

THE GOEBEL MURDER

Witness Golden Says It Was the Result of a Plot.

Gives Evidence Against Secretary of State Powers—Implicates Other Republicans in the Alleged Conspiracy.

Frankfort, Ky., March 26.—F. Wharton Golden, of Harboursville, was Saturday put on the witness stand in the examination of Secretary of State Caleb Powers, charged with conspiracy to murder Senator Goebel. Golden was rather nervous on the stand, but did not hesitate in his replies to questions, and his testimony made a deep impression.

"Where then did you go? To Harboursville?" asked Attorney Campbell. The witness hesitated, then said: "I won't answer that."

"When did you have a conversation with Secretary Powers?"

"When Mr. Powers and I left here together, Col. Powers told me to go to Harlan county and see Postmaster John Hirst to send down ten witnesses in the contest case."

"How were these witnesses to be selected and in what manner were they to come?"

"Regular mountain feudists."

"Give the exact conversation between you and Secretary Powers relative to getting witnesses in Harlan county."

"He told me to go to Harlan county and tell Mr. Hirst to send down ten men who were regular mountain feudists."

"Did he understand what you meant by that, and if so what was your understanding of that request?"

"I won't answer that," said Mr. Golden. After some parley Mr. Golden said: "Well, men who would stand up, and if necessary go into that legislative hall and kill off enough to make it in our favor."

"I did not see Mr. Hirst. I saw Hamp Howard. I told him we wanted ten regular mountain feudists for witnesses. We wanted men who had good Colts 45's."

"Were the Colts 45's to be put in evidence?" asked Attorney Campbell.

"Most assuredly they were," answered Golden.

The witness identified a receipt for \$50 given by Bingham. Witness also said he gave Mr. Howard \$3.50 for ten tickets to Frankfort and return. He knew some of the men from Bell county. The men, a great many of them, were mountain feudists. In all about 1,200 or 1,500 men were brought to Frankfort. They were fed back of the statehouse, Capt. Davis and Charles Finley providing the provisions. Continuing Golden answered:

"Brings in Gov. Taylor's Name."

"I sent most of them back that night. By 'we' I mean myself, Caleb Powers, Capt. Davis, Bull Culton and Gov. Taylor. Finley, Taylor and Powers decided to send them back, all except ten or fifteen from each county. I selected the men to be kept from Knox county, 12 of them, well armed. Deputy Marshal George Thompson selected the men from Laurel county. About 15 men of the mountain-ers brought to Frankfort remained here to see that we got justice."

"Did you have any further conversation with Powers regarding the work to be done by the men remaining here?"

"No, sir. We understood what they were kept here for. We knew that those men were here to go into that legislative hall and if necessary clean out those fellows."

"What fellows?"

"The democrats, enough to make a majority on our side."

The answer created a sensation in the courtroom.

Golden said he was in the executive building on the day before the shooting. He met Caleb Powers in Gov. Taylor's ante-room. Powers asked him to go to Louisville that day. He told John Powers he was going to Louisville with Caleb Powers. During the lengthy argument over a technical point, Golden became ill and court was adjourned to 1:30 o'clock.

Sensations of Afternoon.

Golden resumed his testimony at the afternoon session. He said John Powers and a black-red mounted man had a talk concerning the closing of Secretary Powers' office during the latter's absence.

"I had my back turned," said Golden, "but when I turned I saw John Powers give the key to the man. John Powers said to me: 'Goed in going to be killed this morning.' I said: 'This must not be done.' He said: 'Don't get excited. I gave that man the wrong key.' I said: 'We must go and see Caleb.' John Powers saw him."

"Did you have any talk with Caleb or John Powers about Dick Coombs?"

"No; but they had two negroes there to kill Goebel. John Powers told me so. They were Hecksmith and Dick Coombs. I saw Dick Coombs at the drug store near the depot every morning for a week or so previous to the shooting. Coombs, talking to a man named Wallace in my presence, said: 'D—n him. I know him as far as I can see him and I can kill him as far as I can see him.'"

"He was talking of Goebel. This conversation was in the adjutant general's office."

"On Tuesday did you meet Caleb and John Powers?" asked Attorney Campbell.

"Yes, I did. I saw them in Caleb's office. I got a letter from Blakeman that morning asking me to come to Louisville. Caleb said he was going with me, but said he might want me to go to the mountains. He was talking to Walter Day and Gov. Taylor. R. J. Howard, of Harlan county, came up, and he talked to Taylor. He insisted on Taylor calling out the militia. Taylor said: 'My God, you people must do something first,' adding: 'I can get the militia quick enough. You fellows must act first. By that I understood we fellows must raise a riot in the senate chamber. Goebel was there. As I told you this morning, we would clean out enough of that legislature there to make it our way.'"

"What do you mean by that?"

"Oh, kill them."

"After Taylor was through talking I urged Powers to get the train with me, as it was due. I learned that Senator Goebel had been shot at La Grange. We continued on to Louisville. I do not know why Mr. Powers went to Louisville. Both John and Caleb Powers were along. We left Frankfort that afternoon and went directly to the statehouse. I never saw Mr. Powers again that day."

Golden's illness proved more serious than at first thought, and in the afternoon adjournment was taken until ten a. m. to-day, when the defense will take up the cross-examination and introduce testimony in rebuttal.

Wages Advanced.

Philadelphia, March 26.—In accordance with their notice posted shortly after January 1, 1900, promising an advance to their employes, to take effect April 1, the Berwind-White Coal Mining company has notified all its miners of a general average advance of 20 per cent. The miners are now placed upon a basis of 60 cents per gross ton and all day labor increased accordingly. This advance will make the wages the highest paid during the last 30 years and in some instances the highest that have ever existed by nearly seven per cent.

TESTIMONY NOT SHAKEN.

Bickerstaff Undergoes Severe Cross-Examination in Marsh Trial at Lansing.

Lansing, Mich., March 26.—Samuel N. Bickerstaff, representative of the Kalamazoo military clothing concern which conducted what are alleged to be fraudulent transactions with the state military board, was cross-examined Saturday morning by an attorney for the defense, in the trial of ex-inspector General Marsh. His direct testimony of Friday, detailing the negotiations and transactions, was not shaken.

Through an objection raised by the defense it developed that Marsh's attorneys will attempt to impeach Bickerstaff, and perhaps other witnesses, by swearing members of the grand jury, to prove that the story they tell in court is not the same as was told the jury.

John R. Hunter, president of the Kalamazoo company, occupied the witness box for a short time. His testimony agreed with that of Bickerstaff.

It is stated on good authority that the next sensation in the military frauds case will be the arrest of Bickerstaff, who has given important testimony for the prosecution. Bickerstaff is an agent for the Henderson-Ames company, the military goods concern through which the alleged frauds were committed, and transacted the business for that firm. Bickerstaff testified while on the stand, that he paid the alleged conspirators their share of the profits of the fraudulent deal, and it is said that the defense will have him arrested on a criminal charge based on that transaction.

THROWS LUDLOW OUT.

Consolidation of Cuban Provinces Under Gen. Fitzhugh Lee Arranged by Root.

Washington, March 26.—Secretary Root said Saturday that while he was in Havana arrangements were made for the consolidation of the department of the province of Havana and Pinar del Rio, commanded by Brig. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, and the department of Havana, commanded by Brig. Gen. Ludlow, into one department under command of Gen. Lee, to be known probably as the department of Havana and Pinar del Rio. The department commanded by Gen. Ludlow was practically confined to the city of Havana, and is within the limits of the province of Havana, commanded by Gen. Lee.

The details of the execution of this general plan of merging one department into the other were specially conferred by Secretary Root to the three officers most directly concerned, namely, Maj. Gen. Wood, Gen. Ludlow and Gen. Lee. They will agree upon some plan for the government of the city of Havana pending its complete transfer to the Cuban authorities.

The probabilities are that Gen. Lee will act as the military governor of the city, under the direction of Gen. Wood.

BAN ON CIGARETTES.

Chief Moore Prohibits Their Use by Weather Bureau Employees During Office Hours.

Washington, March 26.—A death-blow was given cigarette smoking in the weather service Saturday, when Chief Willis L. Moore issued an order prohibiting persons connected with the service from smoking cigarettes during office hours, and stating further that those who smoked cigarettes at any time would be mentioned in the confidential reports, which are made quarterly to him by chiefs of the several offices and divisions throughout the entire service. The order is plainly worded, and the chief evidently means that it shall be obeyed. Chief Moore said:

"The order was issued after careful consideration and a thorough investigation of the evils resulting from cigarette smoking. It will stand. In this service we are compelled to maintain a very strict discipline, in order to secure satisfactory service. Some of our men, who are regarded as the most thorough and competent, doing every detail of their work with the utmost promptness and accuracy, gradually became careless and lax. I sent inspectors to investigate, and in a number of cases it was found directly attributable to the use of cigarettes."

To Build Big Hotels.

New York, March 26.—The World publishes a list of nine large hotels for which plans have been drawn and sites selected. They will cost \$20,000,000. Among them is the long talked of women's hotel, which will cost \$400,000 and be situated on the West side, not far from Seventh avenue and Thirty-eighth street. John Jacob Astor's hotel, under construction at Fifth avenue and Fifty-first street, will cost \$1,500,000. The W. E. D. Stokes hotel, on Broadway, between Seventy-third and Seventy-fourth streets, will be the largest structure on Manhattan island and will cost \$4,000,000.

The English War Bonds.

New York, March 26.—J. P. Morgan & Co. announced that only a little over \$3,000,000 of the English war bonds will come to this country. Over \$50,000,000 were subscribed for, most of the subscriptions being for more than \$50,000 worth.

New York is the chief place where facturers of candy Easter eggs, show time, and the revenue commissioner estimates that the government is defrauded to the extent of at least \$3,000 a day in this matter. The stamps most frequently cleaned are the \$10 and the \$1 stamps; next come the \$3 and \$5 denominations. It is unfortunate for the government that the \$10 stamp is printed in black, which makes it very easy to clean.

The state of Washington furnished over 500,000 tons of coal to California last year.

THE STUDY OF BUGS.

Pursued for the Benefit of Farmers as Well as Consumers.

Our Washington Correspondent Describes a Visit to the Most Interesting Branch of the Agricultural Department.

[Special Washington Letter.]

WHILE the insecticides, vermicides, germicides and microbe killers are diligently engaged in efforts to destroy certain forms of life, there are scientists in government employment who are making strenuous efforts to hatch obnoxious insects and their parasites.

Under the direction of the department of agriculture, in a building erected specifically for that purpose, insects are bred and reared in a large glass conservatory which serves as a hothouse for the propagation of bugs of scores of species. They are as carefully cared for as the eggs in chicken incubators, and are given plenty of light and warm, moist air all through the winter and during the damp or chilly days and nights of spring and autumn.

Although it is conceded that the greatest study of man is man, there are scientists who seem to have accomplished all that they desire in that direction, and they devote their waking hours to the study of bugs, beetles and all of the forms of minute animal life. In all sorts of jars, from a small jelly glass to a large glass globe of kettle form, they have insects in various stages of development. The daily history of each insect is carefully noted, and all of its transformations are historically treated for several generations.

In one of these jars there are two sunflower heads infested with the larvae of beetles. These larvae have buried themselves in the sand with which the vessel is partly filled, and there they have been hibernating for four months. Very soon they will be set out in the sunlight. They will then emerge as perfect beetles, lay eggs in the sunflowers and a new generation will be watched with solicitude and interest.

The careful study of these things has been fostered by the department of agriculture in order that ultimately the best methods of destroying the pests, and preventing their propagation, may be discovered by those who make specific study of these subjects. Some time this spring the department will issue bulletins for farmers, giving all of the information which has been acquired during the past 12 months in these studies.

One of the officials, upon being complimented upon the value of the work which is being done, said: "We are doing some good, but of course it is very little. You must understand that there are about 10,000,000 species of insects, and we are treating them by scores instead of by millions. Human knowledge is exceedingly small, and



STUDYING THE INSECTS.

our investigations are circumscribed. But if we can help our agriculturists even a little bit we are doing a good work. Men who give their lives to scientific inquiry naturally become moral philosophers. We realize the vastness of the forms and qualities of creation and are lost in awe. Many generations of mankind must come and go before we have anything like a comprehensive scientific cyclopedia of these things.

"We see death and life here together. We see insects die, and out of their death we see new life arise. The ordinary illustration of the butterfly emerging from the death form of its predecessor we see multiplied indefinitely in these studies. Here in this jar is a twig infested with little worms. They will die very soon, and out of their decayed forms will come full-fledged beetles. In this jar are several immature grasshoppers, buried in the earth. They have been there six years. Eleven years more will elapse, when they will come forth from their graves as full-fledged locusts of the 17-year variety.

"Naturally, we who see and study these phenomena of nature are not staggered with the statements of theologians that out of the death of human beings there will arise new forms of life. There is a very slight border line of demarcation between science and philosophy. Science ascertains facts. Philosophy asks: 'Why?' and tries to give the reason. Theology goes a little farther. But all students, all scientists, philosophers and theologians are striving for the advancement of human knowledge. And sometimes our bitter divergences and controversies result in bringing forth truths which might never be developed but for the earnestness and increased energy which are let loose by acrimony and controversy."

But to return to the jars: In one of them, which is half full of beans, there are hundreds of bean-eating

bugs which will continue to live and reproduce their kind so long as the food supply is continued. In one small jelly glass there is a large Irish potato, where a lot of little flies have laid their larvae, and the potato is fairly riddled with the holes which have been made by the larvae. Another larger glass jar contains a few yucca pods. In the sand beneath them are buried a number of grubs which have deserted the yucca pods. Some time in April they will emerge, not as grubs, but as moths; and the moths will live on the blossoms. Nature supplies food for all manner of life, and the food-eating insects bring death to these forms of vegetable life.



PARASITES UNDER THE GLASS.

One of the strangest things in this collection of wonders is the fact that half a dozen huge oak galls not only nourish the gall bugs, but protect their destroyers. Just as a cancer is concealed within the body of a human being and protected from medical and surgical agencies while it eats away a human life, the oak is stung in hun-

dreds of places by gnatlike insects; forms over the injured parts, where eggs are deposited, odd-looking growths which protect the offspring of the gall bug until they are able to come forth, lay other eggs, and perhaps sting the very stem which fostered them.

A microscope is required to see the wood-boring larvae. In one jar, which is partially filled with sawdust instead of sand, several pieces of bark are to be seen, completely riddled and honey-combed by wood-borers. They bury themselves in the sawdust during the winter, just as others bury themselves in the sand. When they come forth and are large enough to be seen with the naked eye, they are removed, killed and stuck on pins in boxes, according to their species, numbered and described in the scientific library of reference books. Each insect has its scientific name, and the students here give the full history of its development.

Dealers in large quantities of wheat and flour have lost on their investments, sometimes heavily, because flour beetles and wheat moths have destroyed their property. Here in a jelly glass containing a little wheat flour are some of the beetles at work. They are watched in their progress from egg to larvae and from larvae to beetle.

The wheat worms and joint worms are seen feeding upon the stems of the wheat plant. There are also jars showing the work of root-devouring bugs. When they have eaten up the roots in their jars they come to the surface, but cannot escape, because inverted jars cover them. They do not burrow through the ground. They eat roots destroying plant life. Then they come to the surface and travel to the nearest contiguous plant, burrow to its roots, and begin their deadly work.

Most singular of all to an uneducated observer of these singular things is the fact that upon all of these insects the microscope discloses parasites, which devour the insects themselves. Long years ago Dr. Johnson said: "Great fleas have little fleas upon their backs to bite 'em; while they, in turn, have lesser ones, and so ad infinitum."

The writer was not a great scientist, but he had some idea of what these learned students of insect life have disclosed so plainly. Cyrano de Bergerac, in the sixteenth century, wrote of some discoveries of the same kind, made by himself. But these writers were only able to imagine that what they saw with the naked eye must be going on in the lower forms of life. There is no imagination, however, in the things which are now to be seen in the agricultural department, and in the scientific institutions of some of the great universities.

This study of parasites is distinct from the study of the insects. When it is known that certain parasites speedily destroy the insects, the parasites are cultivated and encouraged to increase and multiply. The oranges of California which have been destroyed by the futed scale insect are now saved by the dissemination of the Australian ladybug, which preys upon the scale, but does not injure the oranges. The chinch bugs of Kansas are being destroyed by the fungus which eats the chinch.

This is the practical part of the story. These bug students have learned which parasites will kill the bugs, and then they have sent the parasites forth on their mission in various sections of the country. Vegetation is destroyed by the insects, and the insects are destroyed by the parasites. By putting into the field big armies of parasites the insects are eaten up, and vegetation is saved from its almost invisible enemies.

These pale-faced young men and these bald-headed veterans in the science of bugology are quietly doing a whole lot of good for all of us; for the farmers in the fields, and for the dwellers in cities who depend upon the farmers for the food which sustains their lives. SMITH D. FRY.

MINNESOTA NEWS.

First in the Field.

The Prohibition state convention, at Minneapolis, placed the following ticket in the field, which is the first to be announced:

Governor—B. B. Haugan, Fergus Falls.

Lieutenant-Governor—C. B. Wilkinson, Owatonna.

State Secretary—Frank E. Carlyle, Lake Benton.

State Treasurer—C. W. Dorsett, Minneapolis.

Recommended by state convention for president, Hale Johnson, Illinois. Presidential electors—E. S. Ellis, Dodge Center; C. C. Drew, Laverne; Albert J. Kanne, Waterville; Andrew Rankin, St. Paul; C. M. Way, Minneapolis; P. J. Nelson, Anoka; J. J. Rindall, Fergus Falls; W. J. Dean, Minneapolis; J. A. McConkey, Fergus Falls.

Assessed Valuation.

State Auditor Dunn has made a summary of the tax lists of the Minnesota counties for 1899, which shows that the total assessed valuation of the state is \$585,083,328, being about \$6,000,000 more than for 1898. In sound numbers there are \$250,000,000 of acre property. \$240,000,000 of city lots, and \$93,000,000 of personal property. The average rate of taxation is 24.85 mills, as against 23.9 for 1898. Carver county has the lowest rate, 17.42, and Mille Lacs the highest, 48.47. The total tax levy amounts to \$14,500,000. Of this Hennepin county pays \$3,411,000, and Ramsey county \$2,202,000. The state gets \$2,000,000 out of the levy. County government requires \$2,700,000; city and villages take \$4,500,000, and townships \$1,090,000.

The Boards Are Filled.

Dr. Charles E. Riggs, of St. Paul, was reappointed a member of the state board of inspectors of insane hospitals. The terms of Dr. H. W. Brazie, Minneapolis, and Dr. George W. McIntyre, St. Peter, having expired, they were succeeded by Dr. W. F. Milligan, Wabasha, and Dr. C. O. Cooley, Madelia.

Governor Lind also appointed Dr. Thomas Lowe, Slayton, Dr. Louis A. Fritsche, New Ulm, Dr. C. J. Ringnell, Minneapolis, members of the state board of medical examiners. The appointees succeed Doctors H. Morell, Slayton, John S. Shrader, Delano; C. B. Pillsbury, Owatonna.

It Will Help.

It case the \$2,000,000 appropriation bill passes congress, Minnesota's annual allowance for militia purposes from the federal government will be \$30,000. This state supported the national guard on a \$7,000 appropriation from the government in addition to the state's allowance. National guardsmen figure that with the increased amount, new rifles are likely to be substituted for Springfield and in every respect the equipment of the guard will be up to date.

Railway Taxes.

In preparing his last biennial report for the legislature State Auditor Dunn estimated the receipts for 1899 from the gross earnings tax upon railroads at \$1,150,000, and a similar amount for 1900. The estimate was exceeded by more than \$100,000 in 1899, when the railroads contributed \$1,261,271.77. This year the excess over the estimate will be almost \$300,000. The state auditor has prepared the completed figures, which reach a total of \$1,444,488.36.

For Foreign Countries.

The Gillette-Herzog Company, of Minneapolis, has been asked to submit bids on the structural iron work in the mines at Johannesburg, South Africa. The contract calls for work amounting to \$150,000. The same company was asked for bids for street railway building in Lisbon, and 14 cars of ironwork were shipped to Honolulu recently, being the first material for the great sugar plant being constructed by the company.

News in Brief.

Carl Lambert, a 14-year-old Minneapolis boy who was reported lost, was found in St. Paul making a living selling papers and flowers.

Archangelo Christello, a life convict at the state prison, died of consumption.

Some \$90,000 still due the state for money expended in assisting to fit out volunteer troops will be paid by the war department soon. This is the opinion of Adjutant General Lambert, who returned from Washington, where he filed final papers in the case.

Hans A. Aakes, the reform candidate, was elected mayor of Moorhead.

The grand jury found indictments against four "blind pigs," at Winona.

H. T. Enger, of Minneapolis, was sent to the workhouse for 30 days for beating his wife.

A discharged patient from one of the state insane asylums called at the probate court, in Minneapolis, to renew acquaintances and incidentally to demand pay for the time he was incarcerated. He estimated his time worth \$2 per day, and, leaving out Sundays and holidays, he found that he was entitled to pay for 2,142 days, or \$4,284 for seven years.

L. N. Scott has asked for the appointment of a receiver for the Twin City Jockey Club.

The attorney general decides that when a legal newspaper consolidates with a publication that has no legal standing the name of the joint office must be that of the legal publication.

While J. F. Haek and daughter were out riding, at Dover, the horse ran away and threw him out severely injuring both of them.

The mutual insurance company has decided that they will pay the state a fee of \$50 under the Somerville foreign corporation law.

PITH AND POINT.

A man can accomplish things at 20 that he would be ashamed to attempt at 40.—Chicago Daily News.

"My laundress must ride a wheel." "What do you mean?" "She's such a scorcher."—Harvard Lampoon.

It really doesn't matter whether a woman thinks we are handsome if she can only feel assured we think her so.—Elliott's Magazine.

"Oh, George, elephants have dropped in price from \$10,000 each to \$1,500." "Now, Clara, I warn you, if you buy one you needn't expect me to board it."—Indianapolis Journal.

Servant—"A gentleman at the door wants to know if Mr. Brown lives here." Mr. Brown—"Tell him no; that Mr. Brown boards here. Mrs. Brown is probably the person he wishes to see."—Boston Transcript.

Snoobon (to inhabitant of out-of-way seaside resort)—"What sort of people do you get down here in the summer?" Inhabitant—"Oh, all sorts, zur. There be fine people an' common people, an' some just half and half like yourself, zur."—Punch.

Mrs. Youngpop—"Dear, we must get one of those burglar alarms." Mr. Youngpop—"What for?" Mrs. Youngpop—"What do you suppose? You know if anyone tries to break into the house, it will go off." Mr. Youngpop—"Yes, and wake the baby. Not much!"—Philadelphia Press.

An Atchison woman whose ambition in life is to hold her tongue, locks herself up alone in her room whenever she is troubled about anything. In this way she cheats the sympathetic friend who coaxes her to "tell all your troubles to me, dear child," and saves herself the humiliation of telling too much.—Atchison Globe.

ROMANS AND THEIR FISH.

Aristocratic Ponds That Cost Fortunes to Build and Keep in Good Order.

Fish was in great demand at Rome, and incredible sums might be made by fish ponds or wasted on them. The humble fish pond of the people, supplied with rain water and replenished by fish taken out of rivers or lakes, brought in large returns. The aristocratic fish pond, furnished by Neptune and constructed with elaborate art, was more apt to empty pockets than to fill them. It cost a fortune to build it, to stock it and to feed the fish. One possessor of such a fish nursery made nearly £200 a year by it, but it cost the whole profit to keep it up. They were expensive toys rather than serious investments. Varro once saw a sacred tank in Lydia containing fish which came to the edge at the sound of a flute, and which no one was allowed to touch; the fish of the Roman noble are, he says, nearly as sacred. Hortensius, who had spent a mint of money on his salt water fish tanks at Baulos, was found out in buying all the fish for his table at Pozzuoli. He fed his fishes himself and was much more anxious lest they should be hungry "than I am about my asses, which bring me in a good profit." Varro scornfully remarks. Half the fishermen of the place were employed in catching small fish to give to the big ones, and salted fish was provided when the sea was too rough for the boats to go out. Hortensius would make you a present of a team of mules sooner than of a single one of his mullets. Lucullus gave carte blanche to his architect to ruin him if he could manage, by means of subterranean passages, to contrive a sort of tide in his tanks at Baiae, so as to keep the water cool in summer, when fishes in confinement suffer much from the heat at the Naples aquarium, a beautiful and wonderful place, surpassing the dreams even of a Roman fish maniac.

Varro speaks of some one who was more anxious about his sick fishes than about his sick slaves, but the story of the Roman "who fattened his lampreys on his slaves" belongs to after times. Like other stories which are told for the benefit of youth, it lacks exactitude. This seems to have been the truth: A millionaire freedman of the name of Pollio Vedius was entertaining Augustus at supper when a slave broke a crystal goblet; Pollio, enraged, ordered him to be thrown to the fishes; the slave appealed to the emperor, who asked his host to pardon him, but Pollio refused. Augustus then pardoned the man himself, and had all Pollio's crystal goblets broken and the fish pond filled up.—Contemporary.

Russia's Imperial Library.

Russia's imperial library dates back to the year 1700, and has to-day about 1,155,000 works in it, as well as over 26,000 manuscripts. This cannot be considered bad for a "benighted country." And it is noteworthy that every facility is given for the use of these by the people of St. Petersburg, who use the library in no small measure. The czar and zarina take much interest in its increase and progress, and often give their advice and help in connection with it.—Albany Argus.

Destroying Railroads.

A small contingent of Boers has realized the uselessness of merely tearing up a section of railway and throwing the rails into a stream—the usual Boer method of destroying a line. What they now do is to heat the center of a section to a white heat and carry the rail by its two cool ends to the nearest tree or telegraph pole, round which they twist it in such a way that it is absolutely impossible to use it again for railway purposes.—N. Y. Sun.

Doubtful Compliment.

Hostess—Oh, Mr. Borum, I'm so glad you have come!
Borum (flattered)—Are you, really?
"Indeed I am. If you hadn't, there would have been 13 at table."—Chicago Evening News.