view of the work, compares Mr. Dunn with Artemus Ward.

The English papers are jubilant at the prospects of the success of Mr. Cecil Rhodes' visit to Berlin and his coming audience with Emperor William, which, it is said, promises well for the Cape-to-Cairo railroad. It is remarked that it will be a curious meeting between the prime mover in the Jameson raid and the author of the imperial telegram to President Kruger of the Transvaal republic. Mr. Rhodes, it is understood, is prepared to offer Germany freer access to the line and to exercise control over that portion traversing German territory. Germany would secure important concessions and running powers over the whole Rhodesian railroad system. The National Zeitung anticipates that Mr. Rhodes will be successful, and contends that his success will not be injurious to German colonial interests in Africa. It says, coolly:

"Mr. Rhodes is not a favorite here, but German interests are not so identical with those of the Boers that Germany must forever share the feelings of the Transvaal toward Mr. Rhodes."

Other German newspapers which were formerly anti-Rhodes, now approve of an arrangement with him respecting the railroad. It is further reported that Mr. Rhodes also includes in his scheme the construction of a railroad from the Atlantic across German Southwest Africa to Rhodesia.

SOUDAN CAMPAIGN.

The latest advices from the Soudan minimize the strength of the khalifa's forces, though it has been practically decided to send an expedition to finally dispose of him.

General Lord Kitchener will shortly make an extended tour of the eastern Soudan, visiting Kassala, Suakim and Gedaref.

A squadron of cavalry has been dispatched from Omdurman up the White Nile to prevent supplies being furnished clandestinely to the khalifa's camp in Kordofan.

Several cases have recently come to light, pointing to the prevalence of a widespread system of secret commissions, gnawing at the roots of commercial life, which came as a surprise to the general public. The London chamber of commerce appointed a committee to investigate the matter and report this week. It shows that bribery and corruption are rampant in every department of business and professional life. According to the report, commissions, which easily pass into bribes, are given to firms or agents to secure custom. Then the recipients demand similar bribes from other firms and the stress of competition necessitates their being paid. Thus a form of blackmail has been instituted, and also a system of disposing of interior articles. The committee, in order to check the evil, recommends civil proceedings under the present law, and fresh legislation making the practice criminal.

COUNTERFEITERS CAUGHT.

Have Been Flooding New York With Silver Dollars.

New York, March 11.—Six men accused of making and circulating counterfeit standard silver dollars were arraigned today before the United States commissioner by Chief Wilkie of the secret service. The prisoners were Sisto and Adeline Incognoli and Pietro Lizzelo, Italians; Frank Clark, Harry Garen, alias "Big Any" Seiler, Americans.

For six or eight months the secret officers have been looking for the makers of counterfeit silver dollars, which were such clever imitations that many of them were received at the clearing house from banks in this city. Friday evening Sisto Incognoli was arrested as he was coming from his brother's home in East Fifteenth street. He was searched and sixty counterfeit standard silver dollars were found in his possession. The detectives then raided a house at First avenue and Forty-first street and arrested Clark, Garren, Seiler and Lizzelo. Each of these men had counterfeit tools in his possession. Seiler was arrested in his room. He was surrounded by a complement of counterfeiter's material, having 111 counterfeit standard dollars ready for circulation; twenty plaster of paris moulds, a quantity of antimony, ground glass and other materials used in making the coin. Today Sisto Incognoli tried to clear his brother of all complicity in the matter, saying he himself made all the coin and that he got the receipt for the composition from Antonio Franko, who was convicted in September last of making counterfeit money and sentenced to eighteen years in prison. The men were held.

BECKER'S FIENDISH CRIME.

Chicago Butcher Cut His Wife's Body to Pieces.

Chicago, March 11.—By the discovery of a portion of a human body and a torn scrap of black dress goods under the barn floor of August A. Becker's home at 591 Rockwell street, the police are satisfied that they have at last found the key to the mysterious surrounding the murder of Mrs. Becker. The police now declare that without doubt the butcher killed his wife in the barn and disposed of the remains, after cutting them up, by burying them or throwing them in the Chicago river. The piece of lung found today is about the size of a man's hand, and a portion of the bronchial tube is attached. The dress goods have been identified by Mrs. Tillie Manthy as a portion of the black dress which Mrs. Becker wore around the house, and which had been vainly sought for by the police since Becker confessed to murdering his wife. The cloth is cut in eight places, seemingly as if a sharp knife had been repeatdly thrust through it.

DUEL IN THE DARK.

Texas Man Succeeds In Killing His Wife's Lover.

Waco, Tex., March 11.—Ed Fogg tonight killed Lee Pearson, whom he found in a room with Mrs. Fogg, after a bloody duel, in which Fogg was wounded. Fogg crawled through a transom into the room, and in the dark he and Pearson opened fire. Fogg sprang toward the flash of his antagonist's pistol and by chance seized the weapon just as he was shot through the shoulder. He then placed his own weapon against Pearson's heart and killed him. He surrendered to the authorities.

WHEELER WANTS TO FIGHT.

Old Veteran Would Like to Remain In the Army.

Washington, March 11.—General Joseph Wheeler saw the president today concerning his future status. Subsequently he said that while the question of his remaining in the army had not been definitely decided, it was probable that he would not remain in the service. He thought the president would be unable to find a place for him, and he was not pushing the matter.

"But I would like to remain in the service," said he, with animation, "and be sent to the Philippines, where there is some fighting. I would not care so much to stay in the army if I had to remain in this country."

Salt Lakers at New York.

(Special to The Herald.)

New York, March 11.—The following Salt Lake people registered at the hotels this week: A. H. Boxrud, Hotel Albert; J. F. Smith, Astor House; J. C. Curler, Hoffman House; C. S. Butler, Holland House.

The Grip Cure That Does Cure.

Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets removes the cause that produces La Grippe. The genuine has L. B. Q. on each Tablet. 25c.

LAWTON IN COMMAND

Dashing Indian Fighter Will Now Chase the Filipinos.

GETS UP IN THE NIGHT

EXPECTED TO SPRING A FEW SURPRISES.

Will Take Active Command of the Operations In the Field—General Otis Responsible For Failure to Arm Volunteers With Modern Rifles—Cannot Handle Them.

Washington, March 11.—It was positively denied in the adjutant general's office today that any dispatch had been received last night from General Otis regarding a conference with General Lawton. It is well understood that General Otis is only waiting the arrival of the remainder of his reinforcements to inaugurate an active campaign, though the department has heard nothing from him on this subject.

The war department, according to its officials, is awaiting with quite as much interest as the public some definite news from the Philippines which will show just how General Otis intends to utilize General Lawton and his reinforcements in the campaign against the natives. It has been quite generally understood, without official confirmation, however, that General Lawton, on his arrival, would be assigned to active command of the operations in the field, leaving General Otis more time for the administration duties of military governor, in which position he corresponds to General Brooke in Cuba. The fact is that none save very general instructions have been sent to General Otis, and the department avers that it has not tied the commanding general's hands with any hard and fast orders.

The probabilities are that General Lawton will take a very active part in the offensive campaign soon to begin. His training in Indian fighting has peculiarly fitted him for his present command, and General Otis is well acquainted with his capabilities. One of Lawton's numerous Indian soubriquets, being literally translated, is "The-man-who-gets-up-and - fights-in-the-middle-of-the-night."

It was his sunrise dash into Siboney that sent the Spanish detachment there flying to La Guasimas, leaving its breakfast on the fire for the American troops to eat.

The department fully expects Lawton to spring a few like surprises on the Filipinos and is awaiting news of the field campaign with proportionate interest.

GENERAL OTIS TO BLAME.

Reason Why Volunteers Are Armed With Inferior Guns.

Washington, March 11.—The ordnance officials of the war department declare that the criticisms passed upon the department in some quarters because all of the troops in the Philippines are not equipped with the Krag-Jorgensen rifles are based upon a misapprehension of the facts. It is not denied that the Spanish Mauser has a longer range than the 45-caliber Springfield, even when the latter is using smokeless powder. But the military commanding officers in the Philippines were given the option of using the Springfield or the Krag-Jorgensen, deciding in favor of the former, at least for the time being. That is why the sixty thousand Krag-Jorgensens are lying at Benicia arsenal, subject to the requisition of Major General Otis, and it is not because the department is either unwilling or unable to transport them to Manila. All of the regular troops at Manila and now on the way there are armed with the magazine rifle. The volunteers have the Springfield, because the military commanders in the Philippines regard them as the better weapon when used with smokeless powder for the unskillful handling of volunteers. The difference in effective range is not really very great, and the Springfield 45 ball is almost sure to kill, where the small Mauser ball only wounds. Aside from this there is one great advantage in the Springfield, namely, its simplicity and strength. The volunteer soldiers find the mechanism of the modern rifle difficult to care for and to use, while the Springfield will stand any amount of rough handling, and it is for this reason more than any other that has inclined the more experienced army officers to refrain from arming the volunteers with a weapon with which they would not become familiar before the expiration of their terms of enlistment.

Aguinaldo's Revenge.

Madrid, March 11.—It is reported here that Aguinaldo has redoubled his opposition to the release of the Spanish prisoners now in the hands of the insurgents, because General Polavieja, now minister of war, caused Dr. Rizal, who drew up the statutes of the Philippine league, and was, therefore, practically the instigator of the revolt in the islands, to be shot in December, 1896.

Mules For Manila.

San Francisco, March 11.—The United States transport Conemaugh sailed for Manila today with 300 mules. Veterinary Surgeon Walsh and thirty men accompanied the animals. It is not expected that they will cause much trouble on the voyage. Three hospital stewards also went on the Conemaugh.

TENNESSEE SHOOTING BEE.

General James A. Walker Fatally Wounds Lawyer Hamilton.

Bristol, Tenn., March 11.—General James A. Walker and W. S. Hamilton, attorney for Judge W. S. Rhea, who is engaged in a contest with General Walker for the congressional toga for the Ninth Virginia district, quarreled tonight while engaged in taking depositions in the contest. Hamilton advanced upon Walker, who shot him in the abdomen. The wound is considered fatal. G. F. Davis, private secretary to Judge Rhea, shot General Walker twice in the right shoulder, seriously wounding him. General Walker is resting easily, while Hamilton is suffering great pain. The shooting caused great excitement in the city.

Chattanooga, Tenn., March 11.—A special from Bristol says that at 1 o'clock General Walker had a serious relapse, and complains of pressure on the lungs. He is at this reported as in a very critical condition, his physician expecting a fatal result of the wounds. Hamilton, at the same hour, was resting easier.

THREE TRAINMEN KILLED.

Disastrous Collision On the Burlington Near Lincoln.

Lincoln, Neb., March 11.—A blinding storm of snow and rain was the cause of a bad collision on the Burlington road two miles west of Lincoln at 6 o'clock this evening, resulting in the death of three trainmen and injuring four others. The dead: Luke Boyse, engineer; Elmer Graham, fireman; John Boyle, engineer.

Seriously injured: Daniel Delaney, engineer, cut on head and legs fractured; August Skans, fireman, leg broken; L. L. Emerson, fireman, internally, slightly injured; Arthur Goodwin, brakeman, hip dislocated.

The collision was between a switch engine, in charge of Luke Boyse, and eastbound fast freight No. 46, a double-header. Engineer Boyse was making his way to west Lincoln with three empty box cars. The fast freight coming towards him was late and he had no warning until it loomed up in the storm directly in front. He had barely time to reverse the lever when the engines met. The shock threw his engine back, pinning him against the tender, crushing him fearfully. His engine, which remained on the track, ran wild to the yards, where it crashed into and demolished a freight car. Boyse was alive when taken out, but died soon afterward.

The shock of the first collision derailed the second engine of the fast freight. Engineer Doyle and Fireman Graham went down in the wreck and were killed instantly. The head engine held to the track, but was badly wrecked. The dead and injured, all of whom live in Lincoln, were brought to the city. The injured, it is thought, will recover.

ITALY'S ULTIMATUM.

Request For a Concession Changed to a Demand.

Pekin, March 11.—The Italian minister here, Signor Martine, addressed a note to the foreign office yesterday evening making a request to take back the Italian dispatch asking for a concession, and notifying the foreign office to accept it as a demand, adding that he was willing to enter into friendly negotiations as to the details, but insisting upon an answer within four days. This note was couched in courteous terms, but the Chinese regard it in the nature of an ultimatum, to which they will probably yield.

POOL ROOM VICTIMIZED.

Wire Was Tapped and Swindlers Made a Haul.

Scranton, Pa., March 11.—The tapping of a wire between this city and New York City yesterday cost the pool room men of this city and Wilkesbarre $2,500. The races were liberally played and there were many surprises when it was announced that Barataria, at 40 to 1; Friar John, at 5 to 1, and Nemo, at 50 to 1, were the winners of the big races.

The betting had been heavy and in this city the pool rooms lost over $1,200. The discovery that the wire had been tapped was not made public until too late, and now the bettors on the winning horses will have their claims satisfied at a further loss to the pool-room men. Where the wire was tapped is not known. The horses staked at heavy odds were made the winners by the wire tappers, and their friends liberally backed the right ones.

DUKE OF PORTLAND'S BODY.

Mrs. Druce Denied Permission to Open Grave.

London, March 11.—The secretary of state for home affairs, Sir Matthew White Ridley, has refused the application, previously granted by the consistory of the court of St. Paul, to Mrs. Anna Maria Druce, who claims to be the daughter-in-law of the fifth Duke of Portland, to open the Druce vault in Highgate cemetery, unless the owner of the grave consents to have the coffin opened or the probate court orders an inspection of the remains. The decision is contrary to expectation, and means further litigation.

SENATOR JONES' CONDITION.

Rested Easily Yesterday, But Not Out of Danger.

Washington, March 11.—Senator Jones of Arkansas, after a recurrence of the attack of heart trouble yesterday, was again resting very easily today, and during the day was said to have suffered no pain. There was an informal consultation of physicians today. His relapse has naturally caused considerable exhaustion, but no complications have set in. He is liable to attacks of this character, however, at any time, the result of which cannot be foreseen.

CLARK BUYS LAWSUITS.

Montana Senator May Expect to Be Held Up.

St. Louis, March 11.—No end of litigation, it is reported, is likely to be developed by the contemplated purchase by Senator-elect W. A. Clark of the gold properties on an island off the coast of Lower California. A large number of claims that have lain dormant for a long time awaiting such an opportunity may have been revived by the report of Senator Clark's intended purchase, and numerous legal battles are expected to result.

CHILDREN KILLED BY RATS.

Attacked While They Were Sleeping and Partially Drowned.

Boston, March 11.—Sewer rats attacked two sleeping children today in a house in Dorchester and inflicted probably fatal wounds. Mrs. Woodward left her two children, Elsie, aged 3 years, and Emma, aged 1 year, asleep in their bed while she went to the grocery store. Returning half an hour later she found them covered with blood, and examination showed that parts of the face and limbs had been eaten.

General Lee Not a Candidate.

Richfield, Va., March 11.—A letter from General Lee to General O. B. James of this city, is made public, in which General Lee authorizes General James to say to his friends that it is his desire that his name not be mentioned as a candidate for the United States senate to succeed Senator Martin. He gives as his reason for this course his duties in the army and the uncertainty of their duration.

Congressman's Sudden Death.

Omaha, Neb., March 11.—Congressman W. L. Green of the Sixth Nebraska district died suddenly of heart failure in the Burlington station in this city at 7 o'clock. Mr. Green arrived this morning from Washington, and spent the day with friends in the city. At 5:45 p. m. he left his hotel for the train, in company with three friends. On arriving at the depot he was found to be in an unconscious condition, and was taken into the station, where he soon expired.

Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

St. Louis, March 11.—The Louisiana purchase world's fair committee tendered a banquet at the Mercantile club tonight to the members of the Missouri legislature, to set before them the proposition to hold a Louisiana purchase centennial in St. Louis in 1903. Over three-fourths of the members of the legislature were present, and a suggestion that the state of Missouri should contribute $2,500,000 to the exposition fund was received with applause by the members of the legislature.

Miss Dingley Married.

Lewiston, Me., March 11.—The marriage of Miss Edith Dingley, the daughter of the late Congressman Nelson Dingley, to Colonel James Cecil Hooe of Washington, occurred at the home of the bride's mother in this city today. Hon. J. W. Gaines, member of congress from Tennessee, was best man, and Lucy Ricker of Lewiston was bridesmaid. Mr. Hooe has charge of the interests in Washington of Mrs. Phoebe Hearst, widow of the late Senator Hearst of California.

AMERICANS WIN THE TROPHY

RESULT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHESS MATCH.

American Players Won Three Games and Six Were Drawn — Britons Successful In One Game.

New York, March 11.—The American chess players came out with flying colors with the Britishers in the cable chess match, which was begun in London and Brooklyn on Friday morning and concluded this evening at 6:30, the score being six to four. Nearly from the start of this great annual contest the Americans seemed to get the better positions on the majority of boards and, although only three matadors, namely: Showalter, Barry and Hodges, scored a win for America on each of the boards they were engaged in, no fewer than six games were drawn, but Champion Pillsbury had to resign his game against the British champion, Blackburne.

Following are the results as recorded:

United States—Won.		Great Britain—Won.	
1—Pillsbury	0	1—Blackburne	1
2—Showalter	1	2—Atkins	0
3—Barry	1	3—Lawrence	0
4—Hodges	1	4—Jackson	0
5—Hymes	½	5—Mills	½
6—Voight	½	6—Jacobs	½
7—Johnston	½	7—Locock	½
8—Marshall	½	8—Wainwright	½
9—Newman	½	9—Bellingham	½
10—Baird	½	10—Trenchard	½
Total	6	Total	4

The match at this end was played at the assembly rooms of the Brooklyn Academy of Music and today, like yesterday, the big hall was filled with an enthusiastic crowd of spectators throughout the hours of play. It is needless to say that every result of the game, whether won by an American player or only drawn, was cheered to the echo. Very often moves which were registered on the giant boards came in for hearty rounds of applause when the spectators thought the move was a good one. The games today proceeded as follows:

During the morning session it became evident that Pillsbury could do no more than draw against Blackburne. The latter, however, played splendid chess, and downed his man on his first board, after seventy-one moves.

Showalter's brilliant play on the second board against Atkins caused general admiration, and when, at his forty-fifth move, he announced a mate in seven moves, the spectators nearly went crazy with excitement. Atkins, of course, resigned.

Barry, too, played excellent chess today, and after fifty-one moves, he had beaten Lawrence on the third table.

On the fourth board Hodges played very strongly, and managed to beat Jackson after fifty-one moves.

Voight, who at first tried to play for a win against Jacobs, had to be satisfied with a draw, after forty-one moves.

The Brooklyn champion, Marshall, had no opportunity to win his game right out and he, too, had to be satisfied with a draw, after sixty-two moves against Wainwright. Newman and Bellingham, who contested their game right up to the finish, agreed upon a draw after sixty-six moves, and Baird and Trenchard also drew their game after seventy-one moves.

After the conclusion of the match, thanks were exchanged by the clubs and by promoters of the contest.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

The president appointed Joseph Crow postmaster at Omaha, Neb.

William H. Grimshaw of Minneapolis has been appointed marshal of the United States for the district of Minnesota.

Yesterday's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balance, $265,237,188; gold reserve, $236,769,762.

Dr. T. J. J. See, the eminent young astronomer of the University of Chicago, and widely known as the discoverer of double stars, has been appointed by President McKinley to succeed Simon Newcomb in charge of the nautalic almanac, a government astronomical publication. Dr. See will bear the relative rank of senior lieutenant of the line and the title of professor. He is perhaps the youngest man ever appointed to this important post, as he is not yet 33 years of age.

NOTABLE DEAD.

Dr. Honey Parker Quincy, one of the leading professors at the Harvard medical school, died at his home in Allston. He was well known in the medical profession throughout the United States.

Andrew C. Fowler died of heart failure at his home in Newark, N. J., aged 70 years. In 1862 he constructed for the government the first geometrical lathe for bank-note engraving.

Mrs. Cornelia J. McNair, daughter of the first governor of Missouri, died at Pass Christian, Miss. She was the widow of Antoine de Riche McNair and the mother of Captain A. R. McNair of the United States navy.

George Young, founder of the well-known hotel in Boston which bears his name, is dead at his home in Boston, as the result of a stroke of paralysis sustained on Wednesday. Mr. Young was 81 years of age.

President McKinley has been appointed guardian of John D., William M. and Kate D. Barber of Canton, O. The president is the children's uncle. They, with the adult children of Mr. and Mrs. Barber, are heirs to property left by George D. Saxton, for whose murder Anna E. George will soon be tried.

Creeping Consumption

Do not think for a single moment that consumption will ever strike you a sudden blow. It does not come that way.

It creeps its way along.

First, you think it is a little cold; nothing but a little hacking cough; then a little loss in weight; then a harder cough; then the fever and the night sweats.

The suddenness comes when you have a hemorrhage.

Better stop the disease while it is yet creeping.

You can do it with

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

You first notice that you cough less. The pressure on the chest is lifted. That feeling of suffocation is removed. A cure is hastened by placing one of

Dr. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral Plaster over the Chest.

A Book Free.

It is on the Diseases of the Throat and Lungs.

Write us Freely.

If you have any complaint whatever and desire the best medical advice you can possibly receive, write the doctor freely. You will receive a prompt reply, without cost. Address,

DR. J. C. AYER, Lowell, Mass.

AMONG THE WRITERS

Appearance of a New Poet and a New Novelist.

THE LITERARY OUTLOOK

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS EXPERIENCE CHEERFUL TIMES.

W. C. Brownell and His Criticism—Social Evening at the Pen and Brush—Mr. Howells In the Honors of His Youth—Joseph Conrad's Sea Plans.

(Special Correspondence.)

New York, March 5.—Mr. W. C. Brownells' fine appreciation of Thackeray, in a recent number of Scribner's Magazine, renews the expressions of regret, common after any appearance of his, that he is heard from so rarely. He has an unfailing command of distinction; whatever he writes is worth attending to; but his abstemiousness is almost puritanical. I suppose it is not wholly a matter of choice with him. He has the usual human desire, for himself and family, of keeping soul and body conjoined, and that desire—perfectly just as it may be—is hardly to be accomplished in this country, at the present time, by means simply of high criticism. In his earlier years Mr. Brownell had recourse to journalism; but now, for a good long time, he has depended on his position as chief reader and literary adviser for the Scribner publishing house. This position was once held by Mr. E. L. Burlingame, and Mr. Brownell entered it when Scribner's Magazine was started and Mr. Burlingame became its editor. With a full hard day's work to be done every day in considering the manuscripts of other people, a man has but small strength or spirit left for the consideration of his own, and I have no doubt that Mr. Brownell's finding it so is the primary reason for his writing so little. More, over, it is clear that, although he has served his term on a daily newspaper, he is not a man who can be content to "scrape" things together; the only satisfactory way with him is to have a subject quietly grow. It is probably because his criticisms usually come in this sure, natural way that they are so mature and penetrating, all that can be said on the subject has had time to occur to the mind and get full considered. A year or two ago he published in Scribner's Magazine a remarkably subtle and sympathetic story of Newport. The fineness of the study was due in no small measure to the fact that he himself was born and reared there. He is a man of middle age (47 or 48), rather quiet and reserved, but with a gift of keen and humorous speech and a good scholar in several tongues, with a special fondness for the French, as his best known work, "French Traits," would lead one to infer.

There is soon to be published a volume of poems by Martha Gilbert Dickinson. It will be her first book, but her name is already fairly well known to readers of the magazines, and it is associated with work of the highest quality. Miss Dickinson lives in the same town and in much the same avoidance of publicity as did her aunt, Emily Dickinson, who wrote some of the most notable poems of her time with scarcely anybody knowing it until after her death, when the fact was discovered, and the poems were published. The town is Amherst, Mass., where Miss Dickinson's family have been important people for several generations, having been prominently identified with Amherst college from its foundation. While she does not hide her poems away from possible readers, as her aunt may almost be said to have done, yet in writing them she seems to have as little thought of publication as if she did so hide them. They are clearly the expression of ideas and emotions that press for utterance, and this is the secret of the fine quality that always appears in them. As they appeared in the small corner of a newspaper or magazine they began to attract the notice of those who have fine eyes for such things, and the author has already received cordial testimonials from the highest judges. Her book will include a number of poems that have appeared in the Atlantic, the Century, Scribner's and Harper's, but it will also contain many that have never been published. Like that of her aunt, Miss Dickinson's poetry is all of a serious and almost solemn character, but there is a strain of hopefulness and inspiration in it that is not so obvious in the aunt's writings.

That prosperous young society of women writers and artists, the Pen and Brush club, has been especially active in its social enterprises this winter. I think I once explained that its primary purpose was to furnish the members a comfortable and convenient resort for intervals between the regular working hours of the day. But it has all along been hospitable, as well as domestic, and has not wholly denied its cheer to people who had not the good fortune to be of its membership and a few evenings ago it gave an avowed "entertainment," with formal invitations and programme, and somewhat more of refreshment than it offers at its ordinary receptions. It was an "uncut leaf" entertainment, the set exercises consisting in the reading of unpublished writing by certain of its members. It is an ominous phrase, usually, that of "unpublished writings," but the thing itself, as discovered this night at the Pen and Brush, was altogether pleasant. Perhaps the fact that it was so is yet another proof of the superior tact of women, for I have sat under an unfolding of "uncut leaves" when the result was anything but enlivening, and when the reason for the productions that were offered being unpublished was ony too obvious. The readers of the Pen and Brush, by keeping to a certain simplicity of manner and aim, were able to escape imparting any such affliction. Simplicity, indeed, is an all-pervading virtue of the club—its special study—the desire being to make the club meet a definite, practical need with as little expense and irksomeness to the members as possible. The rooms are not large, and the cost of furnishing them has not been great, and yet they are pretty and cheerful, and in all respects sufficient.

Justified by the cordial reception of his first book, "Moran of the Lady Letty," Mr. Frank Norris is now following it with a second, "McTeague, a Story of San Francisco." There is no locality of which Mr. Norris has fuller or deeper impression, I should say, than San Francisco, although he is well acquainted with a good many and has had experiences in one and another that could not fail of leaving strong effects on his mind. He removed to California in 1889, when he was a little under 20, and although he was often away for considerable periods, that remained practically his home until last year, when he established himself here in New York. It was in California, therefore, that he first began to look about him for literary material, and it was there that he began to write. His second novel will be found very different from his first, but it has the same kind of attraction; it starts an interest in the very first line, and holds it without pause to the very last, and it shows a power and keenness in the analysis and presentation of character that are impossible to an ordinary man. But Norris is no ordinary man—you have but to look at him, with his tall, slight, refined figure, and dark, brooding face, to be sure of that. At present, in order to make sure of a livelihood, he divides his working day about evenly between writing his stories and reading manuscripts for a publishing house. I fancy that he will not keep himself in submission to the latter task very long; he is not constructed for work of such a routine order, and, moreover, his novels are of the kind that are likely soon to yield him large returns, and his power of producing new ones is, I fancy, almost unlimited. Among the new ones, I foresee some day a story of Chicago, for it was there that Mr. Norris was born and passed the whole of his childhood and boyhood. Perhaps he will yet give us something to supplement or contrast with Mr. Fuller's novels.

Authors, I find, pretty generally complain that the war, for the time, very seriously impaired their royalties. It is what one would expect, of course, for it was a perfectly clear case that, while the war lasted and for several months after its close, people read almost nothing but newspapers. The turn has come decisively enough now, however. There is still, of course, a good deal writing and publishing on the war, but there is, I think, only one feeling with editors and publishers, and that is that the war is no longer a fetching subject and that they must put their dependence on other themes. Meanwhile the energy and hopefulness that the successful issue of the war has imparted to business in general appears also in the department of publishing, and the authors to whom the war at first worked most embarrassment now see opening to them a considerably larger opportunity than they enjoyed before the war began. What the final fruition will be, no one can as yet safely say. Everybody allows that there must some time follow a revulsion from the present feeling of confidence, but if it does not come too soon, the profit acquired in the meanwhile may exceed the loss entailed by its coming. At any rate, the present mood of both authors and publishers is, I should, one of particular cheerfulness.

An English friend of Joseph Conrad's, whom I met here the other day, told me that Conrad was thinking seriously of returning to the sea. He was a captain in the merchant service before he became an author, it being from experience and observation in this office that the material of his books is mainly drawn. Latterly he has been depending solely on his writings for his livelihood, and he has found it, my understanding is, by no means a sufficient dependence. Yet of the approval that is most gratifying to a man's heart, the approval of men who are acknowledged experts in his own matter, he has had more than almost any other of the recent comers. George Meredith, Kipling, Barrie, Henley and others of their kind express the highest hopes of him. Moreover, his books have all sold fairly well, I think. It is simply another instance in proof of the toughness, even for a gifted man, of the first years of a literary career. But then, other professions open little more easily; ten years is no unusual term for a new lawyer or new doctor to go through in getting himself independently established.

Between Mr. Howell's reports of "Their Wedding Journey" and "Their Silver Wedding Journey," something more than the due interval falls, though the journeys themselves, no doubt, keep their proper dates. It is almost thirty years since the account of "Their Wedding Journey" was given to the public. It appeared in the Atlantic Monthly at the time when Mr. Howells was the assistant editor, and it was his first novel. I remember how, out in Ohio, they followed it with great interest, discussing the succeeding chapters in the course of afternoon calls and evening companies, because it was his first and because Mr. Howells was an Ohio man. Quite often some one appeared in these encounters who had known the young author personally while he was yet resident at Dayton, Hamilton, Columbus, or some other of the half-dozen Ohio towns that can claim a share in his youth, and he was cordially given his moment of just distinction for the fact. It is not likely that any of just this kind of interest is provoked by "Their Silver Wedding Journey" as it appears month by month in Harper's. When a writer has gone to the point of the silver wedding in his literary career he may still be attended as eagerly and admiringly as ever, but there cannot possibly be in this attendance anything like a repetition of the mingled wonder and pleasure when we discover that the young man who lived for a time up in the next block, without perhaps winning any credit from us for more than the fact that he was a nice, quiet sort of fellow, is an author—an acknowledged author!

The next series in Harper's Magazine is to be by H. B. Marriott Watson. Mr. Watson's is not a name that can be said to be well known with us, although he has been publishing novels in England for full ten years. He is a native of Australia, having been born at Melbourne in 1863. At 21 or 22 he went to England, and soon engaged in journalism. His first boook, "At the First Corner, Marahuna," appeared in 1888. Half a dozen have followed it, the latest being "The Adventurers," published last year. He once collaborated with Barrie in writing a play, and he has had writing and editorial connections with various newspapers and periodicals.

E. C. MARTIN.

PRIVATE MARKS IN WATCHES.

How Repairers Can Tell When and Where Work Was Done.

(Chicago Inter Ocean.)

There was a crowd around the counter of a jewelry store where watches are received for repairs. A woman who was evidently in a hurry made her way to the place where the man with the magnifying glass stood, and handed a little watch to him.

"Will you please tell me what ails this watch?" she asked.

The watch doctor opened the case deliberately, peered into the works, and said: "It needs cleaning."

"My! that seems strange," said the woman; "you cleaned it only a few months ago."

"Is that so?" asked the man, and he opened the case once more and made another examination with the aid of a miniature microscope. Then he handed the watch back and said: "We cleaned this watch in December, 1896, and it has not been in our hands since that time."

"Is that so? I must be mistaken, but how do you know when it was cleaned last?"

The man explained that it was no trick of memory, but simply the result of a system. "Whenever a watch is brought to us," he said, "to be cleaned, regulated, repaired or 'fixed up,' we put a tag on it which is numbered to correspond with a number in our work book. In the book we record the styles and make of the watch, the owner, what repairs are to be made and the amount charged for the work, and when the workman finishes the job he puts the same number in microscopic figures on the edge of the inner case. A letter or sign also shows what has been done to the watch. So, you see, when a watch comes here we look for a mark of that kind, and when we find it we refer to the book, and there you are."

The woman left the watch with the man of system, and when she had gone he said: "That happens many times a day. We have the most trouble with the people who say, 'You guaranteed this watch for a year when you repaired it, and here it is out of order again.' The glass usually reveals the fact that the watch was 'due to break' months and sometimes years ago."

All watchmakers keep records and mark the watches which are placed with them for repairs, but no two have the same system. Some makers mark the watch with the name of the workman and a record number after it; some mark the date and the workman's initial on the case, and others have signs in conjunction with these designations to show just what work has been done on the timepiece.

This system of marking and recording watches is of much service to the police also, and lost and stolen watches are identified daily by means of the watchmaker's private marks.

A GALLANT IRISHMAN.

"It was nearly midnight when I left the flat of my uptown friend and started home alone. Just as I reached the corner of the street a cable car came whizzing along, so I hailed it and got aboard. Unused to being out alone so late at night, I was somewhat relieved to see that there was only one passenger on the car, an Irishman who sat near the door. One glance at him would have convinced the most careless observed that he had lately looked upon the wine when it was red, or, more probably, upon the whisky when it was brown.

"When he saw me, a look of intelligence came into his bloodshot eyes, and with a flourish that would have done credit to a dancing master, he rose to his feet, took off his hat and said, in a voice thick with whisky and emotion:

"'Pleash thake my sheat, lady.'

"'Thank you,' I said coldly, 'there are plenty of seats.'

"'But I inshist, lady, upon giving you my sheat.'

"I sat down near the door, so as to be able to make my escape easily if my traveling companion should prove troublesome; but he did not annoy me in any way, and seemed to think that by giving me his seat he had only done what gallantry required of him. Though two long lines of vacant seats, extending the whole length of the car, stretched before his eyes, he continued to hold unsteadily on to the strap directly in front of me, a placid smile occasionally illuminating his features, as though he were conscious of having performed an act of supreme courtesy.

"As I left the car at Fifty-ninth street to take the cross-town line, he sank wearily into the seat I had vacated, and I saw through the open door of the car as it bowled down the avenue that his hat had fallen forward over his eyes."

ELSIE BARKER.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

Governor Stanley of Kansas issued an order removing from office State Insurance Commissioner Webb McNall.

Rudyard Kipling's condition was said less night to be much improved. He has seen only his physicians, nurses and members of his family as yet.

The Kansas supreme court handed down a unanimous opinion that the extra session of the legislature called by Governor Leedy in December is legal.

The Eisenmeyer flour mills (capacity, 500 barrels daily) and elevator, with a large quantity of wheat burned at Summerfield, Ills.

Tod Sloane, the jockey, sailed for England on the Lucania. He will ride for the Prince of Wales at the Easter races and will continue to ride for the Beresford stable.

Mary G. Caldwell of South Bend, Ind., who endowed the first building of the Catholic university at Washington, D. C., has been awarded the Laetare medal. She is the third woman who has received it.

The Ellis Opera company arrived at San Francisco, having traveled across the continent in a special train. The company will open a week's engagement on Monday night, Mme. Melba appearing in "Faust."

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