

The Farmington Democrat has again changed hands. John J. Cundiff has sold the plant to John C. Wilson.

The strong-minded man often thinks he cannot be upset by trifles, consequently he may not be as well guarded against their effect as the inferior man, conscious of his weakness, and therefore more to be trusted when in the neighborhood of trifles.

Among the things stolen by a New Orleans bank clerk who has absconded is a large lot of lottery tickets. He may turn up with the big prize at the next drawing and recoup his fortune. There would be no hesitation about taking him back into fashionable society in Louisiana if his "luck" should take that turn.

Of the entire human race it is estimated that 500,000,000 are well clothed—that is, they wear garments of some kind; 250,000,000 habitually go naked, and 700,000,000 only cover parts of their body; 500,000,000 live in houses, 700,000,000 in huts and caves, and 250,000,000 have virtually no shelter at all.

Secretary Blaine is very and justly proud of the success achieved by his eldest son, Eunomus, who has been appointed assistant to the president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, with general charge of the Western department of the road. Secretary Blaine has never fully recovered from the shock of his son Walker's death, but his pride now centers in his eldest son.

Reciprocity with Mexico is now likely to be concluded and proclaimed before January next. However, it is not yet determined which of our exports Mexico will admit free, and on which others the duty will be reduced. As Mexico's principal exports to this country—coffee and hides have been admitted free of duty for about twenty years, the negotiations for reciprocity with it are on a somewhat different basis than those with other countries. But substantial concessions are expected in our favor.

It is a humiliating truth that there is something in our common human nature—original sin or brute inheritance—which makes us take a certain enjoyment in other people's troubles. We do not really desire that any great catastrophe shall overtake our fellow-men, but somehow a good many of us secretly hope that if there is any great catastrophe we may be there—undamaged—to behold it. There is a curious strain in human nature which makes most people interested in seeing other people fight. Even in drawing rooms, a certain considerable proportion of the conversation deals with the faults and follies and ill-fortunes of the neighborhood.

The mining Congress now in session at Denver, Col., reported and passed resolutions which demand of the Congress of the United States the enactment of laws by which silver shall be coined free in all the mints equally with gold, and to have with it free and unrestricted monetary power, and that they be in the ratio of 16 to 1, and when the coinage is represented by Treasury notes each dollar shall represent 412 1/2 grains of standard silver. Now, suppose that the State of Colorado had the power to coin money, and should offer for circulation such a silver dollar as they demand from the United States Government; would it not be likely to remain in their hands? If accepted at all, it would be upon the guarantee of the State government to make good its face value, or to take out of its treasury 22 or 25 cents for every such silver dollar put in circulation, to make up the difference between its actual and its face value, and this would be a rather expensive process of silver coinage and circulation, even for Colorado.

Conkling's Success.
This reminds us of a speech made at one time by the late Roscoe Conkling. It seems that in one of his communications to the Senate President Hayes dilated upon what "we" intend to do. Conkling properly despised Hayes, and he saw here an opportunity for a sarcasm. "I am sure," said he, "that the Senate shares my desire to get an understanding of what the President means when he uses this pronoun 'we.' There are, as we know, three classes of people who, by common consent, are privileged to use that pronoun in communication with the public. They are sovereigns, journalists and people with tape-worms. Let us ascertain, if we can, to which of these classes President Hayes belongs."—Chicago News.

Quaint Old Values.
In the library of the Moravian school for boys at Nazareth, Pa., which was founded in 1741, and whose sessions were interrupted for a brief season only by the revolution, is a series of quaint old volumes containing the compositions, graduating colloquies and essays, together with sketches in pencil made by scholars whose hands became dust half a century ago. The main building on the academic green is the stone Pomeranian castle erected by Count Zinzendorf in what was then the wilderness of Pennsylvania, and which attracted many curious visitors in the last century.

Naturalizing the Indian.
The subject of the naturalization of the Indian, and making him a citizen of the United States instead of a "ward of the nation," is exciting public attention. Such a course would no doubt be the greatest and most important step in the civilization of the semi-savage tribes of the west. It is not supposed that naturalization will do much for the Indian who has had no educational advantages, and to whom civilization is a synonym for bondage, but it will give to the younger generation the sense of citizenship and a knowledge of the laws and personal responsibility which the Indian has never been taught to feel. It is safe to assert that he cannot be civilized. It has been often his experience, says a writer in the Chicago Graphic, that the civilization offered him has been at the point of the bayonet, and means the renunciation of all his possessions and a virtual dependency and state of imprisonment at the pleasure of the white man that he has refused it. In the far west are many civilized and educated Indians, who are farmers, craftsmen and fishermen. Neither Indians nor white men who can live without labor are likely to be exceptionally industrious, and so long as the government treats the Indians like children, just so long will they remain savages. The schools for the Indians should thoroughly prepare them for citizenship; their hands should be held by individual tenure, and they should be compelled to labor for their support as are other citizens. When they become criminals they should be treated as are other criminals, and the civilizing power of law and responsibility applied to them.

Mortality of the Bicycle.
In the opinion of the head of a large London firm the clerk who comes and goes between his home and his office on a bicycle escapes a series of temptations encountered by travelers on buses, and is better fitted for business. He loses no time in waiting at stations. The exertion of getting home makes him disinclined to go out to clubs or billiard saloons, and for these reasons he thinks bicyclists to be morally superior. In the event of an accident, the cyclist is not injured, and the bicycle will fall into the hands of the doctor, and will be repaired. A space two hundred by two hundred and fifty feet was granted for the Morris palace, upon which Mr. Stepanni says he will expend four hundred thousand dollars.

As an example of the height of the ridiculous a recent account of a fellow "at home" is given. Twenty ladies accepted the invitation, their husbands acting as their attendants and accompanying them to the house of the hostess when the evening day arrived. The cards were charmingly printed on purpose for the occasion and each bore the portrait of a lovely cut. It is said that the ladies quickly made friends, and that their conduct was not only amusing but instructive. After half an hour of mutual felicitation a fine repast was served, in which various kinds of fish, daintily cooked, preceded the favorite plates. A circle of fashionable attire was present at a party must present a truly edifying spectacle.

An imperial decree has been issued in Germany, forbidding the manufacture and sale of machines for producing artificial coffee-beans, as counterfeiting the food law. These beans are not intended to supply the place of coffee, but are used for the purpose of deceiving the public. The machine which produces them is a simple one, and the beans are made of a mixture of sawdust and other refuse. The machine is a simple one, and the beans are made of a mixture of sawdust and other refuse. The machine is a simple one, and the beans are made of a mixture of sawdust and other refuse.

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According to a certain pharmacist there is a fashion in pill boxes the same as in hats and bonnets and parasols. Some years the round pill box of the olden times is the rage. Then we have the oblong box and the box which has a drawer in it. There is a variety of shades in these boxes. Some seasons they run in one color altogether, and there are customers who insist upon their pills being put into the box which is all the go. Like the Scotchman we have heard of, they think more of the dish than they do of the man.

The largest specimen of leaf or fern gold ever found will be exhibited at the world's fair. It was found near Walla Walla, Wash. It is valued at three hundred dollars for the gold in it alone, but to-day five times that amount would not purchase it. The delicate tracery of the fern is as fresh, beautiful, and crystalline in appearance as ever Nature turned out of her laboratory, and it is fully a foot square.

An excellent quality of "kaolin," or porcelain clay, has been found in large quantities in Union county, Ill., and specimens recently sent to Sweden have been made into dishes of a high grade. It is the intention of Dr. Lindahl, state geologist, to have a set of tableware made for exhibition at the world's fair.

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A World's Fair Transportation Company has been organized by a number of moneyed men in Maine for the purpose of transporting New Englanders to and from the exposition and paying their expenses while in Chicago. It issues certificates payable in installments, and these, when paid up, are transferable for round trip tickets to the exposition, including all necessary expenses.

There was a time, within the recollection of many now living, when a tin candlestick was thought good enough to carry a tallow dip in, but now solid silver candlesticks, costing as high as twenty-five thousand dollars, are none too good for the purpose. A pair valued at this enormous sum are on exhibition at the Metropolitan museum, New York.

An Indianapolis paper is authority for the statement that that city is not only close to the center of population, but it is the center of the gun-showing habit. It is quite the thing at ladies' dinner parties to pass the gun after dinner. The ladies show gun in a way to be the heart of a dandy.

Custom-Made Jokes.
According to a recent informant there is a professional humorist in New York who finds a novel place to market his jokes. He sells a large batch every day to the proprietor of one of the downtown barber-shops. The proprietor makes his barbers learn them and retail them in their conversations with customers. The inventor of the plan says it works much better than the ordinary method of letting the barbers depend on their own conversational abilities. In fact, the humorist said, every barber knows that one of the first essentials for attracting custom is to be able to amuse the customer while shaving him. Time-worn almanac jokes and even those stolen from the current numbers of comic papers will not answer in this bustling age. Customers demand something new and fresh. The humorist who can invent their own jokes is rare. Therefore, the metropolitan proprietor has on the plan of buying them in the regular market. He pays his humorist a fixed salary, which is larger than the funny man could get by selling the product of his wit to newspapers, and no jokes are rejected, as the demand is unlimited and the standard of excellence not very high.

This is another branch of a noble calling debated to serve the ends of world business and the soulful genius who reeks off rhyme for scap sellers has a dangerous competitor for public favor.

A Million in Gold.
A concession has been granted to M. Stepanni to erect a Morris palace at the world's fair. One of the many attractions which he proposes to exhibit in this palace is one million dollars in gold coins in one pile. He believes that this will be a great drawing card and that nearly every visitor will want to see it. Of course, great precautions will be taken for the safety of such great treasure. It will be in a strong cage and, Mr. Stepanni says, "Just under the gold will be constructed a fire and burglar proof vault. To the doors of this vault will be connected electric wires. In the event of an attempt to rob the palace, the burglar will press an electric button, the entire pile will fall into the vault and the doors will spring shut." A space two hundred by two hundred and fifty feet was granted for the Morris palace, upon which Mr. Stepanni says he will expend four hundred thousand dollars.

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