it, it would drive him mad. It is the worst spelling in the world and does drive foreigners mad, and this fault may give Volapuk a

chance to supersede the English language."

"But cannot the great blemish you speak of be removed; cannot English itself be simplified in the matter of spelling?" "Not without the most rigorous exclusion of silent letters, a uniformity of vowel sounds, and the true phonetic reform. When there is talk of improving language the first thing that a man who uses the English language thinks of is the spelling."

## A Christian Science Episode.

A Christian scientist whose time was fully occupied in thinking about the unreality of disease, at \$2 per think, once treated a highly unappreciative man for chronic nervous affection of a very painful character. Under the glowing promises of a speedy recovery which the healer made, the man came every day to get his \$2 worth of thought on the non-existence of his complaint and all went well for several weeks. At the end of that time the pain continuing with a cheerful assiduity that could not be disregarded, patient grew restive, and intimated that although he had paid out \$40, there was not a cent's less pain than before. He also respectfully submitted that a clear statement of just about when the amelioration was expected would be highly satisfactory to him and his family, who were cramped by the daily depletion of their funds. Then the Christian scientist waxed wroth and said: "O, you of little faith! Know that you had believed me when I told you that pain was not real. Pain and suffering do not exist; they are merely phantasies of the brain. There is no such thing as matter," continued he, "with so much emphasis that it rattled some silver dollars in his pocket, 'none whatever; the only real thing is thought. All this is too subtle for your commonplace mind, and hence I can do nothing more for you; you had better go and fill your course, unappreciative system with drugs." Then a vision of \$40 that had vanished, and of pain that had vanished, came before the mind of that long suffering man, and he arose, and he took the Christian scientist, and he mopped the floor with him, smiting him sore upon the head and back, so that when he was through, congestions, abrasions, contusions, ecchymoses, abrasions and epistaxis were among the phenomena presented by his Christian compeer. "There is no real suffering," said the Unappreciative Man, with withering scorn. "The bruises on your alleged head are entirely hypothetical; the choking I gave you was simply an idea of mine, and a devilish good idea too; the pain which you feel is merely an intellectual fancy, and your nose bleed is only one of the ideal conceptions of the cerebral mass. Believe these things not to exist and they vanish. Good day, sir," and the patient departed.—*Medical Visitor*.

## Starting a Balky Horse.

I was attracted yesterday by a considerable gathering of people in a downtown street, occasioned by a balky horse which even the policeman himself could not persuade to "moye on." All kind of plans were tried. First, about a dozen men shoved the wagon behind; but even then, by firmly planting his fore feet, the determined beast managed to resist progression, although I thought the breeching would burst. An old piece of cloth was then carefully tied over his eyes, and, after a short pause, he was gently requested to proceed, but he stood still, and the crowd jeered. Next a rather consequential person came forward, and, standing on tiptoe, so that he could reach the horse's ear, whispered into his ear something which he evidently thought would have an instantaneous and miraculous effect; but the animal was deaf to this ruse, and the consequential person slunk off, pursued by the sarcasms of a bootblack. The driver was now in a rage, which vented itself in blows and imprecations. But just as he was passing from this condition into one of stony despair, a quiet young fellow waved him aside, unharmed the horse, took him out of the shafts, and after leading him across the street and back, rebalanced him and handed the reins to the driver, who now drove off without the least trouble. The expedient was simple but effective, and it suggests what is, I believe, the true philosophy of the balky horse. The effort should be not to overcome his fixed idea of standing still, but to supplant that notion by diverting his attention to something else.—*Boston Post*.

## Compliments to Bachelors.

One of the most interesting episodes at a bachelors' banquet at Gainsville, Ga., last week was the receipt of a box sent by one of Gainsville's most cultivated and brilliant young ladies. It contained a sheet of white paper on which were placed the following articles: First a handsomely embroidered crimson satin satchel, containing a few matches, with the motto: "A better match than you have made." Next the picture of an owl sitting on a holy bush, motto: "You are alone in the world." Last, a beautiful birchwood pipe, to the stem of which was tied an elegantly embroidered tobacco pouch, made of magenta-colored satin; under these was written: "Butler has said, 'There is more solid comfort in a good pipe than in a good wife,' and you all appear to agree with him.—*Boston Post*.

## A Great Descent.

Mr. McCorkle (an attenuated dude standing before a broad-chested warrior like ancestor)—"I tell you, Miss Nivens, I'm no snob, but I'm proud of my descent."

Miss Nivens—"You should be, Mr. McCorkle; it has been a great one."—*Life*.

## They're Large Enough Are't They?

This leap year may not be as successful as some have been. The girls are setting their caps, of course, but they are tobogganing caps.—*New Haven News*.