FAIR PLAY.

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THE SCENT OF A FLOWER.

The scent of the flower is a wonderful thing!
It plays round the heart like the zephyrs of spring;
So subtle, so soft, so resistless its power,
No monarchy rules like the scent of a flower.

Some odors so blend with past happier years
They move us like melodies breathing through tears;
For they bring back the faces and forms that are cold,
And walks in the wild woods "not sunsets of gold.

A fragrance exhales from a flower that I know,
(Dear pledge of a love on the sweet long ago)
When hearts were more simple, and purer our pleasures,
And gifts of fresh blossoms were holiest treasures.

One eve, when the dew on the leaves glittered bright,
He proffered the prize with a tender "Good Night;"
And my spirit grew faint with ecstatic emotion
For I felt in that flower lay a life-long devotion.

He is gone—yet the scent of that delicate flower
Still holds me with all the old passionate power;
And oft my sick heart would lie down in despair
But that mercy divine ments my sorrow in prayer.

"Consider the lilies." Lord, grant us to be
By the field and the garden brought nearer to Thee;
To read in sweet blossoms Thy goodness and power,
And an infinite love in the scent of a flower.

—*The Quiver.*

SHIP OF THE DESERT.

What the Arab Calls the Most Useful of Beasts.

The Land of the Camel—His Speed and the Load He Carries His Powers of Endurance—In the Service of Warlike Sovereigns.

The camel, whose area of servitude extends over a wide range, embracing Arabia, India, Persia and the largest portion of Africa, unlike the rest of man's four-footed friends and servants, seems to be a total stranger to the pleasures of freedom. At what era men first enlisted the camel into their service it is impossible to guess, but that it was at a very early period is plain from the fact that 6,000 camels formed part of the wealth which the patient patriarch was awarded after his terrible trial. The Moors during their rule in Granada introduced the camel into Spain, but the East was always the real land of the camels, the peculiarities of the animal being especially adapted for the vast deserts for which that quarter of the globe is famous. To carry men and merchandise across the arid waste an animal was needed at once speedy, untiring, sure-footed and capable of subsisting where vegetation was scanty and water scarce; all these qualifications are combined in the camel. The pads of its spreading feet, divided into two toes without being externally separated, prevent its sinking in the sand, over which it moves so noiselessly that it has been poetically and appropriately termed "the ship of the desert." The callosities on the flexures of the limbs and chest, upon which the animal rests or kneels to receive its load, prevent the skin from cracking from contact with the hot sand. The nostrils, closing at will, exclude the burning grains when the simoon sweeps across the desert, while the peculiar contraction of the stomach enables the camel to go without water for several days. He is as easily satisfied in the way of eating, delighting in the tough plants he passes on his march, which his strong, nipper-like teeth enable him to masticate with comfort. These good qualities are not, however, unalloyed. The camel is liable to slip in sloppy places and disjoint his hips, bears cold and wet weather but ill, and has so little recuperative power that when fagged out he generally succumbs altogether and is left to the jackal and vulture. Even if he should recover he becomes a poor, weak object, piteous to behold, a burden to himself and of little use to his master.

How many days the camel can go without drinking has never perhaps been exactly ascertained; in fact, the power of endurance varies greatly in different individuals, but it has been stated on very good authority that the dromedary can subsist nine days without water, though exposed the whole time to a heat resembling that of a furnace. It is certain that when the camel does drink he always appears to be laying in a stock for a week or so, and has even been known to swallow seven gallons and a half at one time. This allows three quarts a day for ten days, which, though not sufficient properly to quench the thirst of so large an animal, may yet be able to keep him alive. Comparative anatomy, which has indulged in a legion of experiments on the structure of much inferior animals, has not extended a proper degree of attention to the camel. It has, no doubt, been ascertained that this extraordinary creature possesses one stomach more than other mammalia, but curiosity has not been sufficiently busy with that immense bladder, streaked with sanguine veins, which the animal sometimes blows out of its mouth in spring. In strings of thirty or forty I have noticed, during the greatest heat of the day, a majority amusing themselves after this fashion. On such occasions they will raise their heads, look around wildly and then, with a strange, offensive noise, draw up the bag from their throats and blow it out inflated to its fullest extent, as if to cool it by the touch of the external air. In a few minutes they would suffer it to collapse and suck it back with a ruckling noise into their throats. Is not this bag intended to contain, in addition to the fifth stomach, a supply of fresh water? And is it not in this that travelers, when compelled to kill their dromedaries to preserve their own lives in the Sahara, find the pure transparent fluid spoken of on such occasions?

It is during a sandstorm, or on the approach of the simoon, that the camel displays the most striking proofs of sagacity. Before the human eye can detect the swiftly approaching column of yellow or lurid gas which instantly strikes dead all creatures that breathe it, the camel discerns the danger and, uttering a wild roar, turns round and plunges his nose into the sand. The traveler also, who springs instantly to the earth, presses his face against the face of the desert, tightly closes his lips and protects his nostrils with both hands. What signs of suffering or agitation the poor dromedary exhibits, the traveler is too much terrified to observe, but he himself experiences throughout his frame, first a quivering, shooting pain, then a numbness and paralysis of all the limbs and vital functions, which prolonged for many seconds would be death. But the mysterious vapor which comes almost like lightning, in the same manner departs. In many cases the sudden death of the beast and his rider reveals the fatal power of the simoon; but when they escape with life the process of reviving from the stroke resembles that experienced by patients after a long illness—languor, feebleness, prostration of the whole system, giddiness of the head, dimness of sight, a partial loss of memory and a bewildering of ideas. Foreigners flee to brandy as a remedy, the Arabs to coffee, while the camel, kneeling as if under a heavy burden, groans, grunts and looks ruefully about upon the waste.

The amble of the camel—a curious amalgamation of rolling and pitching simultaneously executed—would scarcely be extolled by any one accustomed to the pleasant canter of a good horse, but it has its advantages. The rider may sit sideways, backwards or in the orthodox fashion, with his feet in or out of the stirrups, he may let his legs dangle carelessly or sit cross-legged, after the manner of Turks and tailors, without any fear of his seat or equanimity being disturbed by the sure-footed beast stumbling, kicking, shying or bolting. A habit rather perplexing to the inexperienced camel rider is the animal's propensity for snatching at dwarf acacias and other vegetable delicacies as he wanders along. But these slight drawbacks are fully compensated by the measured regularity with which he moves, while the elevation enables the traveler to see all that is to be seen, and gives him the benefit of every welcome breeze that blows. The riding gear of the dromedary consists of a large double pad of goats' hair cloth, stuffed with grass or straw. This is thrown over the back of the animal. A wooden frame of flat sticks united into a pair of conical pommels six or eight feet high is placed on the pad, into which it settles itself comfortably, the hump of the camel forming the center of the apparatus and keeping everything in its proper place. Across this gigantic saddle the saddle bags are thrown, and the whole covered with carpets and cushions, until a sort of pyramid is formed, upon the apex of which the traveler is perched, his water bottles, carpet bags and other paraphernalia swinging below. The harness is completed by a halter of goat and camel hair twisted together passing around the beast's nose like our common stable halter.

The average speed of the ordinary caravan camels, which are seldom less than ten hours and sometimes twenty-four hours continuously on the march, is about two miles per hour, but the mahherie, or dromedary, can accomplish a much swifter rate of progression, being able to travel seventy miles a day for two or three days successively. Laborde went from Alexandria to Cairo (one hundred and fifty miles) in thirty-four hours, and mails have been carried between Bagdad and Damascus in seven days, at the rate of sixty-nine miles per diem. Still greater celerity was attained by Mehemet Ali, when he wished to communicate from Cairo with Ibrahim Pasha at Antioch. By adopting the system of relays the distance of five hundred and sixty miles was traversed in the short space of five days and a half.

The camel not being himself sociable is averse to encouraging sociability in others. It is only after much toil and a vigorous application of the whip that this stubborn animal can be made to move in line with individuals of his own species, though both in India and Africa the enterprise has been accomplished—in the former country by the creation of camel trains, in the latter by accustoming the dromedary to military evolutions, to charge and retreat in compact bodies, and otherwise to imitate all the movements of cavalry. But your trading camel having acquired different habits far exceeds a mule in obstinacy when you attempt to break through them. He will then oppose to your will a passive resistance utterly unconquerable; will lie down if he thinks you have put too much on his back, and refuse to rise though you should beat him to death. To show that this is often a mere crotchet, the Arabs remove two or three small packets from the load, upon which the animal, no doubt with an inward chuckle of satisfaction at having gained the victory, gives a loud grunt and rises without perceiving that during the operation the packages have been restored. As, however, he believes his load to have been lightened he trudges along merrily, if so sullen a beast can ever be said to be merry. But though serious and gloomy, this patient creature must not be supposed to be entirely without sentiment. When kindly treated, when patted on the shoulder, when gently spoken to, but more especially when treated to a song, the dromedary will exhibit strong signs of pleasure in his prominent eye, will turn round his long snake-like neck, look at you steadfastly, as if to express his thanks, and then gaze forth upon the outspread desert more proudly than before.

The load for a camel in India is fixed by the Government at 330 pounds; in Arabia it varies from 300 to 400 pounds; in Persia from 500 to 600 pounds; in Egypt it averages 800 pounds, while, according to Tavernier, the Turcoman camels will carry as much as 1,500 pounds weight. Where the road is tolerably good the burden camels of a caravan are tied to each other, the noose rope of one being fastened to the the tail of another, and so they march on, three to ten in a string, in single file, and such creatures of routine are they that a camel will refuse to proceed if the camel before him is changed for another. In Egypt caravans move abreast, and one of fifty camels will show a front for a mile in extent. The pilgrim caravan pursues its route principally during the night, lighted on its way with torches. It has been shorn of much of its splendor in modern times. Bagdad's celebrated ruler performed the pilgrimage to the Prophet's shrine no less than nine times, with a caravan of 120,000 camels, 900 of that enormous number being employed in carrying Haroun's wardrobe. The Sultan of Egypt was accompanied by 500 camels laden with sweetmeats, and 280 bearing pomegranates and other fruits. Every year the Sultan of Turkey sends a mahmal—a beautiful covering for the shrine of Mohammed—to Mecca. The camel honored by being chosen for carpet bearer is magnificently adorned with ribbons, lace, feathers and imitative gems. When Hassel quist saw the procession start from Cairo in 1750 this favored beast carried a pyramidal pavilion six feet high, covered with green silk, under which the mahmal was supposed to lie; but, like other great officials, the carpet camel did his work by deputy, the precious gift being actually carried by some of his less fortunate brethren. As a reward for "not doing it," the mahmal camel becomes exempt from all labor for the rest of his life, which is passed in a lodging provided for his special use, and he has servants to wait upon him, and due provision made for his sustenance.

The camel has served other purposes than those of commerce and religion: he has been pressed into the service of warlike sovereigns, and employed not only to carry the luggage of their armies, but to draw scythed chariots and to carry bowmen and swordsmen. The legions of Xerxes suffered by their camels being carried away by lions in the night, and Cyrus defeated Croesus by craftily taking advantage of the antipathy the horse bears to the camel. He mounted some of his soldiers on camels, and ordered them to charge the famous Lydian light horse. The chargers of the latter, rendered ungovernable by fear, fled from the field, and with them the hopes of the wealthiest of monarchs. The time is possibly not far distant when the camel will be superseded by the great iron horse; but as long as the Arab finds in him a useful servant, meat, drink, clothing and fuel, we need not wonder at the faith of the true believer, who expects to find a white-winged camel awaiting him as he steps out of his sepulchre to convey his soul to paradise.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

A CLERICAL ERROR.

The Very Natural Mistakes Made by a Philanthropist.

"Say, sonny," said the philanthropist, as he looked down at the more mite of a newsboy in Park Row, "do your parents or any one help you to exist?"

"Not much," quoth the mite; "the ole man's doin' a stretch up the river and the ole woman's on the bum most o' the time."

"Does any institution house or feed you?"

"You bet your sweet life they don't."

"Pray how do you live?"

"O, I plug along on my own account. I'm pooty fly, and it takes a live chicken to do me up."

"My, my! So precocious!" marveled the philanthropist, "how want matures the faculties!" and he said: "Sonny, how do you pass the day?"

"O, I've got a shine route in the mornin', and just as soon as I work it off I tumble in on Fatty's for 'a plate' to grease the inside works. Next I clap on steam and pike along to get a lot o' *Tellys* 'fore many o' the Dogges or Guineas around the row git their work in. Then I tackle Oliver for beef and, sneak up the Bowery and catch the swell blokes that the show don't fit for an admission. Afterward me and some other ducks amuse ourselves with suckers we pick up. Catch on, Cully?"

"What strange precocity!" said the philanthropist, and went off and wrote an account of the effect of poverty in maturing the intellect of a youth aged five years.

Next day he saw the mite again and thought he would make everything sure.

"Sonny," he asked, "how old are you?" and wondered if he hadn't overshot the mark.

"Goin' on fifteen, ole buck," said the mite. And the philanthropist went home and burned the narrative.—*N. Y. Herald.*

PNEUMATIC TUBES.

A Plan for the Transmission of Mails on the Pneumatic Process.

A plan for the transmission of mails between Paris and London by the pneumatic process, devised by a M. Berlin, is exciting considerable interest. The following are a few particulars of the scheme: The pneumatic tubes or subway would be laid down alongside the existing railways for convenience sake. The total distance between the two capitals is 475 kilometres, viz.: Paris to Calais (rail), 297 kilometres; Calais to Dover (Channel) 39 kilometres; and Dover to London (rail), 139 kilometres. The pneumatic subway would be constructed of cast-iron pipes of thirty-nine centimetres in diameter and four metres in length, connected by means of India-rubber points. This arrangement has the effect of giving great flexibility and elasticity to the whole, and of making it water-tight besides. The carriage suggested is composed of a wire frame covered by a sheet of asbestos cloth with a metallic warp. This covering would have a kind of metallic brush coating, to enable the compressed air to dilate to a certain extent around the truck and cool the latter, thus counteracting the heat produced by the friction. A truck would travel the distance between the two capitals in one hour, and one could be dispatched every ten minutes. An engine of from twenty-eight to thirty horse-power would be sufficient. —*N. Y. Post.*

—British Columbia is realizing the benefits of its excellent harbors and magnificent forests. Two milling companies with an aggregate production of 55,000,000 feet of lumber, are now cutting exclusively for the export trade. They ship to China, Australia, Sandwich Islands, and even to England.

WAIL OF THE REMOVED.

For twenty years and more I've been a postmaster in Maine;
I've led a free and easy life and got both large and short,
I've lived on pie and cake and beans—and now, in language plain,
I say I think it's mighty mean that Cleveland's put me out.

Indeed! I had a sinecure; the office ne'er I oped
Until a little distance off I heard the coming train,
And from the office to my home I always saunty stroled,
When the mail had been delivered to the maidens sweet and plain.

I never did a bit of work; I used to lie around
And listen to the gossip of the matrons at the door;
My offspring took the mail bag to the station with a bound,
And mother, Isabella, read the "postals" over and o'er.

And now I think I'll have to go a living for to earn—
I'll have to work from sunrise till the twilight softly falls
And my dinner I shall carry in a little polished urn
And I'll labor in a check shirt and a pair of overalls.

I shall soon be fair and slender, for my fat will melt away,
And look like no great statesman with a rosy tinted cow;
In fact, I'll grow so slender that I soon shall see the day
When I'll be small enough to wear my little Andy's clothes.

No more I'll grab the mail-bag as it comes upon the fly,
No more I'll have to stand around and lick the postage stamps;
In my old arm chair, a dozing like a tom-cat, shortly I
Shall see one of those underhanded Democratic tramps. —*Puck.*

IMPORTUNATE SPOILSMEN.

Not Posted or Making False Statements Knowingly.

The Republican organs are endeavoring to give the impression that the rush on Washington by the Democratic office-seekers is quite unprecedented. They are simply not posted or are making false statements knowingly. Lincoln and his Cabinet, it is said, were so bored and badgered that they hardly had time to eat and sleep, and Mr. Lincoln, oppressed with the feeling that the country was on the verge of dissolution, tearfully exclaimed: "I seem to be sitting in one end of a great temple, importuned to let apartments, while the temple is fiercely burning at the other end." It took the battle of Bull Run, with its train of disasters, to drive these hungry hordes of Northern Republicans out of Washington back to their homes. When they thought the rebels were advancing upon the city from the South this gang of office-beggars made a masterly advance due North, where there were none to molest nor make them afraid. It was Republican office-seekers that cut poor Garfield his life, and a Republican office-seeker who committed the bloody deed. Grant was nearly worried to death by the same old crowd that nearly drove Mr. Lincoln into the Potomac or a lunatic asylum, and poor Hayes stood aghast when the crowd came who by lying, fraud, perjury and various kinds of rascality had finally forced him into the Presidency. Colonel McClure, of the Philadelphia *Times*, is good authority on this point, and he says: "Any who can recall the Republican revolution of 1861 must justly appreciate the exaggerated pictures drawn by discomfitted organs. The rush for office now exhibited in Washington does not approach the Republican rush for place in 1861. Even when civil war was raging, the city, the Departments, and every available nook and corner of Washington, were filled with the most importunate spoils-men."

The clamor at that time made by the Republicans was unutterably disgraceful. If an officeholder was a Democrat he had to get out. Colonel McClure concludes as follows: "Of the many more than 100,000 Federal placemen all are of one political faith, and most of them holding place as a reward for active partisan efforts. There are a few exceptions but the Democrats in Federal place in any community are like angels' visits, few and far between. Now they have triumphed over the party that has relentlessly proscribed them, and as Democratic and Republican human nature are about the same in quality, the Democrats will clamor for the spoils, but they must far surpass any demonstration of placemen yet made to equal the crush of the importunate placemen of 1861."—*Indiana State Sentinel.*

A REPUBLICAN KICKER.

The Chicago Pension Agent—A Greedy and Selfish Female.

Miss Ada Sweet, the Pension Agent at Chicago, has a temper which belies her name. Having received a message from General Black, in which she was politely requested to send in her resignation at the close of the fiscal year, this "pert, chipper and sassy" damsel proceeds to insult the Commissioner and to send a whining letter to the President, eulogizing her services, and in effect begging that she may hold on longer. General Black's request was a reasonable and proper one, and it was not necessary that he should state his reasons for asking for Miss Sweet's resignation. While it is conceded that her management of the office itself, so far as its routine business is concerned, is good, the office has been used by the leading Republican politicians of Illinois as a political machine. It is said that Miss Sweet, in return for the powerful influences which have kept her in the place, has yielded to them the control of the patronage of her place. Whether this is, or is not, true, there is good reason for making a change in the office. Miss Sweet has held it for more than eleven years, during which time she has drawn in salary and perquisites over $100,000. It now, it is a settled custom to give this office to the widow or daughter of a Union veteran, it is high time that Miss Sweet should step down and give another a chance. General Black desires that the widow of the gallant Colonel Mulligan shall be appointed, and we hope his wishes will prevail. It was this woman's husband whose famous reply to a Confederate demand that he surrender the post of Lexington, Mo., is still well remembered. The country has long known how hard it is for a Republican of the male sex to give up an office, but it had not expected that the females of the organization would be even more greedy and selfish.

NON-FORFEITABLE BONDS.

A Bit of Advice to a Defeated Presidential Candidate.

"Mr. Cleveland's administration is under bonds, like his party," says Mr. Blaine, in the New York *Tribune*. Yes, bonds of union with the people's interests, which it has cheerfully assumed and which it has not the slightest intention of breaking; bonds of friendship with every measure that tends to promote the public weal, and bonds of confidence with the Nation which gives it such unstinted support and encouragement. The American people knew too well the flimsy nature of the bonds Mr. Blaine was willing to furnish in order to get into the White House, and they preferred the more substantial guarantees offered by Mr. Cleveland. The correctness of their judgment has been proved already, although the administration they chose is scarcely more than a week old. Economy has taken the place of wilful waste of the people's money, and although Mr. Blaine affects to sneer at the good work in this direction which has been inaugurated at the White House, it has received general commendation and hearty indorsement. Economy, in Mr. Blaine's creed, is nothing but "political chap-trap, or a device to escape the provisions of the Civil Service act." While he may be excused for his ignorance of something so foreign to his notions of the administration of public affairs as economy, he should not insult the intelligence of the people by sneering at it and giving it a false interpretation. One would conclude from his ill-natured flings in the *Tribune* of every appointment made by the President or his Cabinet that Mr. Blaine has made up his mind not to be pleased with the new Administration. This is to be regretted solely on his own account, as he must be prepared to be unhappy for a very long time, in fact, for the period of his natural life. The people will not be inclined to change from a Democratic Administration, having found it so admirably suited to them. He can get along without a crowd of hangers-on in sinecure positions, and how every one in the public service should be expected to earn his salary by honest work. His way would have been so different had he the handling of the people's money. No reduction of clerical force for him; no regard for the National treasury as a sacred trust. Hence his incessant fire of objections in the columns of the *Tribune*. As his friend Burchard has just been retired with the soothing title of pastor emeritus, can not Mr. Blaine be induced to remain in the obscurity assigned him by the Nation under the appropriate designation of scold emeritus? We have gently reminded him several times that this is Mr. Cleveland's administration, not his. But he will insist upon flinging himself every day into the columns of the *Tribune*. It is a sad sight, especially as there is no padded cell in politics to prevent a defeated candidate from doing himself grievous injury.—*Albany Argus.*

CIVIL-SERVICE REFORM.

A Few Forcible Remarks upon a Much-Mooted Subject.

That there is a crying need for Civil-Service reform none but the blindest spoilsmen will deny. Not mere party loyalty, but faithfulness and capability are in demand in every branch of the Government. The purpose of the civil service is to serve not a party, but the people without regard to party. But while this is true, indeed, because it is true, it should be known that Civil-Service reform does not mean the retention in office of officials who simply happen to be in office at the time of a change of Administration. For the retention of a horde of partisan Republicans, who were given public offices without regard to their special fitness for the discharge of the duties with which they were intrusted, would be a gross violation of the first principle of Civil-Service reform efficiency. In the South, in particular, has efficiency been notoriously disregarded, and the Federal offices throughout this region are filled to-day by an army of appointees who, with rare exceptions—exceptions so rare that they can hardly affect the just judgment that must be passed upon the whole body—are unfit to bear the responsibilities of public office. To think of keeping these men in place for no other reason than because they happen to be in place would be to give real civil-service reform a stunning blow from which it would be unable in many years to recover. Such a policy would not only be fatal to the success and the usefulness of the Administration, but it would effectually discourage thousands of honest and earnest supporters of reform. If years of steady and persistant efforts to rid the South of the heavy and injurious burden of an office-holding class composed of inefficient partisans were to be negatived by the perpetuation of the power of an element so offensive to the general public as the present Federal office-holders in every Southern State, the effect of such unjust and unreasonable action would be to paralyze the patriotic energies of hundreds of thousands of our citizens, and to dash to the ground the long-sustained hopes of purer and more creditable government. To outrage in this manner the popular will and to commit the act under the cloak of civil-service reform would be to make the very name of reform "a by-word and a reproaching." But we feel sure from what we have seen and heard of the character of the President that his strong common sense will forcibly show itself in all his public acts, and in none more than in those involving questions of Civil-Service Reform.—*Richmond (Va.) State.*

—In the town of Warwick, in Rhode Island, is a boulder so poised on another rock that a person standing on it can rock it from side to side. When it is rocked a dull booming sound is given out which can be heard for miles over the country on a still night. A legend says that in this manner the Indians were accustomed to summon their warriors to council at this place.—*Hartford Post.*

TENURE-OF-OFFICE LAWS.

The Acts of 1820, 1867 and 1869—The Text of the Laws Regulating Removals.

The general interest felt in the Federal offices of the country will attract much interest to the statutes regulating removals. In order that they may be generally understood, we subjoin the texts of the laws on the subject.

By the act of May 15, 1820, "all District Attorneys, Collectors of Customs, naval officers and Surveyors of the Customs, navy agents, receivers of public moneys for lands, Registers of the Land Offices, paymasters in the army, the Apothecary General, the Assistant Apothecaries General and the Commissary General of purchases shall be appointed for the term of four years, but shall be removable from office at pleasure."

By the third section of the act to regulate the tenure of certain civil offices, passed March 2, 1867, as amended by the third section of the supplementary act of April 5, 1869, it is provided "that the President shall have power to fill all vacancies which may happen during the recess of the Senate, by reason of death, resignation or expiration of term of office, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of the next session thereafter, and if no appointment by the advice and consent of the Senate shall be made to such office so vacant, or temporarily filled as aforesaid, during such next session of the Senate, such office shall remain in abeyance without any salary, fees or emoluments attached thereto until the same shall be filled by appointment thereto by and with the consent of the Senate, and during such time all the powers and duties belonging to such office shall be exercised by such other officer as may by law exercise such powers and duties in case of a vacancy in such office."

The first section of the act of April 5, 1869, (after repealing the first and second sections of the act of 1867) provides "That every person holding any civil office to which he has been or may be hereafter appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who shall have become duly qualified to act therein, shall be entitled to hold such office during the term for which he shall have been appointed, unless sooner removed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, or by the appointment with like advice and consent of a successor in his place, except as herein otherwise provided."

Another section of the act provides "That during any recess of the Senate the President is hereby empowered at his discretion to suspend any civil officer appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, except Judges of the United States courts, until the end of the next session of the Senate, and to designate some suitable person, subject to be removed at his discretion, to perform the duties of such superseded officer in the meantime; and such person so designated shall take the oaths and give the bonds required by law to be taken and given by the suspended officer, and shall during the time he performs his duties be entitled to the salary and emoluments of such office, no part of which shall belong to the officer superseded; and it shall be the duty of the President within thirty days after the commencement of each session of the Senate, except for any office which in his opinion ought not to be filled, to nominate persons to fill all vacancies in office which existed at the meeting of the Senate, whether temporarily filled or not, and also in the place of all officers suspended; and if the Senate, during such session, shall refuse to advise and consent to an appointment in the place of any suspended officer, then, and not otherwise, the President shall nominate another person as soon as practicable to said session of the Senate for said office."

By the sixty-third section of the act to revise and consolidate the laws relating to the Postoffice Department passed June 8, 1872, it is provided "That Postmasters of the fourth and fifth classes shall be appointed and may be removed by the Postmaster General and all others shall be appointed and may be removed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall hold their offices for four years, unless sooner removed or suspended according to law. All appointments and removals shall be notified to the Sixth Auditor."

DISGUSTED.

The Michigan Man Who Asked No Favors of the Legislature.

Some twelve or fourteen years ago a queerly-dressed, eccentric-acting individual appeared at Lansing during the session of the Legislature and asked various members to introduce a bill to enable him to build a dam on Wolf River, somewhere in the northern counties. The matter was allowed to go in default, and at the next session the old man showed up again. This time a bill was introduced, but before it came up he got tired and went home. When a third session opened he was on hand, but only to be tired out again by delays. Last fall a Detroiter, who was a member of the House and remembered the case, met the old man up the lake shore and said to him:

"I shall go to the Legislature again this year, and you come to me with your bill and I'll push it for you."

"Thank ye, but it's no use," replied the old man.

"Don't you want the dam?"

"Fact is, I built the dam before I asked permission of the law."

"Well, you'd better have things in legal shape."

"No use. Durin' the first session the dam went with a freshet. During the second, the mill went on a mortgage. During the third, Wolf River dried up until it wouldn't turn a pin-wheel, and I want the Legislature of Michigan to understand that I'm a free-born American citizen and ask no favors of anybody!"—*Detroit Free Press.*

—The widest shaving ever made by a woodworking machine is on exhibition in a store in Winchendon, Mass. It is forty-two inches wide, several feet long and of uniform thickness.—*Boston Post.*

A FAST MAIL.

The Experience of an Austin (Tex.) Gentleman in Posting a Letter.

Colonel Yerger, of Austin, had just finished writing a letter. It was very important that it should go off by the next mail, so he rang the bell, and upon the colored servant, Matilda, appearing, he handed her the letter, saying:

"Take this letter to the letter box on the corner as fast as you can. It is very important."

Matilda, the colored girl, went out with the letter, and meeting the coachman, handed it to him, remarking:

"Colonel wants you take dis letter to de letter box."

The coachman started out with the letter. He happened to see a friend passing, and it occurred to him that he might save himself the trouble, so he handed his friend the letter, requesting him to post it without delay, as it was very important. That night the coachman's friend, just before retiring, made the discovery that he had forgotten to post the letter, so he gave it to one of the boys at the stable, enjoining him to put it in the letter box early next morning.

The stable boy was about to comply with the request next morning, when a baker, with whom he was acquainted, happened to drive past in his cart.

"Hello! Tom," exclaimed the stable boy, "you take this letter and drop it in the letter box and save me the trouble."

Among the customers of the baker boy was Colonel Yerger himself. Just as the baker boy drove up to the Yerger mansion, Matilda, to whom the letter had been originally given, was just going out of the gate on her way to market. The baker boy handed her the letter with the request to shove it in the letter box. But just at that moment Mrs. Yerger happened to open the door and saw the boy hand her servant a letter.

"I will have no such going-on as that in this house," exclaimed Mrs. Yerger, and she seized the letter from Matilda's hand and running into the house, exclaimed, in an excited voice to Colonel Yerger:

"It is not safe to have that Matilda about the house any longer. Here she is getting letters on the sly."

She handed the letter to Colonel Yerger, who recoiled in astonishment when he perceived the identical letter he had written and addressed the night before. Uttering an exclamation too profane to print in a family paper, Colonel Yerger violently forced himself into his coat, remarking:

"Now I will post that letter myself, and then I will know it is done."—*Texas Siftings.*

A SOCIAL TYPE.

The Unmannerly Pig of the Boarding House.

A person frequently met with at the seaside is the boarding-house pig. The breakfast bell has hardly sounded when you see him scuttling down the stairs, pushing and jostling every one; when you reach the room he is already seated, he has gathered two or three eggs, some bacon and sundry and divers other articles around his plate, but still he is not happy; he watches the door with breathless interest—there are always one or two delicious little dishes brought in delightfully hot at the last moment; perhaps it is kidneys, perhaps eggs and mushrooms; anyway the pig wants them.

The waiter and dish appear—the pig gets wonderfully agitated; the waiter comes nearer and nearer—the pig watches him eagerly and calls his name; the coveted dish is put down two or three persons away from him; he sighs and leans forward.

"Mr. Grey," he says, "may I trouble you for those kidneys? For I am," smiling, "particularly partial to them, so if you would be so kind."

Mr. Grey, perhaps, replies that others nearer to him are also partial to them, and the dish is cleared before the pig's face, the blood surges up into his head, and his eyes grow watery with vexation. He falls to on his eggs, etc., still keeping a sharp lookout at the door, when the next dish appears he starts up, leaves his seat, relieves the waiter of his burden and returns to his place triumphant. He invariably eats with surprising rapidity, tucks the end of his *serviette* as a rule into the top buttonhole of his waistcoat, and pushes his plates into the middle of the table as he finishes with them. The other visitors hate and circumvent him on every possible occasion; the waiters loathe him; but for all that, by his own untiring exertions, the tidbits generally find their way to his plate.—*Temple's Magazine.*

A Lofty Pyramid.

Fresh proofs are reported to have been discovered of the existence of an ancient civilization in Mexico. In Sonora, about sixty miles southeast of the town of Madeline, some explorers have found in the heart of the virgin forest a pyramid which is 4,350 feet around in the base and 750 feet high—that is to say, nearly double the size of the great pyramid of Cheops. From the base to the summit there is a roadway on which vehicles can travel round the vast erection in a spiral. The outside walls are built of granite blocks carefully leveled and bedded. A little further off is a hillock, with hundreds of caverns and chambers cut in it, from five to fifteen feet wide and ten to fifteen feet long. They have no windows, and are entered by the roof. The walls are covered with hieroglyphics and curious pictures with the feet and hands of men. Stone utensils have also been found there. Who the builders of these ancient monuments were is still unsettled, but, according to *El Liberal*, they probably belonged to Mayos, who formerly inhabited Sonora, and were a different race from the Indians, having blue eyes, a white skin, and blonde hair.—*Rebolo's Sunday Herald.*

—A grand old man said at the bar of the Supreme Court the other day that the life of a gentleman includes "not only good manners, but good morals, courtesy, kindness and honor and high-minded principles."—*N. O. Picayune.*