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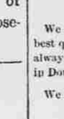
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F. CORNUTT, Riddles, Oregon.

A NOTED FUNNY MAN

SAYS FOLKS ARE OVER-STOCKED WITH HUMOROUS MATTER.

A Humorist Found on Almost Every Paper—The Work Done by a Local Funny Man—Twain, Cable, Nye, Riley and M. Quad Tired Out.

"The humorous papers, as a class, don't hold the distinctive place they did a few years ago," said Robert J. Burdette, in a conversation at the Monongahela house the other afternoon.

"What I mean," he continued, "is that nearly every paper of any size in the country has discovered that it has one or two men who write creditable humor. They may not make a department of it, or the man may not be labeled a funny man, but you can see it cropping out all through the paper. You will find in the city department reports with touches of bright and original humor which would do credit to a professional. You will find it in the editorial department and the paragraphs, and even in the head lines of the telegraph editor. Then, too, most papers have adopted a department of clipped humor. This effect has been produced on the daily and weekly newspapers by the humorous papers, and while it has brightened up the former considerably, it has, to some extent, hurt the humorous papers, as it furnishes about all that sort of matter that most people care to read."

The conversation running upon the lecture platform, the humorist was asked if he had met the Bill Nye and Whitcomb Riley combination.

"No, I have not," he replied, "but I understand they are very successful. That rarely happens, when two lecturers travel together. I don't think it would be possible for two humorists to make a successful combination. The similarity would surfeit an audience.

"Now Mark Twain and Cable were two of the best combinations I ever knew. One could hardly conceive of two more opposite, in manner, taste, style, and everything else, than these two. Mr. Cable is a small, refined, scholarly man, very quiet, almost effeminate in look and manner, and Twain, tall, ungainly, with a sort of western dash about him. They always act as a foil to each other, and an audience never tires of them."

HE GETS TIRED OUT AT LAST.

"What has become of your Railroad Passenger?" was asked.

"Oh, I get tired of running it. I never could keep up a line of sketches of any sort. They make me tired. The only man who can do that sort of thing, and do it well for so long a period, is C. B. Lewis, of The Detroit Free Press. Year in and year out he goes on grinding out that Limekiln Club and the Central Police Court, and I can't see but what it is as bright and quaint as it was at first. It is a wonder to me how he does it. I can not do it, and if I try it I get so disgusted with the subject that I wouldn't write it for $100 a column. I am getting tired of writing any way. Next summer I am going to take a tent and go up in the mountains and camp out for four months, clear away from every one. I think it will be a relief to the public as well as myself."

"When is that new book of yours coming out?"

"Well, now, I've heard of that book. The newspapers flash it up about as often as they do my discoverer. According to the newspapers, Frank Hatton discovered me, and brought me before a long-suffering world. Phocian Howard also dragged me out of my rural nonenity to the pitying gazes of the public, and some twenty-five other newspaper men claim the distinguished honor of boosting me up among the pinnacles of fame. I am going to call a convention of my discoverers, or else send out circulars asking for a loan from each of them."—Pittsburg Dispatch Interview.

Periodical Plagues of Mice.

At intervals of a few years, the Brazilian colony of Lourenco suffers from a remarkable visitation of field mice, the latest of which, in 1876, has just been described Dr. H. Von Ihring. These creatures, ordinarily not numerous, appeared in enormous quantities, and in a few days destroyed the fields of corn, potatoes, clover, oats, barley, gourds, pumpkins, and even weeds, actually damaging houses to a considerable extent and ruining furniture and clothing.

The periodical occurrences of these plagues seems to be due to the chief food supply of the mice, the seeds of the bamboo-grass, which at regular intervals of six to thirty years, matures over a large territory, and then disappears. The field-mice increase so rapidly that, if all the conditions which keep them in check were removed, a single pair would bear a progeny of 23,000 individuals in a single summer, and every living thing upon the earth would be consumed in a half-dozen years.—Arkansaw Traveler.

Acres for England's Laboring Classes.

The question of allotment of ground to the laboring classes in England, and on which the Tory government was defeated, has been solved in a very practical manner by Sir George Wombwell. On his estates in Yorkshire, comprising 13,000 acres, nearly all the cottages in the important villages have three acres of grass let with them—some have more—and to every cottage is attached a cowhouse, piggery, and garden of good size adjoining the cottage. The rent of cottage and garden is £4 to £5, and for cowgate of three acres £6. The present system of allotments on this estate has been in existence more than fifty years, and the owner increases the number of these holdings at ever opportunity, as in practice they answer well.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Amateur Medical Treatment in Italy.

A living scorpion is dropped into a wide-necked glass bottle, which contains a few drops of olive oil of the finest quality. More oil is poured on instantly, until the bottle is filled and the scorpion dead. In its struggles to free itself it ejects all its poison into the oil, and this poisoned oil forms a sovereign remedy for the sting of a scorpion. There is no doubt as to its efficacy, and it is probably a remedy which homeopathists would approve of on very rational grounds.—London Society.

The Terror of the Meadow.

Mama—When poor Christian was walking through this vally he met a horrible monster with great glaring eyes like coals of fire, and the monster had a voice like rolling thunder, and he breathed smoke and flame from his terrible nostrils. Who was it? Irma, who spent last summer in the country—Oh, mama, I know! A cow! —Burdette in Brooklyn Eagle.

There is only one linen mill now in operation in the United States, and it is making only the coarsest kind of crash toweling.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.
THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cts per box.
For sale by MARSTERS & Co

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Washington, Nov. 23, 1886.

Yesterday was the day of ex-President Arthur's funeral, and all of the Executive Departments were closed and the clerks had holiday. The United States Supreme Court adjourned from Friday until Tuesday for the same reason. All of the public buildings in Washington are draped in black for the dead ex President and flags are displayed at half mast. President Cleveland and Congress was represented by a committee of Senators and Representatives.

Since the black draperies have been hung on the front portico of the White House, the President and Mrs. Cleveland take their carriage at the south entrance when they go out for a drive, and all the projected gayeties at the Executive Mansion will be postponed for the thirty days of mourning. Then the black bounting will be taken down and folded up and laid away to do service again at the death of the next high official or ex-official of the Government, and the gay social season will begin.

The custom of shutting down on public work, and turning fifteen thousand employes loose whenever a President, ex-President, a Cabinet officer or ex-Cabinet officer happens to die, is a questionable way of showing respect to the distinguished dead. It is a pic-nic for the clerks and a time for congratulation and they would be glad to multiply by a hundred fold the occasions of public sorrow that give them a day off and out. There is no doubt that the custom would be more honored in the breach than in the observance, but it is one of those things that a long line of precedent has establisted and it would be difficult to decide where or with whose demise it should end.

President Cleveland has been much displeased at efforts to get him to interfere in the new widely discussed Washington Police scandal. He does not feel, in the present condition of affairs, that he would be warranted in taking hold of the matter, although the time may come when he may be called upon to take some action. The President is deeply absorbed with the preparation of his message, and although he is subjected to some unavoidable interruptions, the approaches to him are closely guarded.

The President's appointment of Mr. Fulton as Paymaster General of the Navy was very gratifying to naval officers and his appointment of Col. Moore as Surgeon General of the Army was received with satisfaction among officers of the army.

The regular Army officers who have been examining the militia of the States and Territories have reported commending the efficiency of the respective organizations. They think, however, that the armed militia of the country would be doubled if Congress would appropriate annually a much larger sum to be distributed among the States for improved arms and accoutrements. In the latter case it is estimated that the militia would consist of 300,000 well drilled men, who could be called into active service at a moment's notice, and who would be almost as effective at the outset of a war, as the regular Army.

Many conventions and associations —more than ever before—want to come to Washington during the next year. The National Grange has decided to hold all future meetings of that order in Washington, and a committee has been appointed to take measures for the erection of a suitable building here for its officers and its sessions.

Soon after Congress meets there will be a large gathering of notabilities here to discuss the proposed Exposition at Washington in 1889 and 92. And later there is to be a convention of an educational character which will attract a good many people. It will be in the interest of Federal aid to common schools and will be composed of school superintendents from the various States and Territories.

It has been proposed that each state of the Union shall erect in this city a handsome building to be used as a state headquarters, and perhaps as a residence for the Senators of the representative states. The plan, which is likely to be carried out some time, would prove a great convenience to each state, and would add much to the grandeur of the National Capital.

Not Till Then.

Mr. Blaine has shaken the democratic dust of this city from his feet and is speeding toward Maine. We fear that his political aspirations were rather chilled by our cold "No-"vember breezes. When a hen can produce a brood of chickens by setting on porcelain eggs, in that year New York will give her majority to Mr. Blaine.