THE FAIR PLAY.

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—BY—
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FAIR PLAY.

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OUR JOB PRINTING OFFICE
IS THE BEST IN
SOUTHEAST MISSOURI.
WE HAVE A
Large Power Job Press
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TERMS CASH.

POETRY.

LOVE IN JUNE.

So sweet, they say, to fall asleep
Some night a bud and wake a rose,
Which means a queen, by right of all
The wind-blown bounties she bestows.

And sweet to find a sudden ring
Of suitors round one's new-born wiles—
To tilt and glow on bending stem
In the full summer of their smiles;

To read one's fairness in their eyes,
To turn a velvet cheek to each,
To blush on all, but when the bold
Essay to pluck, sway out of reach.

But I am only this, a poor
Pale promise of a rose, you see—
No queen as yet with largess sweet,
And only one has smiled on me.

To the dear faith that guesses at
The rose I yield, nor can withstand;
Each folded grace its summer finds
In the warm hollow of thy hand.
—*July Atlantic.*

MISCELLANY.

MAKE YOUR OWN WAY.

David Speers was taking his afternoon smoke. Perhaps the long clay pipe looked a little incongruous with the handsomely furnished room and the massive silver plate on the mahogony side-board. But, for that matter, he was an incongruity—a little, common-looking man, not very well dressed. Certainly a very wide contrast to the handsome, stylish-looking young fellow who interrupted his reverie by a very frank and noisy—

"Good evening, uncle. Can I talk a while with you?"

"That depends, Robin, on what you are gaun to talk about."

"You know, uncle, that Aleck Lang and I have long been friends."

"I have heard so; I don't know it."

"Well, we have. To-day Aleck came to tell me that he is going into the carpet-weaving business in Kilmarnock. He intends to buy Thomas Blackie out."

"He'll need some bawbees for that."

"His father will help, and he asked me to join him. What do you think about it?"

"How long have you been wi' Hastie?"

"Five years."

"And how much have you saved?"

"Well, to tell the truth, uncle, nothing at all. What with Jennie marrying last year and Rosa this, and the presents I had to give, and other expenses, my savings all went away."

"Humph!"

"I thought, perhaps, that as the business was such an old, sure one, and as both the Langs would be interested in it you would lend me two thousand pounds for such a wonderfully good chance."

"I have made it a rule never to lend money to young men."

"A very unkind rule when it touches me, uncle. You were never unkind to me before."

"I am not unkind to you now either, Robin."

"Only two thousand, uncle! And such a chance!"

"Guid heavens, hear the lad! 'Only twa thousand!' Did ye ever earn twa thousand pounds? Did ye ever save twa thousand pounds? When ye have, Robin, come to me, an' I'll talk wi' ye about lending ye the sum."

"But, uncle, the thing is not a new venture; it is sure to pay."

"It is gaun to ha'e new masters; an' men at sixty are na sae sure about things 'paying' as lads of five-an'-twenty are."

So the young man went away much disappointed and not a little angry; but other friends looked more favorably on the plan.

The £2,000 were borrowed, and Robert Rae and Aleck Lang bought the old-established carpet-weaving house.

The first year the concern, in spite of falling prices, did very well. Robert's share of profits not only gave him a good living, but paid his interest and allowed him to lay by nearly £100 towards clearing off his borrowed capital; and the next year things were still brighter.

In the fourth year of the enterprise Robert Rae called again on his uncle.

"Good evening, uncle."

"Good evening, Robin. How's business?"

"First-rate. I don't come to-night about business."

"What for, then?"

"I am going to be married. I wanted to tell you about it."

"That's a mair kittle risk then Blackie's business, Robin."

"I think not, uncle."

"Wha's the lassie?"

"Jessie Lorimer."

"What fortune has she?"

"Just her beauty and her noble nature; she is of good family, too, and has had the best of educations. Why, uncle, she can do 'most any thing—paints, draws, plays the harp, sings like an angel and" ——

"I'm feared she'll be a kind o' matrimonial luxury, Robin. But she's a bonnie lassie; I ha'e seen her. Yet I doubt if she's fit for a puir man's wife."

"You'll come to the wedding, uncle?"

"Surely, surely."

It was a very grand wedding, and David Speers made quite a sensation by giving the bride a check for £500. Indeed, Jessie seemed to have quite captivated the old bachelor, and he soon began to spend a great many of his evenings in her pretty home.

Three years passed happily away.

In Robert's home there had been some pleasant changes; and his uncle danced a pretty baby Jessie occasionally on his knee, or looked admiringly and wonderingly at his own wee namesake in his cradle. Down at the mill things were equally prosperous. All the looms were at work, and the very welfare of Kilmarnock as a community was sensibly connected with the business of "Lang & Rae's Carpet Mill." But a great deal of this success was only apparent, for it hung upon chances entirely beyond the control of the young partners in it.

They had been compelled to borrow largely, and had big interest accounts to meet, and a great deal of their paper, being from houses unknown to local bankers, had to be cashed at very heavy discounts. All these things were much against them, yet so great was their industry and energy that they might have turned them all into "happy circumstances," and won in spite of the odds against them, if yarns had not suddenly taken a tremendous and quite unlooked-for fall.

This, of course, was followed by a number of failures, in most of which they suffered.

Not all their efforts could now gather together their numerous lines of enterprises, and they found it equally impossible to curtail them, and so, after a few months of desperate, anxious struggle, the firm became bankrupt.

Old David had long foreseen, and resolutely refused to meddle in the matter. A coolness had, therefore, grown up between uncle and nephew, and when the end came David was not among those who offered Robert and Aleck advice and sympathy. The young men behaved well. They surrendered every thing, but creditors did not fail to stigmatize as dishonorable and unbusiness-like, and speculative and risky, the nature of the trade done by the broken firm. Aleck at once sailed for Sidney, where he had a brother, and Robert took his wife and children to his father's, while he endeavored to find a situation. But week after week passed, another winter was approaching, and nothing had been done.

Once again David was interrupted. This time it was his pretty niece Jessie. His face softened wonderfully when he met her large tearful eyes.

"Oh, uncle," she said, "we have sore need of you."

"My puir little woman, sit down and tell Davie what he can do for you."

Jessie's tale was soon told—her tears told it best.

Robert's heart had quite failed him; they were almost penniless, and they had worn their welcome out at her father's.

"Then you'll come here, you and Robert, and Jessie, and wee Davie; an' we'll see what your man is fit for. If he canna find his feet wi' a wife like you, I'm sorry for him."

So the next day the family moved, with their small belongings, to David's house, very much to the annoyance of Mistress Janet, David's housekeeper. This lady, indeed, soon made things so unpleasant that it was evident to all parties there could be no delay in a decision, and Robert, almost in desperation, resolved on trying his fortune in the New World. David, pressed by his housekeeper's grumbling and by his affection for his nephew, knew only of one other way—he could advance Robert money for a new effort.

"But it would be the ruin o' the lad," he said, thoughtfully. "I'm doubting if he's learned his lesson yet; he e'en go to school again."

So he praised Robert's suggestion, and offered to pay the passage of the whole family and give him £100 to start life with. The offer was accepted, and in a few days they were on the ocean, not one of them aware of the real interest and affection which followed them.

"But they'll write to me," said David to himself. "They'll write, for they ken I ha'e plenty o' siller."

Once on a new track, all Robert's energy returned. Provided with a letter to the proprietors of the Mattatook Carpet Mills, he found his way there, and readily obtained work. A part of his hundred pounds was used in furnishing a little cottage, and Robert enjoyed a degree of peace and comfort to which he had long been a stranger. The next spring a lucky event gave him a special prominence. A large mill in the neighborhood imported some machinery for weaving a peculiar kind of rug, and no one could be found in the locality able to make it run smoothly.

Robert heard of the dilemma and offered his help. The loom was familiar to him, his success easy. He had found his place, and he knew it. Day by day he made his skill and energy felt. He rose to be overseer—business manager—partner. Still he varied very little the quiet simplicity of his home. Jessie and he had found how little they really needed for happiness, and so, year by year, whatever they saved was invested in land which grew in value while they slept and worked at other things, and ten years after Robert's first investment he found himself, by the simple growth of the village, a very rich man. Just about this time David sent them a very urgent request to come and see him, and as he offered to pay all expenses, it was accepted. The old man was now nearing 80, yet he was wonderfully hale and bright, and met them at the steamer, apparently little older for the ten years that had elapsed since he bid them "good-by" on the very same spot. He liked Robert's way at the first glance.

"He has the look of a man wi' siller, an' he bears himsel' well."

Another thing made a still more favorable impression on David. Robert was not anxious to speak on business.

Indeed, David had at last to ask bluntly:

"You hae done weel, I suppose?"

"Very well."

"You'll no be needing ony help now? I have money lying idle."

"Thank you, uncle; but I have £10,000 lying idle myself. I thought of investing it here, if I can find just the machinery I want."

"You're gaun to manufacturing again?"

"Yes; I know all the ins and outs of the trade—there is a good opening in our town. Yes, I am thinking about it."

"You'll no be wanting a partner, eh?"

"If I can get the right kind."

"Would I do?"

"You, uncle?"

"Well, yes, laddie; an' you needn't scorn at me. I'll put a hundred thousand to your fifty, an' we'll call the firm 'Rae & Speers.'"

"You could not leave Scotland, uncle."

"Was I thinking o' sic a daft thing? I'll trust my interests i' your hands. I'll ha'e my full rights, mind; an' you shall ha'e a fair allowance for doing my wark as well as your ain. We'll put every thing on paper, and I'se hold you strictly to the bargain."

The proposal, made half in banter, finally assumed a very real shape, and it was agreed that when Robert returned to America he should start a new manufacturing firm under very different auspices to his first venture.

But the past was only once alluded to, and then David introduced the subject.

"You'll be thinking, Robin, very likely, o' the day when I wouldna lend you the thousand pounds."

"You were quite right, uncle; no man ought to borrow money until he knows the difficulty of making it—and saving it; young men can't know these things; they belong to experience."

"You had that lesson to learn then, Robin, an' I thought ye might as weel learn it o' ither folk as o' me. One fool whiles teaches anither fool, an' both grow wise thegither. Sandy McClure lent ye that twa thousand, and he was name the waur o' the lessons ye gave him. There would be fewer young fools if there were mair wise elders."

So Robert's visit was a great success, and the old man shed the last tears he ever shed on earth when he bid the children good-by.

"You take care o' wee Davie for my sake, Robin," he said, tenderly, holding the lad proudly by the hand, "for when I'm no longer to the fore, you'll let my name stand i' the firm, till he's ready to take my place; so then the hundred thousand will aye be in David Speer's name."

And to-day the house grows and prospers, though old David has long been gathered to his fathers. Robert's early failure has brought forth a late and splendid success.—*Scotch Paper.*

That Barrel of Salt.

One of the firm who run a commission house on Woodbridge Street is a man of muscle. He can lift a barrel of flour as easily as a common man lifts a bag of oats, and it scarcely makes his ears grow red as he heaves a barrel of salt into a farmer's wagon. For weeks past he has been boasting of his strength of muscle, and wanted to see something he couldn't lift, and the boys around the store got their heads together the other day. They took a barrel of salt and filled it with broken pig-iron, old weights, and other things, put two inches of salt at either head, and rolled it to the curb-stone; and at a favorable hour a dray backed up in a most innocent manner, and an order from a grocer for a barrel of salt was handed out. The drayman and two of the boys fooled around the barrel so long that the strong man got out of his chair in disgust, threw off his coat and said:

"You fellows had better get porous-plasters for your backs. Get out of the way and give me a chance!"

He seized the barrel by the chimes and lifted away. It didn't move. He spit on his hands and laid out to pull the hoops right off. The hoops staid right there. So did the barrel.

"It takes four men to lift one o' them barrels," said the drayman.

"Nonsense! I've lifted a score of them, and I'll pick this up or break my back. I guess the salt must be wet."

He got in position, drew a long breath, and then lifted till his eyes looked like two towels left out on the clothes-line in a dark night. The barrel didn't lift. Pig-iron was too much for muscle, and the lifter sat down on the walk. His back used to be plumb up and down, but it hasn't been since that lift. His eyes are getting back to their original positions, and the red is leaving the back of his neck, and he sees two men handle a bag of dried apples or a bushel of beans without a word of comment.—*Detroit Free Press.*

A Circus Incident.

A somewhat thrilling incident occurred at the afternoon performance of P. T. Barnum's show in Bay City, yesterday, which, however, owing to the pains taken by the managers, was kept as quiet as circumstances permitted.

"Great God!" suddenly exclaimed a seemingly respectable lady who was seated on one of the top tiers of reserved-seat compartments; and before any one could stop her, she dashed past the ushers and guards into the dressing room. Miss Jennie Watson, the dashing and pretty principal equestrienne, had just concluded her intrepid act, and before she knew what "tackled" her, the irate female we alluded to had torn half the gauze apparel from her shoulders, and was proceeding to do more, when the thunderstruck performer was rescued by Charley McLain, the boss canvasman. The old lady, after having been taken from her victim, fell in a fainting fit upon the grass. Ben Maguiley and Fred Almonte, the two clowns, applied such restoratives as were at hand, and did all in their power to bring the supposed demented female to her senses. After recovery, she explained her strange conduct by saying that some 10 years ago her only daughter had left her, and nothing had been heard of her since. Thinking she recognized her in the person of the charming little lady rider, and her indignation overcoming her judgment, she "made for her" with the result as described. Some little confusion was occasioned by the incident, but the managers quickly restored order and the performance went on. Miss Watson, however, was considerably disturbed, mentally, and subsequently became a subject for medical treatment.—*Saginaw (Mich.) Courier.*

Inverted Soldiers.

A regiment quartered at a certain town in Scotland had among them an expert gymnast, who taught his brother subalterns how to walk across the barrack-room on their hands. While engaged one evening, the door opened, and the Colonel, a stern disciplinarian, entered the room, looked attentively at the inverted company, shook his head gravely, and departed without uttering a word. An order to be on parade next morning was the least punishment expected for this breach of discipline. Some days passed, however, and, no notice being taken, it was thought an apology and explanation should be offered by the prime instigator of these unsoldierly movements. A reference being made to the memorable night, the Colonel amazed the intended apologist by exclaiming:

"Hush, Sergeant. I would not have any body know it for the world! The fact is, I had been dining out with an old brother-officer who had served with me in India, and 'pon my life, I had no idea the wine could have had such an effect upon me, but, when I came to see if you were all right in your quarters, I could have sworn I saw you all upside down!"

The old Colonel was as ready as a diplomatist, and kindness was the consideration which caused him to attribute to himself the "upside down."

NEWS SUMMARY.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

Gen. Grant was banqueted at Liverpool by the town authorities on the 28th, and has been invited to visit Sheffield.

Union College, New York, has conferred the degree of LL. D. upon Vice-President Wheeler.

The Iowa Republican State Convention, by a decisive majority, voted to lay on the table a resolution endorsing the policy of the Administration.

In the assignment of West Point cadets to regiments, the War Department has ordered Lieut. Flipper, the first regular colored officer in the service, to the 9th Colored Cavalry regiment.

Secretary Cox, of the Interior Department, has been dubbed LL. D. by Yale College.

Commodore John R. Goldsborough died in Philadelphia on the 23d ult., aged 69. During the War he commanded the steamship Florida of the South Atlantic blockading squadron and the frigate Colorado of the West Gulf squadron.

The Presidential party visited Providence, R. I., on the 28th, and met with a grand reception from both State and city authorities.

Richard Wagner, the eminint musical composer, will visit this country the coming spring.

Eph. Holland, a well known sporting man, has been sentenced to 13 months in the Ohio Penitentiary for fraudulent practices at the last Ohio State election in Cincinnati.

Maj.-Gen. Wm. B. Hazen has been selected for the position of Military Attache to the American Legation at Vienna, for the purpose of observation of the military operations between the Turks and Russians.

The New Hampshire House has voted to lay upon the table a resolution indorsing the policy of President Hayes.

The President and family returned to Washington from their Eastern trip on the 30th.

An agent of President Diaz, of Mexico, has arrived in Washington, for the purpose of urging the recognition of the Diaz Government by the State Department.

General Grant announced his intention to leave England immediately after the 4th of July and go to Belgium, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden and Russia, in the order named, and on his return from Russia will spend some time in Paris.

Mrs. Marion Adams, sister of the late Mrs. President Andrew Jackson, died at the Hermitage, in Tennessee, on the 28th ult., at the age of 75 years.

Lieut. Catsby Jones, formerly of the United States Navy and of the Confederate ram Merrimac, was killed in a street encounter at Selma, Ala.

Lieutenant Fleming, of the 12th Infantry, convicted of appropriating funds intrusted to him by inmates of the prison at Alcatraz, Cal., has been sentenced to dismissal from the service and confinement at hard labor for three years in the Iowa Penitentiary.

A Washington dispatch of the 3d says that Secretary Evarts submitted to the Cabinet the order of Diaz to Gen. Trevino, instructing him to resist with force of arms the invasion of Mexican soil by United States troops, etc. The Mexican order was briefly discussed, but no action taken. It is stated that there is no indication that Gen. Mata, Diaz's representative, will be at present recognized as Minister from Mexico, or that there will be any change in the policy of the Administration respecting the order to Gen. Ord authorizing the pursuit of marauders on American soil into Mexican territory.

Ex-Secretary Robeson was tendered a public dinner by his friends in Trenton, N. J., on the 2d, at which Hon. Jas. G. Blaine participated. Both gentlemen made speeches eulogizing in high terms President Grant's Administration.

The funeral of the late Bishop M. de St. Palais took place at Vincennes, Ind., on the 3d, with imposing ceremonies.

Secretary Sherman visited Norfolk, Va., on the 3d, and was banqueted by a committee of citizens.

The commission to investigate the charges against Senator Grover, of Oregon, of using money for the purpose of securing his election to the United States Senate, convened at Portland on the 2d and commenced to take evidence.

Gen. Grant received a large deputation of workingmen in London on the 3rd and attended a reception at the American Legation on the Fourth of July.

Hon. James G. Blaine made a Fourth-of-July speech at Woodstock, Conn., in which he took strong ground against the annexation of Mexican territory, as tending to give the South the supremacy again in National politics.

The great Pan-Presbyterian Council convened at Edinburgh, Scotland, on the 3d.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

A convention was held at St. Louis on the 27th and 28th, to take the preliminary steps for building a narrow-gauge railroad from St. Louis through Missouri and Kansas to Colorado. Delegates were present from nearly every county interested in the building of the proposed road. The location of route, together with other details, was placed in the hands of an executive committee of 25 members, of which Hon. Erastus Wells, of St. Louis, was chosen President.

An official examination of the affairs of the old Charter Oak Life Insurance Company, of Hartford, Conn., shows a deficit of over $2,220,000 in the company's assets, with questionable assets amounting to over $1,-755,000. The Hartford *Courant* cautions policy-holders "not to be frightened into surrendering policies or neglecting payments," as their interests will be protected as far as possible by the State authorities.

A reduction of 10 per cent. in the wages of all employees of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway was made on the 1st, by order of President Vanderbilt.

The New York *Tribune* compositors struck in a body on the 26th, without previous notice, on account of a proposed reduction of wages and some changes in the rules of the Typographical Union. Their places were supplied by non-union men, and the *Tribune* announces its intention not to take back the strikers under any circumstances.

By direction of the Secretary of War, a Board of Engineers, to consist of Col. J. H. Simpson, Major C. R. Suter and Capt. W. H. H. Benyiard, has been ordered to assemble at Vicksburg, Miss., July 17, to examine and report upon the most advisable means of preserving the water-front of Vicksburg, and of arresting the danger which appears to be apprehended from a cut-off opposite that city.

Mr. John W. Clapp, Secretary of the Chicago Life Insurance Company, is missing, together with all the available cash assets of the company.

The public debt statement for July 1 shows a decrease during the preceding month of $8,216,119; currency, $1,980,274; special fund for redemption of fractional currency, $1,-905,215; special deposit of legal tenders for redemption of certificates of deposit, $34,-980,000; coin, $114,122,473, including coin certificates, $41,571,600; outstanding legal tenders, $339,704,522.

A San Diego dispatch says that in Southern California the wheat crop is almost a total failure; not enough to seed the ground the coming year. In the northern part of the State the crop is fair, but the total crop will not be sufficient to supply the wants of the State.

The Secretary of the Navy has issued a general order fixing 10 hours as a day's work at the various navy yards and other mechanical departments of the navy. Workmen who elect to work only eight hours per day will sustain a proportionate reduction of wages.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

John Gertner, a saloon-keeper of Cincinnati, on the 27th, shot and killed his wife and then made an ineffectual attempt to take his own life. Jealousy was the cause.

Near Mount Vernon, Ky., on the night of the 30th ult., a party of about 100 men attacked the house of James Bethurman, a noted desperado. Bethurman would not surrender, and, firing upon the attacking party with a shot-gun, killed Charles Barton. Though some 50 shots were fired at him, Bethurman escaped. The same party then went to the Mount Vernon Jail and took therefrom James Smith, Andrew Cummings, Kink Kirk, and J. O. Gibbs, all charged with robbery. They were taken about a mile from town and all four hanged.

A farm-house near Stirlingville, N. Y., occupied by a family named Patterson, to which a tramp was refused admittance, was burned the same night, and a child perished in the flames. The remaining members of the family narrowly escaped.

By the bursting of the steam pipe of the Mississippi steamer Red Wing, near Dallas, Ill., on the 29th, three persons were fatally injured and several others more or less seriously.

Col. J. O. Martin, Secretary of the Masonic State Mutual Benefit Insurance Association of Indiana, committed suicide on the 2d by stabbing himself with a knife.

The following fatalities are reported from the effects of the tornado on the night of the 26th ult.: At Waverly, Johnson County, Ind., the house of George Dressler was blown entirely away; his wife and two children killed outright; another child died on the following day; another was not expected to live, and Dressler himself was also badly injured. The house of James Armstrong, near Dressler's, was also blown down and two of his children killed. Near St. Paul, Ind., a number of barns and dwellings, also a church and school-house were entirely destroyed. Michael Mehreslich was killed, Mrs. Micker fatally injured, C. Juppenbatz injured internally, and John Lewis had his collar-bone broken. Near Richmond, Ind., a bridge was demolished by a falling tree, and W. J. Hyatt was killed and Charles Brown seriously injured while passing over in a buggy. The storm extended through Pennsylvania, where it also occasioned great damage.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The monument in honor of the defenders of Fort Moultrie in 1776, was unveiled at Charleston, S. C., on the 22d, the anniversary of the battle. The military display was very fine.

The Deadwood stage was again robbed of its treasure-boxes on the 27th, near Cheyenne River. The passengers were not molested. A force of 20 cavalrymen from Fort Laramie went in pursuit of the robbers.

A correspondent with Gen. Howard's expedition against the Nez-Perces Indians, in Idaho, sent the following dispatch, on the 27th ult., from Camas Prairie, the scene of the Indian massacre: We marched from Mount Idaho to this place Monday afternoon, a distance of 10 miles. Yesterday Gen. Howard made a reconnoissance in force, leaving a strong guard in camp. We proceeded to the scene of Col. Perry's late battle with the Indians, and found and buried 27 of the dead soldiers, which leaves six of the bodies yet to be found. Most of the bodies were scalped. The number of murders thus far ascertained are one woman, two children and 15 men, in addition to 35 soldiers of Col. Perry's command killed and missing in the late fight. Details of the murders are horrible in the extreme. There are several women at Mt. Idaho, wives of settlers, who narrowly escaped, or were rescued after suffering the most terrible outrages.

On the 29th ult. eight hundred Mennonites arrived at Philadelphia from Russia. They emigrated to escape conscription, and are destined for various points in Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri and Western Pennsylvania.

Another hurricane swept over a portion of the states of Illinois, Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania on the night of the 30th, doing great damage to buildings and other property.

The French Senate having consented to the dissolution of the Assembly by the expected majority, the decree of dissolution has been issued. The Government pledges itself to order a new election within three months. The Republican Central Committee advise their constituents to put up no candidates against any of the 363 who voted against the Government.

The annual boat-race between the Harvard and Yale College crews took place at Springfield, Mass., on the 30th. Harvard won by a boat's length.

The trial at Greenup, Ill., of the six persons arrested for complicity in the Long Point train robbery, ended in their acquittal by a verdict of not guilty.

WAR NEWS.

A dispatch from Erzeroum, 28th, says: The Russians were crossing the Danube last night near Sistova, not far from Yantra, assisted by islands between the banks. Terrible fighting is going on. The Turks are doing their utmost to resist the enemy. The bombardment of Rustchuk continues. All the troops of Gen. Zimmerman have crossed the Danube at Galatz. The Grand Duke Nicholas, at the head of the 8th Army Corps, crossed the Danube near Simnitza yesterday at daybreak, driving the Turks from their positions. Boats filled with troops continued to cross the river all yesterday. Nikopolis has been burned by bombardment.

A dispatch of the 29th said that a heavy battle was in progress at Byrgos, on the Danube, where the Turks were desperately resisting the crossing of the Russians.

Telegrams of the 30th from various points on the Danube give particulars of frightful bombardments along that river. At Rustchuk the German, French and Austrian Consulates were completely riddled by the Russian shells, as was also the military hospital. The Turkish bombardment of Giurgevo was equally derne, but apparently less destructive. The Czar has taken up his quarters at a farm-house near Turnu-Magurella. The headquarters of Grand Duke Nicholas have been transferred to Sistova. There are additional reports of Russian reverses in the vicinity of Batoum.

A St. Petersburg telegram of the 1st says: "A dispatch from the Czar announces that the Turks are retreating, and all Bulgaria except the quadrilateral may be considered in the hands of Russia." A Bucharest dispatch, same date, reports every thing quiet on the Danube for the preceding two days, except a few skirmishes around Sistova.

It was reported on the 2d that the Roumania forces were preparing to cross the Danube near Kalafat.

The Russian siege of Kars, according to dispatches of the 4th, was as good as terminated, by the defeat of the Russian field armies of the left and center and of the investing force before Batoum.

The St. Louis Narrow-gauge Railway Convention.

The Executive Committee appointed by the St. Louis Convention have made the following report and recommendation of routes:

The building of the St. Louis, Kansas and Colorado Narrow-gauge Railroad, commencing at the City of St. Louis; thence through the counties of St. Louis, Franklin, Gasconade, Osage and Maries to the Osage River; thence westwardly by the most practicable route through the States of Missouri, Kansas and Southern Colorado.

We also recommend the building of a narrow-gauge railroad, commencing at St. Louis, running through the counties of St. Louis, St. Charles, Warren, Montgomery and Callaway by way of Jefferson City through Kansas to Southern Colorado.

We also recommend the building of the St. Louis and Kansas Central Railway, to commence at Lebanon, Mo., and running through the coal fields of Barton County, Mo., and Crawford County Kas.; and also via Fort Scott, uniting in Fall River valley and running thence westwardly to Ellsworth and Beloit in the State of Kansas.

We also recommend the building of a narrow-gauge road from Kansas City to connect with the main line at the most practicable point.

We also recommend to the consideration of capitalists the construction of the Pierce City, Missouri and Fort Smith Narrow-gauge Railway from the most practicable point on the St. Louis, Kansas and Colorado Narrow-gauge through the counties of Cedar, Dade and Lawrence, in the State of Missouri, and through the counties of Benton and Washington to Fort Smith, Arkansas, and thence to Red River, in Texas, to connect with the Texas Narrow-gauge road at Marshall, Texas.

The committee further recommend that an immediate organization of companies be made of each line for the purposes of carrying out the objects of this convention.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the people of the differing counties through which the proposed lines of narrow-gauge road design to pass be requested to call a meeting of the people, and appoint a committee of one or more to collect and compile statistics of the acreage of land in cultivation, the amount of production of grain and stock, imports and exports, and of what kind, the number of population, taxable wealth, rate of taxation, amount of bonded indebtedness, and such other statistics as may be beneficial to the interest of the road, or for the interest of capitalists, where such information has not already been furnished; also, that said committees forward, as soon as may be possible, said report to the Chairman of this Convention.

Also the following:

Resolved, That a committee of five from St. Louis be appointed, of which Hon. Erastus Wells be one and the Chairman, to prepare an address setting forth the advantages of the narrow-gauge railroad system generally, and of the various proposed St. Louis lines; and to organize such companies as may be necessary to carry out the proposed lines of road.

The Chair (Mr. Wells) appointed Messrs. Giles F. Filley, L. C. Norvell, J. B. Maude and E. Morrison to co-operate with him on the committee.

Bank of England Notes.

Few persons who handle Bank of England notes ever think of the amount of labor and ingenuity that is expended on their production. These notes are made from pure white linen cuttings only, never from rags that have been worn. They have been manufactured for nearly 200 years at the same spot—Laverstoke, in Hampshire, and by the same family, the Portals, who are descended from some French Protestant refugees. So carefully is the paper prepared that even the number of dips into the pulp made by each workman is registered on a dial by machinery, and the sheets are carefully counted and booked to each person through whose hands they pass. The printing is done by a most curious process in Mr. Coe's department within the bank building. There is an elaborate arrangement for securing that no note shall be exactly like any other in existence. Consequently there never was a duplicate of a Bank of England note, except by forgery. According to the *City Press*, the stock of bank notes for seven years is about 34,000,000 in number, and they fill 18,000 boxes, which, if placed side by side, would reach three miles. The notes, placed in a pile, would be eight miles high; or, if joined end to end, would form a ribbon 15,000 miles long; their superficial extent is more than that of Hyde Park; their original value was over $15,000,000,000, and their weight over 112 tons.

A Bishop's Reminiscence.

At the examination of cadets at West Point recently there was a light-artillery drill, which is always a prime feature on those occasions. The rapidity with which the pieces were discharged excited the special admiration of General Maxey, an old graduate, and Bishop Quintard, who stood by his side. "Ah!" said the General, "I have seen that kind of drill under very different circumstances." "So have I," replied Bishop Quintard. "I saw some pretty hot work of that kind at the battle of Perryville. And it reminds me of a curious circumstance at that battle. I stood upon a mound between the Confederate artillery under command of Captain William W. Cairnes, on my right, and the Union guns, commanded by Colonel Charles C. Parsons, on my left. Afterward, when I became Bishop of Tennessee, the first person I confirmed was Captain Cairnes, and I ordained Colonel Parsons, who gave up the military life to become a priest of the Episcopal Church."

PITH AND POINT.

A WRITER says: "Time flies; we ne'er can bid it stay or hold it in our grasp." Come, now, we have often heard of people keeping late hours.

WHEN you read in the papers that a well known hotel at a summer resort has "enlarged its rooms for the coming season," you may infer that they have scraped the paper off the walls.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

A DANBURY man describes a church festival for raising money as an operation wherein one-half of the church buys berries for 15 cents a quart and sells them to the other half for a dollar.—*Danbury News.*

LITTLE boy—"Please, I want the doctor to come and see mother." Servant—"Doctor's out. Where do you come from?" Little boy—"What! Don't you know me? Why, we deal with you. We had a baby from here last week."—*London Fun.*

OUT in Oregon a man has to take out a license, which costs him $6 a year, permitting saloon keepers and others to sell him drinks. And when a man's wife takes away his license in the morning and hides it, he has to go dry as a bone all day.—*Hawkeye.*

WHEN Whittier went into ecstacies over the barefoot boy, he never stopped to think what a wild old cuss they had of it every night, trying to make the boy wash his feet before he crawled into the nice clean bed and drew war maps with his heels all over the sheets.—*Hawkeye.*

THERE is a precocious 6-year-old boy in Auburn, Me., who is wonderful on spelling and definition. The other day his teacher asked him to spell matrimony. "M-a-t-r-i-m-o-n-y," said the youngster, promptly. "Now define it," said the teacher. "Well," replied the boy, "I don't know exactly what it means, but I know mother's got enough of it."

A HEALTH magazine says: "If a well made man be extended on the ground, his arms at right angles with the body, a circle, making his navel the center, will just take in the head, the finger ends and feet." Now you will know what to do when you meet a stranger on the street, and wish to ascertain whether he is a well made man. But before you undertake to extend him on the ground, you'd better ask his permission. Some men are so queer, and take so little interest in scientific experiments, that it might prove very unhealthy to try the experiment without the man's consent.—*Norristown Herald.*

HOW THEY DO IT.

"Knew you e'er," said pratty Philip,
"That when maidens kissed I would lie,
Then with accents soft they softly
Lisp their words in language free?"

Back the answer came, a golden
Mine of wealth in every word,
"Yeth," the damsel gently murmured,
"Yeth, dear Philip, tho I've heard."

Pinned Right Down.

A grocer doing business on Michigan Grand Avenue was yesterday asked to trust a colored man one day for a quart of strawberries.

"Can't do it—you'd never pay," he replied.

"I'll pay de money afore 8 o'clock in de mawning," earnestly continued the colored man.

"Perhaps you might, but I don't believe it. If you have no money now, how will you have any then?"

"Don't ax me, boss; I'll have de cash, sush. Ize just perspiring to death for de want of strawberries."

"Does any one owe you?" asked the grocer.

"No, sah."

"Then, how do you expect to get any money?"

"Oh, de pay will be all right."

"I guess not. You'll have to try some one else."

"Boss, you hez pinned me right down to cold facts," said the customer. "I wants strawberries, an' dey hez got to come, an', therefore, let me say dat I wasn't going out to-night to steal chickens an' sell 'em to git money."

"Ah! you wasn't?"

"No, sah, 'cause I dun pulled 'em in last night, an' dey'll be sold to a butcher dis evening. Dat's de cold fact, mister, an' now wrap up dem strawberries, an' doan' abuse my confidence."—*Detroit Free Press.*

Joseph Seligman's Rise.

Mr. Joseph Seligman, the banker, is the lion of the hour, even that of the tribe of Judah. He is a man of great wealth, great liberality; entertains with marked hospitality; is a man of distinguished business talent, and of great probity. He is one of the Syndicate, Director in many banks, Vice-President of the Union League, and in religion is a radical, being a leading elder in Prof. Adler's congregation. His history, as told by those who knew him well, is an interesting one. He came from Germany, and landed on our docks all unknown and penniless. His first job was to carry a valise up the wharf. He invested the coin earned in some papers; out of the profits of his papers he purchased a small stock of goods, which he carried around in a tray. He established a route, sold articles at a fair price, and those who traded with him once traded with him again. The spirit of thrift, industry, integrity, which marked his earlier tradings, has followed him through life. He has acquired a great fortune, and is one of the most honored men in New York.—*New York Letter.*

RED CURRANT JELLY.—Strip the currants from the stalks, and put them in a preserving-kettle; mash them as they get hot, and let them boil well for ½ hour; then turn them into a coarse hair sieve, and let them drip into an earthen dish; when all through, without squeezing, weigh the liquid, a pint for a pound of sugar, and heat the sugar while the liquid boils for 10 minutes; then stir in the sugar, and the jelly will set as soon as the sugar is dissolved.

IT has been discovered in Paris that the little yellow marks upon certain brands of Havana cigars, which cause them to be greatly prized by smokers, are created by the sprinkling of acids.

As egg laid upon the deck plating of the monitor Monadnock, which is being rebuilt at Vallejo, California, was cooked hard without any artificial heat one day during the recent heated term.