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REPUBLICANS win their "50,000-plurality-in-Ohio" bets.

GENERAL WEYLER claims a victory in Cuba—but so did Chairman Jones in the United States.

AFTER all football has its uses. It lessens the jolt in tapering off from insanity of a presidential campaign.

THE neatness and dispatch with which Tom Watson's war has been removed is an astonisher for even this first decade of the nineteenth century.

THE newspaper Cabinet makers are not so busy as they were. It is now reported that President-elect McKinley will himself name the gentlemen to compose his official household.

MR. BRYAN'S campaign of education since the election omits the lesson he sought to teach the voters of uttering one sentiment and voting another. It was found to be conducive to neither good morals nor electoral votes.

THIS thing of asking a free-silver Democrat to "forego his occupation" and be thankful on Thanksgiving Day is the rankest kind of coercion. While the day is not exactly a Republican monopoly, it would seem to have been proclaimed by the President this year for the especial benefit of the followers of McKinley.

WHERE NOAH GOT HIS PITCH.

Natural Spring which Enabled Him to Mate the Ark Water Tight.

An English explorer has recently reached Hit, in Syria, the locality in which Noah dwelt. Here he found a remarkable group of bitumen springs, says the New York Journal.

From these springs, he says, it is probable that Noah obtained his supply of material to "pitch it within and without." In a basin, undoubtedly of volcanic origin, a spring of warm water bubbles up, and with the water comes the bitumen or pitch, in a plastic form, of the consistency of rather moist putty; and the Arabs gather it by simply scraping it off the surface of the water with their bare hands and pressing it into panniers carried by patient little donkeys, who then struggle up the rocky sides of the basin and take the material off to the boat-building yards, where it is used for covering the boats and goupans, after undergoing a certain refining process.

The bitumen is continually rising, but owing to the formation of the basin into which it rises with the stream very little of it can escape, and it remains floating on the surface of the water till taken off by the Arabs. The water itself tastes slightly of sulphur, is quite warm and apparently charged with some mineral which it deposits in its rocky bed as it flows away (through channels and crevices which the bitumen cannot pass) from the basin, coating it with a lovely lilac color, which further down the stream becomes a "peacock" blue.

A POLITICIAN TESTED.

A Congressman Who Could Not Play Checkers to Suit Constituents.

"One of the ablest men in congress will lose a number of votes in his district in Georgia," said a department clerk to a Washington Star reporter. A friend of mine wrote me some time ago that the judge was safe so far as his reelection was concerned, but my friend visited one of the back counties a few days ago and found that a decided change in sentiment had come about. He asked one of the political leaders:

"What is the matter with the judge?"
 "He ain't no good."
 "Why, what did he ever vote for that you are not in favor of?"
 "I dunno."
 "Did he vote against anything you wanted passed?"
 "Not as I know on."
 "The newspapers all speak well of him."
 "Newspapers is allus lyin'."
 "What is the matter?"
 "Want, he come out here, an' Tom Wilkins beat 'im playin' checkers. Tom kain't play a little bit, an' what kin' o' a figger kin a man cut in congress who kain't play checkers better'n that?"

Mules for Bear Hunters.

The proper beast for a grizzly bear hunter to ride is a good mule. Dr. W. F. Edgar, United States army, tells in Recreation why a mule is best. The doctor was wandering near a camp up in Washington state on a mule. He had his rifle with him, and, seeing a big bear in the trail, fired. The bear tumbled over and out of sight. It looked like a clean kill, and the doctor started toward the place, and was nearly in sight of the hollow where the bear had disappeared, when the bear climbed up over the edge and went for him. It was then that the mule was of the utmost service. The mule rose on its hind feet, turned sharply around, and headed for camp. A horse or a mustang wouldn't have been quick enough, the bear was so close, but all the hunter had to do was to hang on. The mule knew what to do without being told.

GOSSIP OF DAME FASHION

Materials Used for the Evening Gowns and Bodices.

To Swing the Horizontal Bar—An English Gymnasium Suit Without a Skirt—Short Skirts vs. Long Skirts for Rainy Weather.

Evening costumes may be summed up in two classes—brocade gowns and gowns of some sheer material, whose diaphanous folds add an ethereal air to the donner.

Brocade, while worn chiefly by the matron, is occasionally used for the skirt of a maid who has seen several seasons. It should, however, have no dark tones. A white satin ground with the velvet blossoms in rich tones of yellow is very appropriate for a young lady, while another in a pale violet ground thickly strewn with fleur-de-lis



SHORT SKIRTS FOR RAINY DAYS. makes a particularly charming gown for a matron.

Among gowns in the lighter materials two are attractive—one, for a daughter of the night, black as her raven hair; the other, a combination of



TWO EVENING COSTUMES.

white silk dotted with yellow lace and tulle. The black gown was of net, severely plain, save for a band around the waist, another around the décolletage and a third encircling the neck, of black paillette trimming, that caught the light like many black diamonds. Not a ray of color gleamed about her dress, but in her hair a white gem sparkled.

The gown of her foil was encircled at the waist with a corset of deep cream



ENGLISH GYMNASIUM SUIT.

velvet that opens in front for a blouse, bulging forth volleys of cream tulle. A flounce of lace about the skirt hem is caught at intervals with choux of velvet.

It's hard to say which gown is the prettier, especially since masculine opinions at the reception they attended were so evenly divided.

The separate bodice continues in vogue, ever charming us with the beauty of its outlines. Especially is this true of the evening bodice, which for the bewitchery of its make-up was never equaled. The following are some of the materials now being worn:

A green mousseline that smells of the sea, with lace braid applique and embroidered in paillettes of iridescent colors.

Cream chiffon, appliqued with dead white satin caught down with gold braid.

Black chiffon with white applique lace.

Cloth of gold, so soft that it can hardly be called cloth of gold, worked over with silver thread in the tracery of which, here and there, turquoise gleam.

Pale pink chiffon embroidered with Marie Antoinette ribbon.

Yellow mousseline embroidered in delicate fine blue blossoms.

From these examples it is readily seen that applique work is the favorite. As a rule, the applique is very lightly done, and interferes in no way with the "drape" of the material. When it does, however, plain material is used in combination.

Tulle, dotted with paillettes, is so charming that it should not be omitted from a bit of material available for evening bodices.

In the summer time the girl athletically inclined finds many sports at her hand—tennis, golf, rowing and climbing fill the days with healthful exercise. But when the days are chill, and she is once more settled in town, too soon she misses her summer enjoyment.

The gymnasium fills many an aching void, and it is not long before she is swinging on the horizontal bar or aiming to make the highest jump of any in the school.

Therefore it is that the gymnasium suit is an important part of a young maid's wardrobe.

The suit most universally accepted have bloomers and blouses, and a short skirt. The sleeves are long, the neck opening into a rather low sailor collar.

Of course no corsets are worn. Union underwear will be found most serviceable, as it does not bunch up about the hips from the violent exercise.

In Dr. Savage's school, New York, the suits worn are made on the above lines. One of the teachers has been known to wear a shirt waist, but the effect is far

LIFE IN THE GREAT CITIES.

Its Tendency is Not to Enervate Nations.

And as to the tendency of the growth of great cities to enervate nations there is no proof of it at all unless we identify the life of great cities with the passion for idleness and pleasure and self-indulgence, which sometimes, but by no means universally, accompanies their growth, says the London Spectator. When you get a large proletarian living, as that of ancient Rome and possibly of Nineveh and Babylon did, on the aims of the rich and powerful, then no doubt you have the conditions of a thoroughly unnatural and unhealthy life, and no one can wonder at the rapid decay of such cities and of the nations which gloried in them. But where the honest working class far outnumber the proletariat, where the middle classes of distributors and manufacturers and professional men are laborious and energetic, and even the class that lives on its accumulated wealth contains a considerable sprinkling of serious and disinterested workers, we do not believe that there is the smallest evidence of any greater danger in the life of the city than in the life of the agricultural village of the pastoral tribe. Indeed, we should regard Olive Schreiner's picture of the life of the modern Boers as indicating a condition of things more prolific of morbid elements, with its almost complete absence of any stirring or active intelligence, than any kind of modern life that is honestly laborious at all. The Boer life is too sleepy, too destitute of stirring thought or effort, to be altogether natural. It needs at least the old element of danger and necessary vigilance to render it even bracing.

Thanksgiving Cocking Main.

There is a movement on foot among local sports who are fond of cock fighting to have a tournament of that kind in the vicinity of this city on Thanksgiving day. The matter hasn't assumed any tangible shape as yet and is no wise an assured go. But it is hoped by the lovers of the sport that the project will be carried through to completion. It has been the custom to have a cocking main each Thanksgiving and as the one last year was such a success from a cock-fighter's point of view, admirers of the sport hope for a similar event on the 26th inst. If it does not come off, a number of Parkersburgers will go to Circleville, where there is one slated to occur on that date.—Parkersburg Journal.

Marriage Licenses.

James McKibben, of Hootsberg, Morgan county, and Mrs. Sarah Bacon, of Waterford.

Wm. E. Noland, of Chester Hill, Morgan county, and Grace E. McGill, of Bartlett.

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