

THE TIMES.

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The burning of Spanish flags is becoming such a popular pastime in this country that if the Cuban agitation lasts much longer the demand for Spain's national ensign will become greater than the supply. In the matter of flag burning the United States can beat Spain every time, as the people here have more money to disburse in such proceedings than the haughty but impetuous Spaniards.

That a combination of coal dealers exists in this city no one will attempt to deny, but why it should exist has not been satisfactorily explained to the people. The coal dealers of Danville, who were recently indicted in the corporation court of that city on the charge of unlawful conspiracy, have been found guilty, with three exceptions, and fined \$50 each, from which they have taken an appeal.

The bolt of the gold Democrats of the Kentucky Legislature from the support of Senator Blackburn seems to be a permanent one and will in all probability destroy all chances of the latter's election. The forty-first ballot yesterday stood Boyle (Republican) 63, Blackburn (Democrat) 48; Carlisle 15; Pettit 2. The Republican candidate came within two votes of election; but it does not follow from this that he will be successful. The balance of power is held by the Populists and what they will do has not yet been foreshadowed. Senator Blackburn has made a gallant fight but the odds against him are too great. A combination of Republicans and gold Democrats has been talked of; there are however no indications as yet that such a coalition has been effected. The Kentucky situation is certainly an interesting one.

ILLINOIS' FAVORITE SON.

Senator Cullom, of Illinois, in defining his position as a candidate for the Republican nomination for President, sets an example which might be followed with credit to themselves by all other aspirants for this high and responsible position. When asked yesterday for an authoritative statement as to his candidacy he said:

"After due consideration and careful investigation of the situation I have said to the people of Illinois that I should deem it a high honor to have the support of my State delegation at the St. Louis convention. I am a candidate to that extent, and I may add that I now see no reason why I should not continue to be a candidate. In making this announcement I desire that it should be understood explicitly that in entering the race I do not become a party to any scheme. I do not do it for the purpose of hurting or helping any other aspirant, except in so far as my own success might have that effect. I have gone into the contest simply because I consider the ambition a worthy one and will take my chances with others in the final result."

CONDITION OF TRADE.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: The Cuban resolution and the appointment of receivers for the Baltimore and Ohio were events of sufficient importance to affect almost any genuine market, especially for securities. It, therefore, argues either remarkable strength of conditions or an entire want of life and genuineness in the market that the prices of the sixty most active railroad stocks, which averaged \$49.74 per share February 1, have never fallen since that date lower than \$49.46, nor risen above \$50.85 per share.

The industries all report a slightly lower range of prices, except for iron and steel products, and it is noteworthy that while combinations in structural beams and wire-cut nails are advancing prices, the quotation for Bessemer pig has fallen to \$12.40 at Pittsburg, and southern No. 2 is offered at \$7.75, delivered at Birmingham, while billets have sold at \$17 at Pittsburg. The bar combination which raised prices not long ago finds an increasing part of the business absorbed by outside works. The demand for no class of iron products is at this time brisk, but large structural business is expected in the spring and there is still much hopefulness about railroad orders as earnings continue to improve.

Some further reductions have been made in prices of cotton goods, although it does not appear that the concessions have thus far been successful in calling out new business. Reports are frequent that many of the largest mills are about to stop production for a time, in order to give the market opportunity to clear itself. Speculation in breadstuffs has not

been particularly active nor has the change in prices been important. Western receipts of wheat were 2,311,333 bushels against 1,824,933 for the same week last year, having been in February 10,607,144 bushels against 4,419,446 last year.

There is still an excess over the movement of a year ago, though not so great as appeared in February. On the other hand, Atlantic exports again fall behind those of last year, amounting for the week to 1,541,135 bushels, flour included, against 1,890,232 last year. With continuing large receipts, corn remains substantially unchanged in price. The cotton market has continued its downward movement; spots have fallen 3 1/8 again, and the May option 20 points, and it is believed by many conservative observers that the crop, with favoring weather, may prove one of the largest on record.

Failures for the week have been 285 in the United States against 234 last year, and 68 in Canada against 58 last year.

Opposed to Colonel Lamb. PETERSBURG, Va., March 6.—A special from Richmond to the Index-Appeal says: The Republicans of Clay ward held a big meeting to night, called by ex-Councilman John S. Bethel. City Chairman Edgar Allan was endorsed. State Chairman Lamb was censured.

Bank Clearings. NEW YORK, March 6.—Bradstreet's bank clearings: Total United States, \$1,061,846,907; increase 5.7. Exclusive of New York, \$450,757,959, increase 1.1. Canada total, \$17,121,658, decrease 0.6.

Over a Million Lost. WASHINGTON, March 6.—The treasury to-day lost \$1,031,400 in gold coin and \$19,200 in bars which leaves the true amount of the reserve \$123,946,290.

A GOPHER AS A HYPNOTIST. Held by Its Glittering Eye, a Rabbit Awaited Certain Death.

A gopher snake at Escodido has been the cause of much earnest discussion among local naturalists recently. The question discussed was, "Do Snakes Charm or Hypnotize Their Prey?" One of the naturalists had the unusual but fortunate experience at Escodido of happening upon a large gopher snake just as the reptile was about to overcome a trembling cottontail rabbit and envelop the animal in its deadly coils. For some time the naturalist watched the snake's movements.

It was within 10 or 12 inches of the apparently fascinated rabbit. Silently and almost imperceptibly the snake had wormed its way nearer and nearer to its victim. Its eyes glistened with an intense brightness. Not a movement did it make which might alarm the timid rabbit. The forked tongue, which to the eye of a human being is so repulsive and intended to be terrifying, appeared to exert an entirely different influence upon the mind of the innocent rabbit.

This darting tongue either excited the victim's curiosity or caused the animal to so concentrate its mind on the snake's tongue as to throw that mind into a hypnotic condition of such strength that it could not break the spell and run away from impending death. The forked tongue darted out of the snake's mouth almost as regularly and rapidly as the needle of a sewing machine rises and falls in the cloth. The lithe body crept nearer and nearer. The rabbit was motionless. Its eyes were fixed on the piercing eye of the snake. Even the waving of the wind kissed shrubs about the rabbit failed to break the spell, and softly and slowly grim death in snake form wreathed its folds about the creature. Then was the spell broken.

To the naturalist who watched the capture of the rabbit it appeared as if the snake had certainly fascinated the animal. As a gopher snake is not poisonous and has no well developed fangs, its only means of killing prey is by constriction. In order to catch an animal it seems almost necessary for the snake to fascinate the victim.—Washington Post.

HE HESITATED.

But the Lover Discovers That His Objection Was a Mistaken One. The doting father was reflective. "You will find Mabel a splendid housekeeper," he said at last. The lover's face was blanched. "I—I had not heard of her accomplishments in that direction," he said hesitatingly.

"Then it must come to you in the nature of a glorious surprise," returned her father, "for I assure you there is no more careful housekeeper in the city." "I presume," faltered the young man, "that she takes a very pardonable pride in her ability in that line."

"Of course, of course. She is naturally proud of her economical management of a household."

The young man groaned. "I never knew but one woman who was considered a really first class housekeeper," he said, "and I had hoped that Mabel would have none of those traits. I do not like to eat up to an average."

"Eat up to an average!" exclaimed the old man. "Yes. According to my understanding of the subject, a good housekeeper is one who allows no waste. She studies your hunger and your capacity for about a week, strikes an average and then insists that you must eat up to it ever after. If you don't eat enough, she grumbles about the waste, and if you eat too much somebody will find a shortage, and she will call your attention to the fact that you were far below the average the day before and caused considerable waste."

"I see your point," returned the old man, "but you misunderstand me. I said she was a good housekeeper, not a good boarding house keeper."—Chicago Post.

Tennessee has 42,759 manufacturing hands and makes \$72,355,286 worth of goods.

SPRING OFFERINGS.

These Are Now Open:

Dunlap Hats,
Manhattan Shirts,
Waterhouse Neckwear.

Remember Our Tailoring Department. All Garments Made by Us are Kept Pressed and Repaired Free of Charge.

GILKESON & TAYLOR.

HATERS AND MENS' FURNISHERS.

THE SMART TELLER.

His Stratagem For Securing an Increase of His Salary.

The paying teller refused to honor the check and went to the cashier. "They want that \$300,000," he said. "What are you going to do about it?" "Pay it, of course," said the cashier. "You have the money." "Yes; I have the money, but I don't propose to pay it."

"What do you mean, sir?" the cashier exclaimed. "It is your business to pay it. I have given you the money, and the check must be paid."

"Mr. —, I am working here on a salary of \$2,000 a year. I have asked for an increase, and the directors think I am getting enough. I cannot agree with them. It is true that I have the \$300,000, but I intend to keep it. I have not been treated right, and I must take this course to get my deserts."

A long argument followed, which was referred to the board of directors, which was hastily called together. The teller was ordered before their majesties. He admitted all that the cashier had said of him and added:

"Gentlemen, I am serious. I have the \$300,000 safe. You may do what you please. If you take the matter to the courts, the most I can get is ten years. I shall leave the penitentiary at the age of 40 worth \$300,000. If I remain with you at my present salary, I won't be worth a cent. Do as you will. Give me \$5,000 a year, or send me up."

He was a hard customer to deal with, and they quickly agreed that if he would return the \$300,000 and pay the check they would do as he wished. He made them sign a bond, releasing him in every possible way and guaranteeing him \$5,000 a year for 30 years.

One of the directors, an old, gray haired fellow who was president of the insurance company, said:

"Young man, you are too smart to be paying teller of a bank. Come down to my office, and I will give you \$20,000 a year."

He went home, got the \$300,000, returned it to the bank and went into the insurance business.—New York Press.

CHARLESTON'S POSTOFFICE.

A Quaint and Ancient Structure With an Interesting History.

"Among the quaint old structures of Charleston our old postoffice building takes the lead in historic interest," said James S. Murdock, a leading wholesale merchant of the Carolina metropolis. Mr. Murdock is here with a delegation of his townsmen to ask congress to make a modest appropriation so as to donate the aforesaid antique to the city.

"The old postoffice," said he, "was built of brick imported from England in 1767 under the direction of a committee of the colonial assembly. Its leading members were John Rutledge, Henry Laurens and Thomas Lynch, who later took a prominent part in the formation of the republic, and whose names will be found among the signers of the Declaration of Independence. During the occupation of Charleston by the British it was used as a prison and between 60 and 70 of the best citizens were confined there before their removal to St. Augustine, Fla. In the number was Colonel Isaac Haynes of the celebrated family of that name. In revenge for the execution of Major Andre Haynes was led out from prison and suffered the death penalty by order of Colonel Balfour, then in command, without the formality of a trial."

"In 1790, when General Washington visited Charleston, it was in this same old building that he was entertained, and a splendid ball was given in his honor by the wealthy planters of the state, co-operating with the town people. With such historic associations surrounding it, our people naturally take a deep interest in their old postoffice, and the idea is to keep it in its original condition as a monument of the past."—Washington Post.

How Books Get Valuable—to Cranks.

Anything—a printer's error, the author's private or public troubles, a freak on the part of its last distinguished possessor—may run up the price of a book by leaps and bounds and set all the cranks on the prowl. Books have been run after merely because they were barbarously mauled by their owners. A late eminent Shakespearean scholar used to tear "out of volumes in his possession all the matter which he considered of insufficient interest," and we are assured that "there were recently at large persons bearing all the outward semblance of sane humanity" who bought up the mutilated volumes at high prices. The illustrious Charles Darwin, being a practical man, untroubled by any sentiment about books as such, had a savage habit of cutting his bulkier volumes into halves. These fragments would fetch long prices.—London News.

He Was a Good Pumper.

Men are not always willing to tell where they got their experience. The prize taker for frankness in this particular is doubtless the man who worked for the contractors on a Maine railroad extension, pumping water by hand into a tank. He did this work so well that somebody complimented him on his proficiency. "I think I ought to be able to pump by this time," he said, shrugging his shoulders, with a little look of self conceit. "I worked at it six years in the state prison."—Lewiston Journal.

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For Sale. FULL set of tinsmith tools. Apply at 121 Luck avenue s. w. or W. W. Workman & Co.

"In the town of progress" is what we are to-day and we want you to listen for just one record. We want to tell you of the good "Blood Wine" will do you and your family. It is a positive cure for indigestion, stomach troubles and all diseases of the blood, liver and kidneys. This remedy is called "Blood Wine" because it is the wine of the blood. It gives your blood a good rich color and also gives you perfect circulation, and if you have the two things you have got good health. We sell it. JOHNSON & JOHNSON.

Why not give W. A. Pedigo & Co. a list of your vacant houses. They might find you a renter, and its just possible they would sell one for you, particularly in Southwest Roanoke. It will cost you nothing to try it anyway. Office 8 Campbell avenue s. e., Roanoke, Va.

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Send your address to H. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merits. These pills are easy in action and are particularly effective in the cure of Constipation and Sick Headache. For Malaria and Liver troubles they have been proved invaluable. They are guaranteed to be perfectly free from every deleterious substance and to be purely vegetable. They do not weaken by their action, but by giving tone to stomach and bowels greatly invigorate the system. Regular size 50c. per box. Sold by Massie's Pharmacy, 109 Jefferson street.

JULY 4, 1896, falls on Saturday, and in order to enjoy the grand and glorious Fourth you have to be in perfect health, and there is just one way to be in good health, and that is by taking only "Blood Wine," for it is the only true blood purifier, for it is a positive cure for indigestion, stomach, kidney and liver diseases. It is just what you want to make you feel young and strong. Remember, "Blood Wine," for sale at MASSIE'S PHARMACY.

How to Enjoy Good Health.

If you are suffering with any skin or blood disease, Rheumatism, Catarrh, Ulcers, Old Sores, General Debility, etc., send stamp to the Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga., for book of wonderful cures, free. This book will point the way to speedy recovery. Botanic Blood Balm (B. B. B.) is manufactured after a long tested prescription of an eminent physician, and is the best building up and blood purifying medicine in the world. Beware of substitutes. Price \$1.00 for large bottle. See advertisement elsewhere. For sale by Drug-gists.

JAS. G. PERKINSON, on religion, said to the old and young, do not drink liquors that intoxicate, but do good to your system, and "Blood Wine" is the thing you want to build up your strength and make you feel as you did years ago. Remember, it is Blood Wine that cures you of all diseases of the blood, liver and kidneys. Large bottle, 50c. Come to our store for it: VAN LEAR BROS., successors to Christian-Barbee Drug Company.

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are easy to take, easy to operate. 25 cents.

TROUSERS. They're going fast. We want you to have them for little money and help us to make room for Spring Goods now in transit. \$2 Trousers for \$1.25; \$3 Trousers for \$1.75; \$5 Trousers for \$3. \$1.50 Buys an Overcoat For your boy that would be cheap at \$3.50. All our Men's Overcoats at cost, quantity is limited, but quality good. Neckwear. Note the richness and lustre of the silks and the size and Shapes of the Scarfs, Dejonvilles, Tecks and Four-in-Haude, 25 and 50 cents. Fancy Percalé Shirts. Never, this early in the season, did you ever see such a display of Shirts as we are now showing. All the newest patterns, and Shirts that fit, 50 cents up. Our Prices Always 25 to 50 Per Cent. Under Others. Philadelphia One Price Clothing House.

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