

**The Progress.**

C. D. HICKS, Ed. and Prop.

SHREVEPORT, LA.

ENGLAND manifests a tendency to interfere in the affairs of Brazil. There is no particular reason for it unless that Brazil's affairs are none of England's business.

ACCORDING to Kate Field's Washington: "The most offensive spectacle on earth to a self-respecting American is one of his countrymen posing as a second-rate Englishman."

A LARGE forgotten reservoir was tapped at Lockport, N. Y., the other day by workmen who were excavating for a foundation. It belonged to a system of water works abandoned many years ago.

It's no use for New York to talk of carrying through a beat-the-record world's fair scheme, either ten years or 100 years hence. New York is too cosmopolitan and not sufficiently patriotic to do anything very great in order that the city as a whole may get the benefit.

BOSTON detectives did a great piece of work in exposing the scheme for wholesale smuggling of furs from Canada. It is no small undertaking to enforce a custom system having little but a long wall of thin air as a defense against the heaviest temptations to smuggle.

A POLICE court practitioner being offered \$12 to undertake the defense of an accused dynamiter declined the fee and the case. It is the first instance of the kind recorded, and among his fellows his conduct is viewed as little less than unprofessional, especially as \$12 was all the man had.

DR. MARY WALKER says, according to report, that Arthur B. Snood of Syracuse, N. Y., is H. L. Norcross, who threw the dynamite bomb at Russell Sage, and that he also committed the Christie Warden murder. Dr. Mary should not rest here. She should also accuse him of being Jack the Ripper.

THE British insinuation, that "the Valkyrie has crossed the ocean, which the Vigilant will never do," isn't in the best of taste. When it becomes necessary to send an American yacht across the ocean to bring back the cup the yacht will go, but it doesn't look now as if it would be necessary for a while.

Two men in New York had a duel with sickles and one was harvested. It was not an affray growing from a trifle. It seems that the aggressor had first lent a pipeful of tobacco to the aggressed, and had been requested to augment the loan by a match. There are times when the revival of the code cannot be wholly condemned.

A GERMAN Egyptologist endeavors to prove that Benjamin Franklin was not the deviser, but merely the rediscoverer of the lightning conductor, as he claims that he has abundant testimony that the ancient Egyptians used a form of this useful instrument for protecting their temples against discharges of atmospheric electricity.

SO VAST are the ruins of Pompeii that they cannot all be excavated, at the ordinary rate of progress, before the middle of the next century—on the European plan, that is. Chicago would have the whole place cleared up, and choice corner lots for sale, in just about four weeks from the time when the first tippartful of shes was taken away.

THE transatlantic record has been broken again and the time between New York and Queenstown reduced to five days, thirteen hours, and twenty-five minutes. If it is lowered any further passengers won't have a chance to recover from sea-sickness on landing, which would be an infinite saving to the steamship companies in the way of provisions.

NO ONE denies the greatness of Bismarck. But he has been out of harmony with the spirit of his age. He is, we hope, the last of the world's great men whose creed has been, "Might makes right." We are living too late in history now for men of "blood and iron." Bismarck has done his work, but a totally different type of great men is needed in Europe to-day.

ONE of Boston's pleasantest small charities is the furnishing of street car tickets in summer to poor invalids for rides in the suburbs of that city, but it is asserted by the conductors that very many of these tickets are misused, being tendered them by persons who not only are not ill, but are, from their dress and appearance, abundantly able to pay their own fares.

HAS some diabolical power bewitched all railroad management and all railroad employees so that they cannot run their trains without a daily accident? Enough railroad accidents for twenty years have been crowded into as many weeks.

A YOUNG student of political economy fails to see how the price of flour may go up while the price of wheat is going down, as sometimes reported in newspaper trade articles. Why, he hasn't learned the A B C's of the science of speculation.

**CODY'S HOSPITALITY.**

DASHING BUFFALO BILL AND HIS PECULIAR WAYS.

A Letter of Gossip From the Capital—The President Robbed of His Vacation—Colonel Cody on His Feet—How Dubois Was Forced to Vote.

[Special Correspondence.]

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—The long contest in congress over the repeal bill robbed President Cleveland of his autumn vacation, greatly to the great man's disgust. Mr. Cleveland has few amusements in Washington. Society is a thing practically unknown to him. Now and then he drives in the suburbs, but only occasionally. He has been forced to take some outing while making his autumn residence at his summer cottage at Woodley, driving back and forth every day. Beyond this his face is rarely seen outside the doors of the White House. He never takes walks, as most of his predecessors have been in the habit of doing.

Every day during his term President Harrison could be seen walking about the White House grounds or the streets in the immediate vicinity of the executive man-



THE PRESIDENT'S DOUBLE.

sion. Usually he was alone, but often accompanied by a member of his family. President Cleveland takes practically no exercise at all. In his library, however, he is an exceedingly hard worker. From early morning until late at night he is at his desk attending to the affairs of state.

The President at the Play.

Once in a great while Mr. Cleveland attends the theater. A few weeks ago he was one of a party which occupied a box at Albaugh's, Secretaries Gresham and Carlisle and their wives being also present. The play was "A Lady of Venice," in which a young actress made her first appearance before the public. It was a romantic play, and President Cleveland appeared to be more or less bored by it. He was greatly interested, however, when an old actor came on the stage impersonating Sforza, a nobleman of Venice. He was attired in a rich robe which did not conceal his ample proportions. The president started and then smiled as he perceived that the Venetian gentleman was almost an exact reproduction of himself. In figure, height, expression of face, carriage and manner of speaking, the old actor was a double of the president of the United States. The resemblance was so striking that a titter at once ran round the audience, and every eye was turned toward the box in which the president sat. The president and his party exchanged smiles, and Sforza at once became, contrary to the playwright's intention, the hero of the piece.

An Alluring Charm.

Washington is known as the greatest first night city in the country. Besides being a town in which the theater is exceedingly popular, the audiences are not extremely critical. We are a good natured and happy go lucky people here, none of us working very hard and all taking life as easily as possible. We are always willing to be amused and not very particular as to the class of amusement. The theatrical managers have discovered this, and they like to use Washington audiences as the dog on which their new pieces shall be tried.

Another advantage which the capital city possesses in this respect is the ease with which a fashionable audience may be assembled upon the occasion of a first production. Tickets for boxes are sent to the White House, to members of the cabinet and to other high dignitaries, and the charm of a free ticket to the theater is one to which all human nature seems to succumb. The result is that occasionally the president, more often Mrs. Cleveland, when circumstances permit, ladies of the cabinet and other society leaders are to be seen in the boxes on these occasions. Thus with a judicious distribution of paper to the 150 newspaper correspondents who are stationed here representing the press of the whole United States, not forgetting to send a few pasteboards to senators and members of congress, it is easy to gather an audience which it is no stretch of the imagination to term "distinguished and fashionable."

Whether the new play is a success or not, the newspaper correspondents feel that the presence of so many important people, including themselves, justifies them in sending brief dispatches to their paper concerning the event. In this way an enormous amount of advertisement for the new company is secured at a very small cost. About one-half of the plays that are brought out in the United States have their first performance in this city. It is a theatrical tradition that New York's judgment upon a new piece is final. If New York approves, it is a success; while if New York condemns it is a failure. No such tradition exists as to the judgment of a Washington audience, for the very good reason that a Washington audience has no judgment. It assumes that it is not its business to bring in a verdict. Washington audiences are proverbially liberal with their applause and their flowers, and a little eclat secured in Washington by the means already mentioned helps to smooth the rough road which a theatrical attraction has to travel in the provinces, and sometimes even to prejudice New York in its favor.

Buffalo Bill's Protege.

The young woman who made her debut before President Cleveland and the distinguished audience of which I have spoken is a protege of Hon. William F. Cody, better known as Buffalo Bill. It was Buffalo Bill's money which sent the young woman to Europe for a stage education. It was his money which provided for her elaborate scenery, beautiful costumes, an enterprising manager and a good company, including the old actor who is Mr. Cleveland's double. It is said that Buffalo Bill spent something like \$40,000 in putting this young star upon the road, and it is to be hoped that she is achieving a success that will in time enable her to return to her distinguished friend the large sum which his generosity led him to invest for her.

From Chicago comes the interesting bit of gossip that Colonel Cody has made a

barrel of money with his Wild West show at the World's fair. He has given there all summer, two performances every day, by far the best show of the sort the world ever saw. His congress of rough riders brought together characteristic horsemen from all parts of the earth, and it was a spectacle which even Chicagoans, though surfeited with triumphs, were proud to take their friends to see.

Unfortunately for Colonel Cody (and this is another interesting bit of gossip), he does not own the show. He has a small interest in it, but Colonel Nate Salisbury and Colonel Burke are the real proprietors of the Buffalo Bill establishment. All three are well known in Washington and have many friends here among public men of the highest station. Buffalo Bill never has any difficulty in securing the consent of the Indian office for the employment of wards of the nation for his performances. It is well understood that he always treats his Indians as a good Indian should be treated, and he knows how to manage them to keep them from falling into the ways of vice to which they are so prone.

A Royal Entertainer.

More than any Washington statesman has been entertained at Colonel Cody's ranch at North Platte, Neb. Out in that country Colonel Cody reigns as a prince. When he is in hard luck financially, every rancher in that region wants to lend him money. When Colonel Cody is playing in big luck, his ranch is a center of lavish and even reckless hospitality. Away out there on the frontier, senators and members of congress tell us they have seen banquets and wine suppers which even the Chinese legation in Washington would never dare attempt to outdo.

When Colonel Cody is feeling particularly happy, he has a way of riding into North Platte, asking everybody in sight to accompany him to the best bar in town and setting up the wine for all hands. Now and then the boys become too hilarious and start in as if they intended to mob the establishment. On such occasions Colonel Cody has been known to calm the fears of the proprietor by asking him how much he will take for the whole outfit. As may be imagined, the proprietor always sets a fancy price upon his concern, but fancy price or no fancy price Colonel Cody reaches down into his wallet and pulls out the necessary currency with which to complete the transaction upon the minute.

As soon as he has purchased the saloon Colonel Cody turns to the boys and tells them he has bought it for their benefit. They are invited to sail in and do with the property what they like. In about 15 minutes Colonel Cody's purchase has the appearance of having been struck by a cyclone. Not a bottle of wine is left in the place, and liquor is running shoe-deep on the floor. Colonel Cody enjoys these things once in a great while, even now that he is a grandfather.

An Acceptable Gift.

A man who has led his sort of life and gone through a career of continual excitement, as he has, must now and then have something out of the usual run to interest and amuse him. It has sometimes happened that Colonel Cody did not have money enough in his pocket to buy the saloon which he wished to present to his ever ready friends. In such cases he has drawn his note for the amount, and a man in the North Platte country would as soon think of refusing gold as declining a note of Buffalo Bill's in payment for anything. To this day, it is said, Colonel Cody is struggling under a load of debts acquired in this or some similar manner. The friends of this dashing and generous frontiersman and showman are glad to hear that he has succeeded so well at Chicago and that his share of the enormous profit is great enough to put him on his feet again.

Concluded to Vote.

Senator Dubois has been compelled to vote at last. In the senate there was not power enough to force him to answer when he did not wish to do so. When the secretary read his name from the roll, he sat mute in his seat. Attention was called to this breach of the rules; there was a debate about the matter; the vice president read the rule which applies in such cases; there was more debate; somebody talked of expelling the young senator from Idaho; the senate took a vote upon the question of expelling him and by a large majority declined to expel the senator; the secretary again read his name, and again Mr. Dubois sat silent. That was all. The senate could say with all its majesty and power that he must vote, but it could do no more. It could lead the horse to water, but could not force him to drink.

Mr. Dubois came out triumphant in his contest with the American house of lords, but he met with another sort of experience a few nights ago when he attended a meeting of the National Capital Press club, of which he is a member. Merely by way of joke, Mr. Dubois refused to cast his vote when a question was put to the meeting by the president of the club. The president read the rule which required every member present to cast his vote unless excused by the club. Still Mr. Dubois sat silent.

But the newspaper men of Washington have not so much respect for the American senate that they propose to follow its foot-



SENATOR DUBOIS FINALLY VOTED.

steps in this or any other matter. They have a way of their own of doing things, and their way in this instance was not that which the senate had followed. The president announced that Mr. Dubois was present; that he had declined to vote; that the rule had been read; that the club had refused to excuse him and called upon the sergeants-at-arms to do their duty. These officers retired for a moment to the cloakroom and then returned. One held in his hand a heavy six shooting revolver and the other a keen knife and hatchet. These weapons were pointed at the head of the former cowboy and United States marshal from Idaho, and the president, rapping for order, solemnly inquired: "Is the gentleman from Idaho now ready to cast his vote?" "I am," responded Mr. Dubois. "I vote aye."

And thus the club of newspaper men vindicated their claim to possession of greater power and dignity than the senate of the United States.

ROBERT GRAVER.

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**BEI'S ADVENTURE.**

A Little Girl Embezzled the Fund Unconsciously.

One morning little Bei was sent by her mamma to the "button store" to match a spool of silk, says the Doll's Dressmaker. She had often been trusted on such errands, though only 4 years old, and very proud she seemed to feel as she trudged along. "helping mamma" "Be sure and get just that shade of blue and come right back, little daughter," said mamma as she kissed her good bye. "Yes ma'am" was the sturdy answer. Now on the way to the "button store" there was a fruit stand, and Bei often used to look at it with longing eyes. This morning she saw something she had not seen for a long time—great, beautiful red bananas. If Bei liked anything in the world it was a banana. She wondered how much they would cost. Then she thought she would ask. "Five cents." Why, she had just 5 cents in her fat fingers that very m-nute! Before you could think she hadn't 5 cents at all, but had the banana instead. Do you think she went right home? Not she. She marched straight to the button store, and standing on tiptoe reached her sample above the counter saying: "My mother wants a spool of silk like this." The lady smiled down on the mite, matched the silk carefully, and handed it to her. "Fank you," said Bei; she never forgets her manners. "But, little girl," called the lady, "didn't your mamma send any money for the silk?" "Yes'm; but I buyed a banana." And before the lady could stop laughing she was on the street, hurrying home. If you will believe it, it was a long time before mamma could convince her little girl that she had been naughty.

**BRAINS AND BRAWN.**

The hotel keeping business has assumed enormous proportions in the United States. There are now over 50,000 hotels, exclusive of inns and taverns.

A mosaic portrait of President Cleveland is on exhibition in Yonkers, N. Y., which contains 300,000 pieces of Italian marble of various colors and weighs 300 pounds. It is the work of Marianne Gilbert, an artist at Rome.

A company is being formed in Philadelphia by several piano manufacturers for the purpose of putting on the market an electrical device, which, it is said, will automatically turn leaves of music. The invention is intended to do away with the necessity of turning the leaves by hand, and operates upon pressing a button.

Jasper Van Nette of Tiffin, has invented a sewing machine which bids fair to revolutionize the manufacture of that important article of household economy. It dispenses with the shuttle, the loop being taken from the needle by means of a compound gyration lever, which spreads it in the form of a triangle, thus allowing the bobbin to pass through it without friction. The complete device is very simple.

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