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COMIQUE—Harry Monague.

THEATRE—Notice and evening performance.

LINCOLN HALL—Performances at 2 and 8 p. m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1884.

The bill authorizing the construction of seven steel cruisers for the navy passed the senate yesterday by a vote of 38 yeas to 11 nays.

The amendment providing that these vessels should be built in the government navy yards was voted down.

PERE HYACINTHE changed his opinion on a most important subject within seven days.

On Feb. 6 he wrote a letter to the New Orleans Cremation society saying that he would be glad to hear the question of incineration discussed by competent gentlemen, but with his present knowledge he was obliged to hold "that by giving to the earth the remains of those whom we love, and whom we long to see again, we give them the highest consecration that they can possibly receive."

In a letter to the same association dated Feb. 12 Pere Hyacinthe says that he has been convinced that all his objections to incineration "were based on mere prejudices."

THE Authors' club of New York gave Mr. Matthew Arnold a dinner on Thursday evening, and in response to a very complimentary address by Mr. Charlton T. Lewis Mr. Arnold said some pleasant things about the "literary class" which might not have been relished by the Rev. Joseph Cook if he had been present.

Said Mr. Arnold: "Were it not for the literary class the great public, I am convinced, would never have listened to me at all, and if the literary class did not support me the public would give itself up to such charmers as the Rev. Joseph Cook." It will be remembered that Mr. Cook severely criticized Mr. Arnold's theology.

SECRETARY LINCOLN reported to the last congress that the government had on hand (at the date of the report) 642 cannon not needed for the public defense. Of these 575 are so heavy that their transportation to any point at which they might be wanted would cost more than they are worth. This leaves 67 that might be used for adorning a cemetery or casting a monument.

Although the government only owned 67 condemned cannon available for gifts a year ago, bills have been introduced in the present congress calling for the donation of 99 cannon to various Grand Army posts and other associations, and there are still 104 cannon to be delivered under acts that have already passed.

The government will have to set up a foundry to supply the demand for portable guns.

Mr. SHERMAN had summoned so many witnesses to testify against the white people of Virginia that he had on Wednesday last that the appropriation made by congress for the purpose of investigating the Danville riot had been entirely exhausted before a single witness had been called on behalf of the defendants.

The prosecution spent all the money, leaving not a dime to be paid on behalf of the innocent voters of Virginia. The names of a large number of innocent negroes, such as acquire Tallifero, had been taken, but the taxpayers have not been allowed even one day in Mr. Sherman's court—Richmond (Va.) Dispatch, Feb. 28.

The foregoing would be true if the following gentlemen had not been examined "on behalf of the defendants," namely: W. R. Taylor, Dr. Temple, Mr. Blunt, Edward M. Hatcher, J. C. Rogers, George A. Lee, Charles

N. Noel, Charles D. Freeman, T. J. Corbin, R. B. Murphy, Matthew P. Jordan, W. P. Graves, James S. Miller, Capt. Walters and W. P. Averell. These gentlemen were understood to represent the best citizens of Danville, and were summoned not only because they were supposed to know the state of public opinion in that city, but because they were familiar with the facts of the riot. At least eight of these witnesses took a conspicuous part in the riot and gave their testimony in their own justification.

Drawing the Line.

Mr. Ransom, who on Monday introduced a joint resolution in the senate making an appropriation for the relief of the persons who suffered by the recent cyclones in the south, reported it back yesterday adversely from the committee on appropriations, to which it had been referred. In explanation of this action Mr. Ransom said that from the information received from the states which were swept by the cyclones the committee came to the conclusion that the sufferings are not of that "widespread, transcendent, and paramount character" which placed them beyond the power of the local authorities to relieve.

At this point Mr. Ransom draws the line. When the suffering caused by an unexpected disaster is so extensive that it cannot be readily relieved by state and municipal aid and by private charity, then the federal government may extend its bounty. This is a very good rule, but it affords no great assistance to the legislator, for he is still left to determine for himself the character and extent of a disaster that will justify him in voting for an appropriation. It is a question of degree rather than principle. There can be no guide but the individual conscience and the individual judgment.

It appears that the senate committee on appropriations had no doubt as to the authority of congress to extend aid in this case if it was really needed, and Mr. Ransom took pains to say that the adverse report was not made because the committee deemed affirmative action unconstitutional. He was prepared with precedents to show that such action had been regarded as constitutional from the beginning of the government to the present day. Mr. Garland, who is a good lawyer and is generally a great stickler for the letter of the constitution, concurred in Mr. Ransom's views, and said he did not doubt the authority of congress to make such appropriations when they are needed. This one was only refused because in the judgment of the committee and of the senate it was not needed.

It was entirely proper that this matter should be acted upon promptly, to the end that the people who suffered by the recent storms may cease to look to congress for relief. If the damage is too great to be repaired by private contributions, then the state legislatures should take the matter in hand and make such appropriations as the necessities of the case may require. In the meantime there is a wide field for the exercise of private charity, and those who have escaped the severe visitations which have impoverished so many people in the south should not be slow to respond to the call for aid.

A Tax on Marriage.

It costs \$4.50 to get married in Maryland—that is, the state exacts this sum from every man who contemplates marriage within its limits before it gives him permission to carry out his intention. So oppressive is this burden to people in humble circumstances that those living along the northern border about to be joined in wedlock frequently cross over to Pennsylvania to have the ceremony performed and thus escape the license fee. Many who live within easy reach of the District of Columbia come here to get married, the license fee being only \$1. Whatever may have been the original intention of requiring a marriage license to be taken out before the ceremony could be performed in Maryland, it is purely a revenue measure, and the law is maintained for no other purpose.

It is probable that the lawmakers who devised this system of raising revenue intended to impose upon the officers who issue the license the duty of inquiring into the competency of the parties named therein to enter into a marriage contract. The clerk of the court from which the license issues gets a portion of the fee, and in the old times he may have been required to make diligent inquiry as to whether any law of the state was about to be violated, whether the parties were of age, and, if minors, whether the consent of parents or guardians had been obtained. In these days the clerk fills up the blanks as the party applying for the license directs, takes the money, and dismisses the matter for his mind.

If any law is broken the penalty falls, not upon the clerk who authorizes the marriage in the name of the state and gets paid for issuing the certificate, but upon the poor preacher, who generally has no means of ascertaining any facts with regard to the parties beyond what is stated in the license. Should a prosecution follow, the license is no defense. If the license gives a lady's age as 21, and in point of fact she is only 17, it is the preacher, and not the clerk of the court, who is held responsible. The license is no protection to public morals and no safeguard against illegal marriages.

Although the license book is a public record, the taking out of a license does not even give public notice of an intended marriage, except in the larger towns and cities, where these entries are published in the newspapers.

For some reason or other Maryland insists on continuing this oppressive and unreasonable tax on marriage. A bill was introduced at the present session of the legislature reducing the fee from \$4.50 to 50 cents, but it was defeated in the house of delegates on Thursday last, the opponents of the bill using all manner of parliamentary tricks to get the bill out of the way while some of its supporters were absent.

SHAREHOLDERS in the street railways of Philadelphia have no reason to complain of insufficient dividends. The Citizens' line last year paid 62 per cent; the Green and Coates street line paid 40 per cent; all the other lines paid from 30 to 30 per cent, except the Gray's Ferry line, which only gave its stockholders a return of 10 per cent, and the

West Philadelphia line, which yielded 17 per cent. This fare on most of the Philadelphia lines is 6 cents.

THE outrages attempted by the dynamiters in London have thrown the English into a high state of consternation and indignation. The London Times expresses a sentiment of irritation against our government for permitting such atrocious crimes against humanity to be arranged in our midst with hardly an attempt at concealment. No doubt this feeling will grow in England, and with justice. If we had more knowledge that a class of persons in England were preparing infernal machines of the most deadly sort and shipping them secretly to our shores to be exploded in our great railway stations and other places of public resort, it is quite likely we would feel irritated against the English authorities if they did not attempt to stop the murderous practices. Any man, or class of men, who could calmly plot to mangle and destroy hundreds of unsuspecting travelers—tender women and prattling children—in one indiscriminate storm of murder, are enemies to humanity, and should be treated as such in all nations. It is the pride and glory of our land that the oppressed of all the world find homes and safe refuge in our midst, but it is a stain upon our good name that murderous wretches who plan and carry out such diabolical outrages are also allowed safe asylum. It is but simple justice that a friendly nation should be protected against this type of crime.

ON THE AVENUE.

Small Talk About Men and Measures. "I haven't heard Congressman James Clay, from my state, speak in the house yet," said the Kentuckian, "but I predict that he will make for himself a reputation as an orator. I have heard him speak many times, and I remember one occasion when his ability to talk without the slightest preparation was put to the test most severely. It was several years ago, when the Kentucky press association visited the city of Henderson, where Clay lives. The mayor of the town was an old Dutchman, whose qualities were not such as to cause him to shine on state occasions. In fact the citizens were ashamed of him, and a desperate effort had been made to coach him for the public welcome which it was proposed to give to the press association. The eccentric editor of a local paper had written a speech of welcome, and a crazy retired Methodist preacher undertook to teach it to the Dutch mayor and instruct him concerning the use of his hands. You can imagine what a state of mind the old Dutch mayor was in when he stood up to deliver that speech. Mayor Halstead, Henry Watterson, and other distinguished gentlemen who don't usually go about with press associations happened to be present. The Dutch mayor started out bravely with the speech written for him by an editor and taught to him by a preacher: 'Shenlemen of der press association of Kentucky,' said he, 'I, in der name ov der city of Henderson, welcome you to here.' There he stood, he thought the next word was 'hospitality,' but that didn't seem just right, and he wasn't sure so, after hesitating a moment, he turned and said with desperate earnestness: 'Here's Meester Clay, he'll tell you all about it.' Then he sat down amid great applause. Clay was a young lawyer then, although I think he had served one term in the Kentucky state senate. His face grew very red, but he immediately rose and made one of the best speeches I ever heard."

MR. RANDALL sits on the hearts of these whiskey men. "The gentleman from Georgia," like a horrible nightmare. They are afraid of him. The whiskey men expect to get their bill before the house and passed next Tuesday. They are shivering with the fear that Randall will come in with an appropriation bill which will take precedence of the whiskey bill and postpone it indefinitely. Nobody has heard Mr. Randall say, as far as I know, why he is opposed to the whiskey bill, but the whiskey men say it is because he wants all the internal revenue taxes abolished, thereby getting rid of the surplus in the treasury, and forcing the government to retain the present tariff in order to pay expenses."

ALONG newspaper row the ordinary form of salutation is, "Got anything?" The usual answer is, "Not a line." But occasionally the correspondent addressed does have a bit of news and communicates it. Then the other correspondent is happy and makes a special dispatch of what he learns. The truth of the statements made is never questioned. Mr. John B. McCarthy, of the Baltimore Sun, understood this and took advantage of the confiding nature of the young men who send news from Washington. He evolved from his inner consciousness a far reaching confidence game which should "take in" the people of every state in the union. It was last Thursday. The first correspondent to say, "Got anything?" to him was a gentleman from Georgia. "Yes," said McCarthy, "I've got a little thing. Make good paragraph for a Georgia paper."

"What is it?" "A party of young ladies from Georgia went to Mount Vernon yesterday. I don't know all their names, but Miss Laura Speer and Miss Jessie Hammond were among them. Miss Speer is a fine singer, and the other young ladies are musical. They organized a little concert in the 'Georgia room' of the Washington mansion, and delightfully entertained the numerous visitors."

The Georgia correspondent was glad and made his paragraph. The next person to question McCarthy was an Indiana correspondent. Exactly the same conversation took place between them, except that Georgia was changed to Indiana, and the young ladies were Miss Holman and Miss Calkins. When a New York correspondent met him, of course the concert was given by a party of young ladies from New York in the "New York room" of the mansion. So the thing went on, and according to McCarthy, taking them all together, there must have been several hundred daughters and young lady cousins of congressmen and senators at Mount Vernon last Wednesday.

The result of McCarthy's little scheme was that the people of nearly every state in the union read in their home newspapers on Friday morning that the rooms in the Washington mansion named after their states were filled with the music of the sweet voices of young ladies from their own state last Wednesday afternoon.

"Do you know that we are getting very tired of Mr. Randall's methods," said an Indian to the Avenue Man.

"What's the trouble now?" "Well, we think it about time that the chairman of the appropriations committee should attend to his business and put the appropriation bills through. We know what his game is, and, in fact, he has admitted that he has laid his plans to delay the work of his committee, and expects to utilize the pending appropriation bills to antagonize any and all tariff legislation that Gov. and senate agree with his Pennsylvania protection ideas. Those of us who worked earnestly to secure the election of Mr. Carlisle to the speakership warned him when he was forming his committee that it would be hazardous to select Mr. Randall for so important a chairmanship as that of the committee on appropriations. To be explicit, even after Mr. Randall had been decided upon by three of Mr. Carlisle's best friends went to him and used every argument to induce him to alter his plans in this particular. The speaker told these gentlemen that he had assurances both from Mr. Randall and those who urged him for this chairmanship that he would not fairly, and not undertake to utilize the position to muzzle the democratic majority on tariff matters. What has been the result? Three months have elapsed and the only appropriation bill disposed of is that for the military academy, an insignificant measure that is usually worked through the house in three days."

"Well, what is the speaker going to do about it?" "He now begins to see that we were right in opposing Mr. Randall for the head of the appropriations committee. We have had several talks about the matter, and I think

there will be a kick inaugurated at an early day that will astonish the chairman, in fact all the members of the appropriations committee. Our only chance in the presidential campaign was, as we view it in the west, to make a square issue on the principles that made Mr. Carlisle the speaker. We do not propose to allow the ex-speaker of the house to handicap us in the race by a sharp, jesuitical dodge, and we do propose to have some tariff legislation, even though it should cause Mr. B. J. Randall to lose his grip on an alleged democratic district in the protection city of Philadelphia.

THE NEW EADS SHIP RAILWAY.

Synopsis of the Bill Relating to the Tehuantepec Isthmus. The bill introduced by Senator West yesterday "to incorporate the Inter-oceanic Ship Railway company and for other purposes," sets forth in its preamble that the government of Mexico has granted to James B. Eads, of St. Louis, or such company as he may organize, certain powers, rights, and privileges in the matter of the construction and operation of a ship railway across the Isthmus Tehuantepec, with an accessory railway, lines of telegraphy, water approaches, and other works, and that said Eads and his associates have, in accordance with the terms of the concession, actually commenced the construction of the works, which fact has been officially recognized and announced by the government of Mexico.

Many features of the bill are similar to those contained in the Eads ship railway bill of a former congress. Capt. Eads and his associates are created a body corporate, with power to hold and transfer property, and to "make and issue bonds to the extent of \$50,000,000." Its capital stock is limited to \$50,000,000. It is provided that the government shall guarantee for fifteen years a return of 2 per cent. semi-annually upon the value of the bonds of the company, and shall pay to the bondholders semi-annually a sum sufficient to make up the said 2 per cent.; "provided, however, that the said guarantee shall not take effect until the practical completion of the railway shall be demonstrated by the safe and prompt transportation over it of a loaded vessel, as hereinafter specified."

The specifications regarding the transportation of a loaded vessel are that the same shall weigh less than 5,000 tons, and shall be transported, in the presence of a commission appointed by the President, at an average speed of not less than six miles an hour from one terminus to the other.

Provision is made for an inspection by the auditor of railroad accounts of the books and accounts of the company, and for the repayment within fifteen years of all moneys advanced by the government in accordance with its guarantee. "Provided, however, that the books and accounts are to be transported free. Vessels belonging to citizens of the United States are to be transported for 25 per centum of the regular tolls upon vessels belonging to the citizens of any other country except Mexico. If, after fifteen years, the earnings exceed 8 per cent. upon its capital stock, the company pledges itself to reduce the rates so that its net earnings shall not exceed 8 per cent. of the par value of its capital stock."

Geological Survey. In his monthly report of the operations of the geological survey, Director Powell says that the close of the month of January found no topographical parties in the field. Prof. Walling concluded his labors in New England on the fifteenth of January. The other triangulation and topographic parties have been engaged in making the completion of angles and plotting the data collected during the field season. Mr. George Shult has continued his investigations relative to the forestry of Virginia and West Virginia. No geologic field work was attempted during the month. Mr. Emmons and his assistants were occupied in the preparation of the Leadville report and the census volume on precious metals. An unusually fine geologic collection from the Yellowstone park was received. The final report of the director will be ready during the month of March.

Flood Relief. Lieut. J. B. Aleshire, 1st cavalry, on duty in Washington, has been ordered to Parkersburg, W. Va., to relieve Capt. A. S. M. Morgan, ordnance storekeeper, of duty in connection with the relief of the sufferers from the flood in that vicinity. The secretary of war has still on hand about \$40,000 of the \$500,000 appropriated by congress for the relief of the flood sufferers, which amount will be used in purchasing such additional supplies as become necessary.

Dismissed. Naval Cadets L. H. Jastrinski, Frederic Parker and J. W. Maxey have been dismissed by the secretary of the navy. These cadets were tried by court martial at Annapolis, on the general charge of "hazing." They were convicted and sentenced to be dismissed.

Naval Cadets W. W. Bush and J. S. McKean, who were tried at the same time on charges of "hazing" growing out of the same transaction, were acquitted by the court.

A Suitable Candidate for Democracy. Philadelphia Times. Not content with an almost countless number of candidates for president, Carter Harrison, the redoubtable mayor of Chicago, has entered the field to seek the democratic nomination for vice president. When the names of Holman, Voorhees, Morrison, and Niblack came before the country as probable candidates the general impression was that the lowest depth of mediocrity had been fathomed. Now comes Carter Harrison, ready-willing, and anxious to disprove this theory in his own person and to offer himself upon the altar of patriotism and office.

A Standing Rebuke. Philadelphia even. Novada, with a petty handful of population, claiming under the law her two members in the senate and one in the house, is a standing rebuke to the men who are opposing the admission of Idaho with her population of half a million, into the union. If it were possible to reduce Nevada to the territorial grade and give her place in the sisterhood of states to the lusty territory of the northwest, it would be a good thing for every body in both commonwealths.

Brown's Legs. Victoria's Highland Journal. Brown's leg was much better, and the doctor thought he could walk over the hill to-morrow. "It was really most distressing to me to see that poor Brown suffer, especially in going up and down the hill. He could not go fast, and walked lame, but he would not give in. His endurance on this occasion showed a brave heart, indeed, for he resisted all attempts at being relieved and would not relinquish his charge."

New York Democrats Shut Out. New York Tribune. "All democrats who are in favor of pure and economical government" are invited to send delegates to the Chicago second fiddle. So the published call reads. "Pure and economical" looks like a bold attempt to shut out the democrats who have been managing the public affairs of the city of New York. Obviously a broader call is needed if they are to regard themselves as invited.

Death-Head Repentance. Atlanta Constitution. Mr. Pendleton now intimates that he believes the civil service reform system which he was instrumental in having forced upon the country is a fraud. This is true. Mr. Pendleton was used as a tool by the republican reformers. He had nothing to do with preparing the bill, but introduced it because he thought the country was "ripe" for it.

The Leading Question in Texas. Houston News. Ben Thompson had the floor again in Austin yesterday. There must be a justice of the peace somewhere about the state capital. Were the governor called upon he could scarcely refuse to call a grand jury in the state in the presence of a grave emergency. It is a nip and tuck between Thompson and the fence-cutters, with Thompson slightly in the lead as a pestilential state issue.

A Slight Difference. Boston Transcript. Vanderbilt is to have his bust made by a famous sculptor. Villard's bust was made principally by himself.

CURRENT GOSSIP.

PECUNIA AND MEXICO. A little Greek maid, with thoughts like thistle-down, By their very lightness high as heaven blown, Lay in the green sward, by blue stream's side, Fair as the daisy that dots the summer lea. Drowsy with perfume, lulled in her couch of grass, Watching with drossed eyes the clouds of heaven pass, Hearing the hum of life breeze from the south— Bending a wisp of hair into her mouth.

Mark!—footstep in the sward. Flee, little maid! "Nay," said Peucolla, "I am not afraid." (Did she know that Menon of passion that way, Tired of the schools, in the calm of the day?) Almost he too had skirt—saw her asleep, Piled to the lips with smiles! "May the gods keep Thee, gentle, pretty one!" going, he prayed— Then the white lips closed open; and Menon stayed.

—James Buckham in the Current. A Fargo young lady named Rouse caught a glimpse of a poor little mouse, And the mouse, being by blue stream's side, Shattered heaven's blue dome, And bulged out the walls of the house.

—Diamond Tribune. A Statue of Apollo, which is said to be a fine one, was recently found outside the Porta San Lorenzo. The height is 1 meter and 90 centimeters.

A STEEL pinion weighing eight tons was cast at the Calumet Iron and Steel works in Chicago last week. It is said to be the largest casting ever successfully turned out in this country.

STOCK-RISING is quietly becoming a very important industry in Louisiana. It is claimed that the state has great advantages over the far western ones, in that the winters are not severe.

NANCY HUCKLEW, a revolutionary pensioner, died at Northumberland on Tuesday. She was the widow of Peter Hucklew, who died in 1864. She was 83 years old and Peter would have been 121. He was 76 when he married Nancy. There is only one surviving revolutionary pensioner in the state.

ANDREW J. CALNIGIE, head of the great Pittsburgh Iron company, is about to build a granite mansion on Cumberland island, near Fernandina, Fla. The island is famous as the burial place of "Light-horse" Harry Lee, and with wild deer roaming through its forests, it surpasses any private park in England.

OCCASIONALLY there is a human being who gets ahead of a grocer. A Louisville woman bought a hen and placed her in a barrel to await the hour of execution. When the hen was taken out of the barrel she was found to be dead, and in the bottom. As the grocer will never know who the woman was he cannot, of course, charge her for the egg, and it's a dead loss to him.

THE proposed tunnel under the Straits of Dover, uniting England and France, having been abandoned for the present, a member of the French chamber of deputies has offered in that body a proposition for an elevated railroad between the points named. The channel of Dover Straits is about 160 feet deep. The French bill does not state what the railroad piers are expected to rest on.

AN astronomer, busy calculating when a comet will return, hears the voice of the servant girl, who wants to know for the "missus" when the astronomer is coming down to dinner. Presently the man of science looks up and answers, "Yes, when, when? Just wait a moment." He continues tracing figures on the paper, then suddenly exclaimed, "On the twenty-seventh of September, 1915, 7:16 o'clock in the morning it comes."

ROCHEFORT and Gambetta disliked each other instinctively from the moment they first met, and their hatred became implacable after the fall of the commune. The pamphleteer envied the tribune his powers of eloquence, while the tribune was jealous of the pamphleteer's pen. They saw each other for the first time in the dining room of the Hotel du Senta, when one was an obscure journalist and the other a mercurialist.

In a Scotch family of eight sons and one daughter the united ages of the nine amount to 372. Their grand-great-grandfather was born in 1624. One of his granddaughters is still alive, in her 84 year, while a grandson lived to be one of the founders of the Scottish railway system, having projected the line from Renfrew to Paisley. He was proved of Renfrew during the French revolution, and died in 1827, 215 years after the birth of his grandfather.

GALFERIA A. GROW, the Pennsylvania statesman, tried politics, got very tired of that profession, and has been resting himself late by mining and selling coal. There are signs that he is thinking of a new profession, of which he has hitherto known nothing. He is reported as attending a lecture on marriage by Mrs. Elizabeth Cokes Smith, in New York, on Tuesday night. Surely that doesn't mean that the bachelor statesman is contemplating matrimony?

At a benefit entertainment in New Haven one of the incidents of the money getting was a mock auction sale of old moids. There were thirteen of these spinsters, and the bidding was spirited, but its result reflected on the perspicacity of the gentlemen who did the bidding, for after the unmasking the chaste who had commanded the fewest offers, and was knocked down at the humiliating figure of 23 cents, proved to be the handsomest and wealthiest young woman in the city.

AN eye witness recalls an incident of the national democratic convention which assembled in Charleston in the eventful spring of 1860. After the seceding delegates had withdrawn, amid great excitement, Francis B. Pickens, who was then the temporary chairman of the convention, took the platform and made an impassioned speech in favor of the union. Striding back and forth, and waving a large red handkerchief like a flag above his head, he shouted: "Don't give up! Don't give up! Don't give up the ship!" Though afterwards became a general in the confederate army, "his heart that day beat true to the music of the union."

PIERRE MICHEL LA PIERRE DE BERGONDY, who died at his home on Lauderdale plantation, St. James parish, near New Orleans, on Feb. 17, at the age of 87, was the first planter in Louisiana to produce white sugar. He was a leading Creole of the state, but his family was of negro extraction. His father was a negro insurrection in 1663. He served with distinction in the Orleans battalion under Gen. Jackson, and was the last surviving Louisiana who fought at the battle of New Orleans. He owned seven or eight cotton and sugar plantations in Louisiana and Mississippi. Several years ago he visited the East Indies in search of a sugar cane adapted to this climate, finding it in Java. It has a great reputation now, being known as La Pie cane.

ONE of the hottest regions of the earth is along the Persian gulf, where little or no rain falls. At Bahrin the arid shores have no fresh water, yet a comparatively numerous population contrives to live there, thanks to the copious springs that burst forth from the bottom of the sea. The fresh water is got by diving. The diver, sitting in his boat, winds a great gastaik bag around his left arm, the hand grasping its mouth; then he takes in his hand a heavy stone, to which is attached a strong line, and this equipped, he plunges in and quickly reaches the bottom of the sea, starts opening the bag over the strong jet of fresh water, he springs up the ascending current, at the same time closing the bag, and is helped on board. The stone is then hauled up, and the diver, after taking breath, plunges in again. The source of these copious springs is the bottom of the sea, some 500 or 600 miles distant.

A PARTY of quail hunters came upon a muskrat lying upon the bank of the river near Blue Spring, Ga., the other day, apparently fast asleep. It was of a light blueish color, darkening to navy blue toward the back. Along its spine was a toothed ridge, the cartilaginous teeth (teeth) were not sharp, but sharp. The muskrat, sitting in his boat, winds a great gastaik bag around his left arm, the hand grasping its mouth; then he takes in his hand a heavy stone, to which is attached a strong line, and this equipped, he plunges in and quickly reaches the bottom of the sea, starts opening the bag over the strong jet of fresh water, he springs up the ascending current, at the same time closing the bag, and is helped on board. The stone is then hauled up, and the diver, after taking breath, plunges in again. The source of these copious springs is the bottom of the sea, some 500 or 600 miles distant.

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