

THURSDAY, DEC. 6, 1900.

Many a man who gives up his money freely for foolish whims disputes the price of necessities.

When a man firmly believes himself above his neighbor's level he can afford to admit that the latter has a level head.

Now that the Prince of Wales is wearing eyeglasses, he may be able to see some of the things which have shocked his critics.

Holland is a place where primitive customs abound. Traditions are sacredly handed down and observed, and this veneration for ancient things has kept alive in the country what are known as court days.

The chilly experiences of gold-seekers in Alaska are hardly calculated to make one think of that country as a good field for agricultural enterprise.

The election bell fully reached its apex in the town of Oxford, Mass., where Ovide Villers, a member of the Republican town committee, made a wager with his daughter, the wife of a Democrat, John J. Toomey.

The pauperization of the famine sufferers as a result of the charity of the India government, which is always dreaded by the officials after such a visitation as the country has just experienced, has, to a large extent, been accomplished.

A Massachusetts physician recently gave an amusing illustration of the dread some people have of fresh air in their sleeping-rooms.

In the "banqueting hall" of the city chambers at Glasgow a celebrated painter has just completed a panel in "Mural decorating," giving the supposed origin of the legend.

Broomhall says that reports from Argentina are becoming more positive each day that the wheat crop is not doing well. There has, no doubt, been a danger this season in observers reckoning upon a repetition of the remarkable yield of December, 1899.

Victims of seasickness will be pleased that a league for the suppression of the evil has been formed in France. The society proposes to collect documents, to deal with scientific experiences and publish any matter likely to interest persons subject to seasickness.

The first lesson for a mule-trainer, says a writer in an agricultural journal, is to learn to govern himself.

The Union Traction company of Philadelphia promises to run open cars, one in five, all winter long, with no restriction as to smoking.

It is announced that Frank K. Sanders, to whom the trustees of Iowa college of Grinnell had tendered the office of president, has formally declined.

A dispatch from Vicksburg says: The Iowa commissioners to locate the positions occupied by troops from that state during the siege of Vicksburg, have completed their work.

Two men severely injured, two engines wrecked and several cars demolished is the result of a head on freight wreck on the Burlington at Freyer, First No. 77, Denver freight, and a work train collided in a deep cut on a curve.

Ed Warner and his hired man, Charles Hofeditz, were instantly killed at a crossing three miles east of Iowa City, by passenger train No. 1, pulled by engine No. 472.

The train was stopped and backed to the crossing, where the bodies of the two men were found about twenty feet from the track.

A skull and a few partially burned bones are all that are left of Peter Peters of Reinbeck, who started a few days ago in an emigrant car containing three horses, six cows and his household furniture from Reinbeck for Salem, S. D.

John Hossack was murdered at his home near Madora a few nights ago. The particulars are about as follows: Somewhere near 12 o'clock an assassin entered the house, and while Mr. Hossack and his wife were in bed, struck Hossack twice, once with the sharp edge of an axe, just above and back of the right ear, crushing the bone the first cut.

Whether a husband has a right to open his wife's letters and read them, and afterward destroy them without her having seen them, is a question that will be tested in the United States court.

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SPEEDY TEST TO BE MADE

Supreme Court to Pass on the Titus Amendment. Iowa City, Dec. 3.—Attorney General Milton Remley, Senator Titus and Attorney General-elect Mul-

It developed yesterday the chief point in the exchanges concerning China which have been going on during the last few days among the powers relates to the wisdom of delivering an ultimatum to China, using the expression "ultimatum" in the text of the demand to police the Chinese envoys, involving the possibility of resulting in a declaration of war against China in case the demands of the ultimatum are not complied with.

The case, as proposed, will be an earnest controversy and it is expected that both Remley and Mulvan will champion the cause of the one elected man who will make the test. Both of these men believe that the amendment should be construed according to the intent of the author.

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CONGRUITY WILL HOLD THE PLACE

No Danger That He Will Be Recalled. Washington, Nov. 29.—There is no truth to the story that Conger intends to return home. The department has given the matter an emphatic denial.

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CANAL RIGHTS ARE SECURED

Secretary Hay Gets Concessions From Government of Nicaragua. Washington, Dec. 3.—Secretary Hay, for the government of the United States, and Senator Correa, Nicaraguan minister, signed a treaty whereby the latter government concedes to the United States the necessary rights and privileges within her bestowal for the construction of the Nicaraguan canal.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Leading Features of the President's Communication to Congress. Washington, Dec. 4.—The following are the leading features of the message: INTRODUCTORY. Achievements of the nation in the century now closing reviewed.

Recent outbreaks ascribed to development of anti-foreign feeling in which the government shared. America's early attempt to ally the feeling.

Graphic description of the siege of Peking, quoting largely from report of Minister Conger. America's policy scrupulously adhered to during siege.

While this government is pacific it does not forego its right to demand adequate punishment of guilty parties. Hope is expressed for a speedy settlement through negotiations of the entire trouble, on the basis of the French proposals.

If other attempts at settlement fail relegation of the matter to The Hague court of arbitration is favored. FOREIGN AFFAIRS. Friendly relations with France have been fostered by the exposition at which American exhibitors were highly successful.

The meat problem is the only present source of contention between the United States and Germany. Alaska boundary modus vivendi regarded as merely a temporary and not entirely satisfactory makeshift.

Japan is praised for her attitude on recent questions and her co-operation with the United States. A conventional treaty with Spain, in furtherance of friendly relations now existing, is urged.

The president regrets the miscarriage of justice in the case of the men who were hanged in Louisiana and urges a federal law to cover this class of crimes. He continues to deprecate negro lynching in the south.

Success of reciprocity in the past causes president to commend its use to the fullest extent. The Buffalo exposition cordially endorsed. Commercial services of the consular bureau receive acknowledgment.

Domestic Prosperity. The president, in view of the excess of receipts over expenditures, recommends a reduction in internal revenue taxes of \$50,000,000 annually. The operation of the new financial law is endorsed.

Attention is called to the rapid growth of American exports. Extension of rural free delivery is urged as warranted by the success of the system in the past. The ship subsidy scheme is endorsed and recommendations of previous messages referred to.

Earlier recommendations for national legislation on the subject of trusts are revived. Census, pensions, patents and public lands are reviewed, but not in detail. Congress is warned against falling into habits of extravagance.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL

Des Moines, December 4, 1900. Dr. Lewis Scholer, chairman of the general army post committee, has sent word to Captain J. A. T. Hull that the committee has selected a site for an army post and has secured the money necessary for its purchase.

The official figures show that the proposition to hold a convention to revise and amend the constitution was lost by 555 votes. The first rough draft of the official figures showed the convention had been carried by a narrow margin.

Two handsome pieces of marble statuary, the busts of ex-Governor William Larrabee and Mrs. Larrabee, have arrived at the historical building. They are the gifts of the ex-Governor's historical department.

The state executive council has concluded the official canvass of the votes cast at the last general election for electors, state ticket, constitutional amendment and biennial election amendment. These official figures do not vary from the unofficial and show that Baldwin, a plurality of 98,543, the other republican candidates following close behind.

Judge Robinson of the board of control has recently inspected the institutions at Cherokee and at Independence. At Independence he says the typhoid epidemic is abating. There are forty persons still sick.

Another chapter has been added to the court house squabble by the filing of a petition in the district court asking that an order be issued restraining the board of supervisors from taking any further action in the court house matter and declaring that everything done so far was illegal.

A man usually laughs when he is amused; a woman usually laughs when she thinks other people think she ought to laugh.

Don't think because a man is short or stature that he was brought up on condensed milk.

London, Nov. 23.—According to a special edition of the Evening Standard, a plot to assassinate Lord Roberts, in which two foreigners are concerned, was discovered. It appears the conspirator, laid a mine which was designed to be blown up Sunday while Roberts was in church at Johannesburg. But the police and Roberts' bodyguard frustrated the conspiracy. Ten men, mostly Italians, were arrested. These details, the Evening Standard says, it is unable to verify.

There are upward of 80,000 inhabitants on the slopes and skirts of Vesuvius. A slump in early Killings has been noted in recent London auction sales. The "Schoolboy Lyrics" which a couple of years ago brought \$125,000 has been sold recently for \$125.