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 with the new year.

Our thanks are due Messers  
 Alexander and Christopher  
 Hicks for subscriptions to the  
 PROFESSIONAL.

All announcements pertain-  
 ing to church services and  
 church entertainments will be  
 inserted in these columns free  
 of charge, if handed us in due  
 time.

It looks much better for you  
 to support a worthy enterprise  
 and help make a success than  
 for you to tell your neighbor  
 that the reason you don't sup-  
 port it is because you think it  
 will be a failure.

Columbia Negroes should  
 not allow another Xmas to  
 come and find them without a  
 Negro business house of some  
 kind. There is no town in  
 Mo. in which a Negro stock  
 Company store should be more  
 successful than in Columbia.

Negro boys should learn  
 that five dollars earned by the  
 boy who shites shoes is worth  
 just as much as five dollars  
 earned by the boy who is teller  
 in a bank and that the question  
 is not how much you earn but  
 how much you save.

THE PROFESSIONAL WORLD  
 extends Xmas greetings to its  
 many readers and hope that  
 Santa Claus will come and see  
 you all; we are just eight  
 weeks old to day and as we  
 grow in age we hope to grow  
 in size, and do all the good we  
 can and as little harm as pos-  
 sible.

**STREET CAR PROBLEM.**

**Hamburg's Method of Dealing with Over-  
 crowded Street Cars.**  
 The overcrowded street car nuisance  
 is dealt with in a positive way in Ham-  
 burg, according to the statement of an  
 American who recently returned from  
 abroad. He says that in that city a  
 man has to think twice before giving  
 up his seat to a woman, as he may  
 be put off the car for his politeness.  
 The Hamburg trolley cars, it is stated,  
 will seat, according to size, 20 or 25  
 persons—10 to 14 on each side. In  
 addition, four persons are allowed on  
 the front and five on the rear plat-  
 form. When the car is full the con-  
 ductor hangs out a sign "Besetzt,"  
 which means "occupied." The con-  
 ductor is forbidden to take on another  
 passenger until some one leaves the  
 car. Sometimes while the conductor  
 is in front collecting fares, a woman  
 will step on a car which is already  
 filled. As there is no conductor on  
 hand to prevent her, the woman goes  
 inside, and any man who offers her a  
 seat steps out to the platform. When  
 the conductor returns to his post on  
 the rear platform he asks the man to  
 leave the car, the reason being that  
 the car being "occupied," he has for-  
 gotten his seat. If the man refuses  
 to leave he is put off. The policeman  
 on the streets are instructed to watch  
 the cars, and if they find that a con-  
 ductor carries even one more than the  
 proper number the conductor is fined  
 72 cents, which amount goes to a char-  
 ity fund of the street car company.—  
 Argonaut.

**Wanted—An Idea** Who can think  
 of some simple thing to patent?  
 Protect your ideas, they may bring you wealth.  
 Write JOHN WEDDERBURN & CO., Patent Attor-  
 neys, Washington, D. C. for their "Idea" size of-  
 fers of the two hundred to

**COMMON NAMES.**

Would Furnish the Subject for Some  
 Interesting Statistics.  
 Speaking of names, says the New  
 Orleans Times-Democrat, there is re-  
 ally a demand in this country for new  
 family names, and no man knows this  
 better than the fellow whose busi-  
 ness forces him to study the direc-  
 tories of the large cities of the coun-  
 try. Of course, the trouble is with  
 the more common names, but when  
 you come to think of it these com-  
 mon names make up at least 90 per  
 cent. of the population of the larger  
 cities. Really, what a void there  
 would be in some of the largest places  
 of the country if there should be a  
 sudden exodus of the families bear-  
 ing common names! Suppose the  
 Smiths, and the Joneses, and the  
 Browns should suddenly decide to  
 beat hastily over the corporate line  
 of any one of the big cities of the  
 United States; think of the number  
 of houses that would be left vacant,  
 the amount of money that would be  
 pulled out of the banks and out of  
 circulation, and the enormous  
 amount of labor that would be with-  
 drawn, and the value of the trade that  
 would go with them in their sudden  
 flight. But cities could not stand the  
 shock, so deeply have these families  
 become entrenched in the industrial,  
 commercial and financial institutions  
 of the modern municipality. There  
 are many other names, which, while  
 probably less common, still carry with  
 them a heavy per cent. of city popula-  
 tion. The Johnsons play some part,  
 but the name is variously spelled.  
 Black, too, is a common name.  
 Washington has become very  
 common since the legend of the  
 cherry tree and the hatchet.  
 Miller is a popular name, and  
 there are many others that might  
 be included in the classification. The  
 directories are full of them. There  
 is a chance for some statistical find  
 to make an interesting and instruc-  
 tive compilation along this line.  
 What per cent., for instance, of the  
 American population will the Smiths  
 represent? Or the Joneses? Or the  
 Browns? Or the Johnsons, and  
 Blacks, and Whites, and Millers, and  
 Washingtons, and other familiar  
 names? There is a chance for some  
 figuring. These names not only  
 represent a heavy per cent. of the  
 American population, but they own a  
 heavy per cent. of American values.  
 So the fellow who undertakes it might  
 find a lifetime task if he traced the  
 names in all their bearings and in all  
 their infinite ramifications. The so-  
 cial and business fabric is literally  
 threaded with these names. But I  
 had in mind the confusion frequen-  
 tly resulting in sending letters through  
 the mails, and in sending telegraphic  
 communications. These messages  
 frequently get mixed on account of  
 the vast number of persons bearing  
 the same name, and not infrequently  
 the same initials.

**WONDERFUL STRIKE OF GOLD.**

**Two Men Wash Out \$5,000 a Day in  
 the Eldorado Creek Dis-  
 trict.**  
 Men who have just arrived from  
 Dawson say a second strike has been  
 made in the marvelous Eldorado  
 creek district in Alaska.  
 Two men who discovered the spot  
 washed out \$5,000 the first day. Pans  
 of dirt taken from the streak yield as  
 high as \$50 each, and not a bucket of  
 the gravel comes to the surface that  
 does not contain nuggets running all  
 the way from a quarter of an ounce  
 to an ounce in weight, pure gold.  
 The messengers say that the strike  
 has created the wildest excitement al-  
 along Eldorado, and that miners are  
 flocking to the neighborhood by the  
 thousands.

**France a Loser in War Indemnities.**  
 Of nations engaged in wars of the  
 first magnitude France has been both  
 a gainer and a loser in the matter of  
 indemnities. Having, by the treaty of  
 Presburg in 1805, mulcted Austria of  
 \$5,000,000 and 28,000 square miles of  
 territory, she was in 1814 compelled to  
 satisfy the allied powers by a mon-  
 etary compensation of \$140,000,000 and  
 to suffer the partition of the greater  
 part of her colonial possessions, as  
 well as the severe contraction of her  
 European boundaries. Again, in 1870  
 after her war with Germany, she was  
 enabled to display her marvelous fi-  
 nancial resources by the speedy pay-  
 ment of the huge sum of \$1,000,000,000  
 in addition to the loss of 5,668 square  
 miles of territory.

**RIVAL POETS.**

Ibsen and Bjornson Are Very Jealous of  
 Each Other.  
 Ibsen has a wife and one son, Sigurd  
 Ibsen, now about 40 years old, who  
 has been in the consular service, and I  
 believe, says W. E. Curtis, in the Chi-  
 cago Record-Herald, spent several  
 years at Washington as secretary of  
 legation. He is at present occupying a  
 subordinate position in the ministry  
 of foreign affairs. Sigurd married a  
 daughter of Bjornstjerne Bjornsen,  
 his father's most formidable rival in  
 literature and popular estimation.  
 The two authors are not friends.  
 They are very jealous of each other.  
 Ibsen envies Bjornson's great popu-  
 larity and prosperity, while the latter  
 regards Ibsen as "an affected old  
 donkey," and often calls him such.  
 In front of the new theater in Chris-  
 tiania are bronze statues of both men  
 in heroic size, which were erected at  
 the expense of the public and gener-  
 ally admired, but are unsatisfactory to  
 the subjects. It is seldom that peo-  
 ple have the privilege of criticising  
 their own statues. Such honors are  
 usually reserved until they are dead.  
 In this case there was no formal dedica-  
 tion or unveiling and neither of the  
 subjects saw his statue until after it  
 was placed in position, and both have  
 since expressed great dissatisfaction.  
 A few days after his statue was in po-  
 sition Ibsen varied his morning walk  
 by strolling over in that direction.  
 For several moments he stood gazing  
 at the effigy of himself, showing his  
 long coat, his bushy hair and whisk-  
 ers and his big eye glasses, then shook  
 his head sadly as if in disapproval and  
 went on his way. He has never been  
 near the statue since.  
 Bjornson, being a man of impetu-  
 ous manners and quick temper, ex-  
 pressed his dissatisfaction in a more  
 emphatic manner. When he first  
 saw himself in bronze he became  
 greatly excited and gesticulated wild-  
 ly, declaring that it was "a permanent  
 injury" and must come down, but his  
 son, who is the manager of the the-  
 ater, succeeded in cooling the old gen-  
 tleman down, and the latter has be-  
 come reconciled so far as to make  
 jokes about the statue.

**WAS LEFT-HANDED.**

**Art Connoisseur's Discovery Concerns  
 One Old Master.**  
 What old master among the Dutch  
 painters was left-handed?

This knowledge is a very valuable  
 asset to a connoisseur in art. Few ex-  
 perts know, and those who do are par-  
 ticular to keep the information to  
 themselves. It enables them to de-  
 tect a spurious painting ascribed to  
 this artist at a glance.

Mr. George H. Story, of the Metro-  
 politan museum, says, according to  
 the New York World, that he dis-  
 covered the fact for himself in a curi-  
 ous way. Mr. Story is the highest  
 authority in this country upon old  
 masters, and is especially familiar  
 with those of the Dutch school. He  
 gained his prestige by years of the  
 minutest study in the galleries of Eu-  
 rope. One of his methods of study  
 was to copy masterpieces for the sake  
 of dissecting a painter's style. One  
 day he set his easel down before a fa-  
 mous painting at The Hague.

"Now I'll get your stroke," reflect-  
 ed upon the artist. He found that he  
 could not get the stroke. There was  
 something about it quite out of the  
 ordinary. Then he noticed the same  
 oddity in the way that the original  
 painting had been done. Suddenly  
 he worked out the problem like a  
 flash. The brush had been brought  
 always from left to right instead of  
 from right to left. It was easy to  
 verify the discovery, once made.

When a World reporter asked Mr.  
 Story to name the painter he laughed.  
 "Oh, no," he said; "I can't afford  
 to part with that bit of knowledge."

**Motor Cars in France.**

Besides about 1,000,000 cycles,  
 there are no fewer than 6,000 motor  
 cars in use in France at present.  
 There are 1,436 in the Seine depart-  
 ment, and the rest are scattered about  
 the country. The figures show an in-  
 crease of 41 per cent. in 12 months.

**A Light That is Seen**

If a man has a light heart the reflec-  
 tion will light up his countenance.—  
 Chicago Daily News.

**ANOTHER SMART WOMAN.**

**Found a Way to Add to Her Moderat  
 Income.**

"Yes," said the dreamy-eyed real  
 estate man, "it was a handsome gown  
 Made the dress of the older woman  
 look cheap, didn't it? Well, it ought  
 to. It cost \$500."

The intimate friend expressed some  
 astonishment, says the New York  
 World, that the real estate man  
 should be conversant with the buying  
 price of his customers' clothes. The  
 dealer in dirt looked at the clock.  
 After three," he said. "No more busi-  
 ness around this part of town to-day.  
 Come along over to the refectory op-  
 posite." The journey being accom-  
 plished, the dreamy-eyed real estate  
 man began:

"I don't know that I ought to tell  
 you about this," he said, doubtfully.  
 "In fact, I'm sure I shouldn't, but I'll  
 tell you anyway, for I know it won't  
 go any further. That woman who  
 wore the \$500 gown is one of my em-  
 ployes."

"What!" said the intimate friend.  
 "Why, I thought I recognized her as  
 a woman who moves in very good so-  
 ciety."

"Now, see here," said the dreamy-  
 eyed real estate man, "is there any-  
 thing in me that would give you the  
 right to suppose that any of my em-  
 ployes were debarred from good so-  
 ciety?"

"Why, no," said the friend; "of  
 course not. I didn't mean it that way,  
 but the idea of a woman of position  
 working is rather odd."

"All right," said the dealer, amia-  
 bly, "think that way if you wish. But  
 let me tell you, you're wrong. I met  
 that woman some months ago at a re-  
 ception. I was impressed with her  
 culture and her brain. I made some  
 inquiries and learned that she was of  
 good family, but not very well sup-  
 plied with money. Her relatives, on  
 the other hand, had plenty of wealth.  
 She enjoyed a little income, but not  
 much. I saw her again, and was more  
 impressed with the fact that she could  
 be of use to me. Finally, I wrote her  
 a note, asking if she would drop in at  
 the office on a matter of business.

"Well, she came. I asked her, point  
 blank, if she didn't want to make some  
 money. She colored, and said she did  
 if it could be made in a manner appro-  
 priate to her gentility. I assured her  
 that it could, and we began to talk  
 terms at once. I told her she was to  
 bring her friends to me to buy lots.  
 She was to explain to them the ad-  
 vantages of the land and give them a  
 general real estate talk from a society  
 standpoint. She was, of course, to  
 figure as having bought some lots her-  
 self and having made a profit on the  
 investment. She demurred to this  
 part, at first, but I finally won her  
 over.

"She is the best salesman, or sales-  
 woman, I have—and I have three oth-  
 er women doing the same thing. She  
 is a brilliant and convincing talker,  
 and she brings good money into the  
 office every week. Her first commis-  
 sion was \$500, and she put that into  
 the hands of her dressmaker. That's  
 how I know the price of her gown.  
 The woman she brought in to-day  
 bought three lots at \$750 a lot, which  
 gave my clerk a commission of \$22.50,  
 one per cent. Not so bad for half an  
 hour's work, is it?"

**GROWING THINGS.**

No Pleasure is Greater for a Large Class  
 of People.

There is no pleasure more pure and  
 exquisite than watching the growth  
 of a tree or plant in which one is in-  
 terested. If you have planted it your-  
 self so much the better. You then  
 have a feeling of proprietorship in  
 each opening bud or leaf which can  
 be gained in no other way. But, at  
 any rate, cultivate the friendship of  
 the plants and trees, not simply for  
 the flowers and fruit which they fur-  
 nish, but for the pleasure of seeing  
 them grow. It has been said that any  
 square foot of sod, if intelligently  
 studied, will give occupation for  
 many hours. The growth of the  
 simplest plant is a wonderful process.  
 Perhaps you cannot go to Europe or  
 the mountains or the sea, but you  
 have an opportunity for unlimited  
 recreation and diversion if you have  
 a small plot of grass and plants with  
 which you have not become acquaint-  
 ed.—Boston Watchman.

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