

# FACTS ABOUT THE TARIFF.

## IMPORTANT QUESTIONS POINT-EDLY ANSWERED.

An Interesting Report on Farm Mortgages—The Results of the Decision on the McKinley Law—Pictures and Paragraphs.

### A Few Questions Answered.

Question No. 2. Who pays the tariff?

It depends upon the kind of tariff. If a revenue or free trade tariff, such as the former duty on sugar or tin plate, we pay it all; if a protective tariff, we pay a part of the duty at first, but eventually the foreigner pays nearly if not quite all of it on goods actually imported. If we prefer to buy English goods, however, even though the American goods are better and cheaper, then, of course we pay the duty.

Ask the Canadian farmer who pays the American duty. Ask the Sheffield manufacturer, the Chemnitz workman, the pearl button makers of Vienna, the tin-plate makers of Wales, the foreign manufacturers of silk and linen and rindery, and scores of other articles. They will all admit that they pay the duty if they put the goods on our market. Here is an admission from the New York Times of February 2, 1891. We produce it as good free-trade testimony indorsing our own assertions:

A statement issued by the Department of Agriculture, giving the exports to the United States from Canada for the year 1890, shows that the Dominion exported \$11,219,018 worth of agricultural products to the United States last year. The average rate of duty collected by the United States customs upon agricultural products is about 20 per cent., and it is easy to prove from the speeches of Sir John Macdonald and other Conservative leaders that the duties imposed by the Americans upon Canadian products exported to the United States come out of the pockets of the Canadian farmer. Hence we find that during the fiscal year 1890-91, \$2,243,800—that is 20 per cent. of \$11,219,018—went into the Washington treasury, which would have gone into the pockets of Canadian farmers if the Dominion enjoyed unrestricted reciprocity.

It seems useless to pursue the matter further. In the face of the many articles selling for less than the duty, the free trader still cries, "The tariff is a tax." Is the tariff on wire nails a tax, selling at \$1.30 a keg, while the duty is \$2? Is the tariff on a yard of calico a tax, selling at 41 cents, while the duty is 5 cents? Is the tariff on a yard of cloth a tax, selling at 75 cents, while the duty is \$1.25 cents?

Question No. 3. How do you reconcile protection with reciprocity?

Protection levies duties on articles which we produce at home, in order to preserve American industries and the higher wages of American workmen. It also removes duties from all articles which we do not ourselves produce, because the duty on them is an unnecessary and burdensome tax to the consumer.

Reciprocity removes the duty from articles which we do not produce, and at the same time gets concessions from foreign countries by which they remove or lower their import duties on our products exported to them.

Protection regards the products of our labor at home.

Reciprocity opens to the products of our labor a market abroad.

One is the handmaiden of the other.

Question No. 4. The Hon. Wm. M. Springer, chairman of the ways and means committee, makes the following statement in his report to the North American Review. Please explain them:

"The imports of wool for the ten months ending October 30, 1890 (the McKinley bill took effect October 4, 1890), amounted to \$8,000,000 pounds, while the imports for the ten months ending October 30, 1891—the ten months next after the passage of the bill—were over 119,000,000 pounds, an increase of over 30 per centum.

"For the ten months ending October 30, 1890, the imports of woolen goods were valued at over \$49,000,000, while those for the ten months ending October 30, 1891, were valued at only \$29,000,000, a decrease of over 41 per centum. It also appears that the price of wool has averaged from 2 to 3 cents a pound less since the passage of the McKinley bill than it was when the bill passed."

It is true that during the last calendar year our imports of raw wools of all kinds were greater than in 1890 by 30,630,899 pounds, about the rate of increase given by Mr. Springer. This is the fact that seems to puzzle our correspondent. It ought not to.

The United States consumes annually about 600,000,000 pounds of raw wool. We grow about one-half of this quantity, or 300,000,000 pounds, and import the rest. Some of it, about 100,000,000 pounds, have been in the habit of importing in an unmanufactured form, and of importing the rest in a manufactured form as woolen goods. The framers of the McKinley law saw that the great evil they had to remedy was the importation of wools, which not only displace American wool just as really as do importations of raw wool, but also the labor which should receive employment making the imported article here. "If we do not grow wool enough or our own use," they said, "then let us import the raw wool instead of the finished product, and so give work to our own people instead of to foreigners."

The result has been about as was expected. During the year ending December 31, 1891, our imports of manufactures of wool were about \$20,000,000 less than they were the year before. Here was an increase of 60,000,000 pounds in the demand of this country for raw wool to make similar goods in this country. Manufacturers necessarily went abroad for part of their supply, for our own wool growers did not produce enough last year to supply it. The good effect of the tariff in shielding our farmers from this world-wide fall in prices appears in the fact that 1892 wool fell in the London market 15 per cent. on an average, and only 4-1/2 per cent. in this country between the same dates. It would be equivalent to a fall of 5 cents on a pound of wool, worth 23 cents, as against 1 cent on wool of the same price in this country—not 2 to 3 cents, as Mr. Springer says.

### Farm Mortgages.

There are few, if any, public questions that have received so much attention, and been the subject of so much discussion in the newspapers and by politicians as the farm indebtedness of the Western states.

dened with mortgages, but that this indebtedness was an evidence of distress, and farm indebtedness was more oppressive and disastrous than the indebtedness of other classes of citizens, and that the whole of these statements or assertions, of repeated as they have been, are sustained by the facts.

Men who live in towns and in cities borrow money to buy homes, to build houses, to transact business. Manufacturers and merchants borrow large amounts and mortgage their homes, their factories, their stores, and their stocks, and, in a large majority of cases, their securities, be they mortgages on real estate or personal property, are evidences of business transactions which are expected to and do realize gains to the borrower as well as interest to the lenders. Under the same conditions, farmers, as well as men of other avocations, sometimes borrow injudiciously, and mortgages on the farm, home, factory or stock becomes a burden.

The farmer is not less shrewd, industrious, economical and careful than the men of other avocations, and, as a rule, is less in debt, has a better home, and is more successful than the average business man. There are less failures among farmers than among any other class.

It appears from the report of the comptroller of the currency that in one day alone the loans by forty-seven banks in New York City on real estate and other securities amounted to \$27,710,551. In Chicago in one day twenty-one banks loaned \$87,965,817. Nine banks loaned in St. Louis in one day \$27,891,107, and 777 banks in the cities and towns of September 25, 1891, loaned out \$1,983,354,240. This does not include half of the banks or the immense sums loaned by individuals. Let it be noted these loans were the transactions of but one day.

The loans on real estate and other securities made by 4,889 state savings, private banks, and loan and trust companies during the last fiscal year amounted to \$2,069,407,867.

Furthermore, in the states where there is apparently a large farm indebtedness there is likewise a large indebtedness in other real estate, such as city and town lots. In a recent report from the Census Office on this subject of farm, homes and mortgages, it appears that in the state of Iowa, of a total real estate indebtedness of \$199,774,171, the mortgages on acres were \$149,457,144, and \$50,317,027 was on lots in towns and cities. In Kansas \$174,720,071 was on acre property and \$68,426,755 was on town lots. In Illinois \$165,280,112 was on acre property and \$219,010,058 on lots. It is a fact that the debts in the communities the greater are the debts in towns and cities as compared with the indebtedness on farm property. The Chicago debt alone was \$191,000,000, or 100 per cent. more than the entire farm indebtedness of Kansas, or \$110,000,000 more than the farm indebtedness of Iowa.

From this same bulletin issued by the Census Office it appears that about 70 per cent. of the money borrowed on farm mortgages in Kansas was for the purchase of real estate and improvements, nearly 6 per cent. for business and only about 24 per cent. farm and family expenses, the balance to purchase live stock and other personal property. In Iowa the percentage of mortgages given for purchase of real estate and improvements was about 87 per cent. of the farm indebtedness. In Illinois the percentage of indebtedness used in the purchase of real estate and in improvements was about 80. It will be seen that a very large portion of the indebtedness represents thrift and not distress, the acquisition of more property and better conditions by improvements, new machinery and more live stock.

From the annual circular of R. G. Dun & Co., of the failures of the United States for the calendar year 1891, we learn that the number of failures in business in Massachusetts was 764, and the total amount of liabilities was \$13,573,721. In Kansas the number of failures was 275 and liabilities were \$5,625,331. In Pennsylvania, 1,383 and liabilities, \$25,447,587. In Illinois, 531 and liabilities \$36,303,814. In Connecticut, number of failures 185 and liabilities \$2,719,020. In Iowa, number of failures 185 and liabilities \$2,297,794. It will be remembered that Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Connecticut are great manufacturing states, are much older, their business methods more settled, and they have accumulated more wealth by the savings of over 100 years. They were not distressed by loss of crops, and yet in those three manufacturing states the failures in 1891 amounted to 2,240 and the liabilities were of the large amount of \$42,040,528, while the number of failures in the three agricultural states of Illinois, Iowa and Kansas was 991, and the liabilities amounted to \$13,196,849. There were 1,240 more failures and \$28,853,679 more liabilities in the three manufacturing states than in the three agricultural states.

Furthermore, it appears from the annual report of the commissioner of labor statistics of the state of Connecticut that the per cent. of profit from capital invested in several leading manufacturing enterprises during 1890 was as follows: Cotton 6.14; woolens, 7.57; leather goods, 6.28; rubber goods, 3.42; clocks, 2.13; buttons, 7.49; general hardware, 8.10, or an average of not quite 6 per cent. of the capital invested in these seven industries.

The farmers of the West would not be content, if from a capital of \$10,000 invested in farm and stock, they realized but \$800, or \$80 from \$15,000, or \$1,200 from an investment of \$20,000, or \$1,800 from an investment of \$30,000, out of which they must pay their family expenses, and all other expenses, education of children, etc., as do owners of capital invested in the manufacturing industries. This is one reason why large amounts of money of the Eastern states seek investment in the West, because the returns are larger than from investment in manufacturing industries. It is needless to say that the careful, diligent farmer and stock raiser realizes on the average a much larger per cent. on his investment, as he justly should, besides having his home and the support of his family. He has much more content and comfort and less anxiety of life. It may not be amiss here to give a few facts that indicate the progress and prosperity of the agricultural interests of the United States. The value of the wheat crop is given by the Agricultural Department at \$513,472,711; corn crop at \$351,439,228; oats at \$225,312,297. These crops alone were worth \$1,090,224,236, and the same authority estimates the crops of these cereals in 1891 as worth about \$300,000,000 more than the crops of same cereals of 1890. The products of these cereals in 1891 in Iowa were worth about \$148,000,000; in Iowa, \$154,000,000; in Kansas, \$110,000,000. If all the products of the soil and live stock interest were included, these values would be more than doubled in each of these three states or close to it not quite \$1,000,000,

Who can truthfully say the farmers of the West are not now enjoying prosperity, and it is only a matter of a short time when they can pay all indebtedness or borrow money, when they wish at much lower rates than heretofore.

### The Results of the McKinley Tariff Touching the McKinley Law.

Let us look back a little. The Democratic victory of 1890 was won largely upon the assertion that the McKinley tariff and the Dingley worsted bill were unconstitutional. Men professedly of great knowledge in the law, not in the chief importing cities only, but in other parts of the country, including conspicuous members of the Senate and House, staked their reputation as lawyers on the assertion that these acts were not merely inexpedient, as they claimed, but plainly in violation of the constitution. Yet the supreme court of the United States, Democratic and Republican justices agreeing, decides by a unanimous vote that both these acts are constitutional and valid.

Another great advantage which the Democrats had in the elections of 1890 was that the action of Congress on many important measures was declared unconstitutional because the Speaker counted members as present who were present. Who does not remember the frantic outcries of Democrats at that time, how Speaker Reed was a tyrant, usurper, czar, and how the one-man despotic rule of the House must be reprobated by the people? Besides, the publican majority took to itself the power to control legislation, and to make effective the will of the people in the previous congressional elections, this infamous usurpation, it was said, was put down, or the liberties of the people would be sacrificed. This notion actually caught many thousands of innocent voters, who imagined that a rule of the House must be quite outrageous because Democrats had never adopted it. But now the United States supreme court, Democratic and Republican justices agreeing, unanimously decides that the action of Speaker Reed was constitutional and of unquestionable validity.

So it was said that reciprocity was a fraudulent and worthless trick; that Congress had no power to intrust the president with the responsibility of deciding whether or not to consent upon which a legislative act depended had been met. There were some who really considered it about the worst and most revolutionary thing the last Republican Congress had done. But the United States supreme court now decides that the action of Speaker Reed of the Democratic and all the Republican justices concur.

These decisions come in good time to help reasonable voters in the judgment they have to form this year regarding the two parties. They happen to accord with the views of the McKinley Tariff and the McKinley Law, and they are the result of the decisions of the Democratic judges in the state of New York regarding the stealing of seats in the legislature by acting carefully and scrupulously within its constitutional powers, even though the Democratic party was contending only for what was their right. They disclose also the impudent, lawless and law-resisting spirit of the Democratic party in national as well as state affairs.—New York Tribune.

It is worthy of note in connection with these decisions to say that one of the greatest benefits of the McKinley act was that of Senator John C. Spooner, on September 8, 1890. He took decided grounds in his favor, and not only combated the theory of the Democratic senators but that of Senator Beveridge, and the supreme court has sustained Col. Spooner's argument on the constitutionality of the reciprocity clause.

### Pictures and Paragraphs.

Since the McKinley tariff passed, Henry Graham, a manufacturer of pearl buttons, Newark, N. J., has invented a process of decorating in consequence of which the former price of \$125 per gross for large decorated buttons has been reduced to \$50 per gross.

For an equally desirable domestic button. What a tax the tariff has proved itself in this case to be sure!

Do you know that the beet sugar industry now supplies more than one-half the world's sugar product? Well, it does, and it is an industry that was created and fostered solely by protective government bounties. Germany has tried the bounty system with complete success. In 1871 she produced 185,442 tons of beet sugar.

In 1890 her product, developed under government protection, was 1,213,689 tons.

We pay to Germany \$15,000,000 for beet sugar annually that we ought to pay to our own farmers. Yet the anti-American free trade party is clamorous against the principle of government protective bounties by which the greatest industries of the world have been created.

Here is an item from the New York Times, a free trade paper: "Now the country is unprecedentedly wealthy. Its debts are piled to an insignificant amount, and its credit is ready to extend their loans at 2 per cent. We have a currency every dollar of which is worth a dollar in gold. We have all the specie we want, and can get all that we need. We are feeding the world. We are powerful, rich, and prosperous, practically free of debt. This is giving the free trade calamity cries dead away, and no Republican paper could have done it better."

The cotton planters of the South, who are just at present experiencing some of the disasters of over-production, should carefully weigh Mr. Gladstone's advice to the people of the United States, as expressed in his famous article on "Protection or Free Trade," in the North American Review, about a year ago. "In America," said Mr. Gladstone, "you produce more cloth and more iron at high prices, instead of more wheat, practically free of duty, and more cotton at low prices." What more cereals and more cotton at low prices means we have learned to our cost. But what does England care? So long as she obtains raw materials cheaply, it makes no difference to her whether the producer of those raw materials starves or not. And yet most of these very cotton planters are free traders.

### Wood Made Eatable.

Wood is used in making an eatable and nutritious food by Dr. Krug, a German physician, whose method consists in transforming the cellulose into grape sugar and adding to this about 40 per cent. of meal of wheat, oats or rye. Phosphates and all bone elements may also be introduced. The wood-glucose bread is intended for cattle, to be used in place of oil-cake and similar preparations.

# HE BLUFFED THE DIRECTORS.

## How a Bank Teller Secured a Raise in His Salary.

The hotel bell-boy, who was recently sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary for stealing \$13,000 in a New York hotel, said that he had hidden the money where no one could find it, and where he could get it at the end of his ten years' term.

If the money is not literally hidden or buried, but is invested safely where it will draw interest, the boy may have about \$20,000 when he becomes a free man. This boy's actions remind me of what a Western bank teller did some time ago. He was daily intrusted with large sums of money. Although his position was an important and responsible one, his salary was only \$1,000 a year.

One day he asked the directors to increase his salary. They told him as he was a single man they thought he was getting all he needed, and as much as the position was worth. His influence with the customers of the bank, they said, was not great enough to justify an increase of salary.

Next morning the teller appeared at the bank as usual, about thirty minutes before the opening hour. He sent for the directors and said:

"Gentlemen, as you know, these are panicky times, and an inability on our part to meet a single call for money would precipitate a panic. There would be a run on the bank, and the concern would be ruined."

"Yes."

"Well, there will be a run on this bank to-day."

"How do you know?"

"I know because I have arranged matters so that there will be."

"You?"

"Yes; yesterday you told me I was not influential, and you declined to raise my salary. I propose to demonstrate to you to-day that I have influence to break this bank."

"How will you do it?" sarcastically said the President.

"I have taken all the money out of the safe and have hidden it where you will never find it."

"What?"

"There is neither money nor securities in the bank, and when the door is opened in half an hour you may as well shut it again at once."

"Don't you know, sir, that you will be arrested, and that your offense will send you to the State prison?"

"I have considered that. I know the penalty, and I'm prepared to accept the punishment. I shall probably get ten years in the penitentiary; good behavior will reduce that by at least a year. I shall likely have light, clerical work to do, easier work than I do here, and I shall have no cares nor harassing responsibilities. I shall have leisure and shall employ it in study. At the end of nine years I shall leave prison in the prime of life, the master of several modern languages, and otherwise well educated, and I shall have your money as a capital to begin life with. What do you think of my plan?"

The directors stormed and swore and begged, but the teller remained firm, and suggested that they send for an officer to arrest him. After he got them thoroughly alarmed, and when they were almost on their knees supplicating that he return the money, he seemed to relent, and said:

"On one condition I shall return the money. If inside of five minutes you give me a written contract agreeing to retain my services for five years and pay me a salary of \$5,000 a year, the money will be on the desk by the time the door opens for business."

The agreement was handed to the teller in about two minutes. He then put on his office coat, went to the safe, opened it, and took out the money. He had merely pretended that he had done what he could easily have done, and what almost any teller of any country bank could do any day. Of course such action is not to be commended, but it certainly would serve some bank directors jolly well right if their ill-paid tellers would give them at least a scare. It is a shame to pay such small salaries to men who have positions of trust and responsibility, and it is a wonder that there are as few defalcations as there are.—Texas Siftings.

### MORE DOGS THAN MEN.

#### A Glimpse at a Picturesque Out-of-the-Way Village in Siberia.

Our arrival at the village of Werchheimbaskoi was hailed by a salute fired from a small cannon on the hillside, and the villagers crowded forth to have a look at us, writes Julius M. Price, the English artist, who is taking a trip up the Yenisei River in Siberia. It was a picturesque spot, and looked doubly so in the warm sunshine, the Oriental-looking little church, with its white walls and green cupolas, standing out in brilliant relief against the blue sky. In a short time the police officer arrived, accompanied by his clerk and a couple of Cossacks, and we thus received our first visit from official Russia.

The Russians, physically, are undoubtedly a fine set of men; nearly all I have seen so far have been above the average height. This officer topped them all, for he must have stood at least 6 feet 4 inches, and with his tall astrakhan kepi and long fur coat seemed a huge fellow, and a very good-looking one to boot.

The village certainly was a great improvement on any of the others we had yet come to; the houses, even, had some pretense to architecture, and looked very pretty with their quaint wooden porticoes. Dogs, as usual, seemed more numerous than inhabitants, and had it not been that I knew how peaceful they are, except among themselves, it would have required some nerve to pass through them, for the row they made was simply awful.

In the evening the police officer

# A DEEP-DYED RASCAL.

## A Scheme to Cheat the Insurance Companies.

Benjamin Robert Musgrave, or Bob, as he was better known, was born at Leeds, England, about 30 years ago. He was not born rich and when he went out into the world it was to get a living as best he could. It occurred to Bob, as it has to many another, that the easiest way was "by his wits." So Bob sought fields wherein he could make use of his ponderous gall. But for some unknown reason he was unlucky from the first.

The next morning a messenger came to the ship expressly to ask if I would go ashore and take a sketch of the village priest and his family. This was rather a compliment, so I could hardly refuse, more especially as a few minutes later the worthy man himself arrived to show me the way. The priest was a person of remarkable appearance—tall, slim, and exceedingly good-looking, in an effeminate sort of way—with a long, fair beard and flowing locks. I wanted his portrait. We went up to his house, and I was presented to his wife.

Fortunately I had brought my camera with me, so to please him I took them all in a group, and shuddered to think how it would look when developed. I then asked the gentleman if I might make a separate study of him, and he not only said he would be very pleased to let me, but even offered to come on board to sit for me. So, during the morning, I made a careful pencil study of him. While doing it, to my astonishment the police officer, who had come to have a look at what I was doing, asked me if I would like to do him afterward.

### —New York Journal.

### A Railroad on Stilts.

Probably the most unique railroad ever built in this or any other country was the Bradford and Foster Brook Line, Pennsylvania, and was only four miles long, but did an immense business during the boom days in the oil regions. It was built in 1877, and two years later went down in a smash that killed a number of people. The road was appropriately nick-named the "Peg-leg" from its peculiar construction, for it was built on stilts, and the passengers entered the cars from the second stories of the stations. There was but one main rail, which was of iron, but there were two auxiliary wooden rails. The main rail rested on strong wooden beams, supported by massive stanchions, strongly braced. Two feet below the top beam were two wooden rails eight inches in width, which were securely nailed to the supporting stanchions. The wooden rails were mainly for balancing purposes. The height of the old little road varied from twelve to twenty-five feet, according to the lay of the land in the valley through which it was built.

Without this elevation the scheme of the inventor would have been impossible. The cars fitted on the rail like saddlebags, hanging down on each side, and were really two-story cars, the upper portion being used for passengers and the lower story for freight.

The grotesque looking train was headed by two engines connected with each other, one on each side of the main rail, the two balancing like the cars. When the fireman put on more coal he was obliged to descend to the furnace by a ladder. The engines and cars ran on a set of central wheels which protruded through the floors into wooden hoods put on to prevent the damaging passengers. The cars were narrow, and the main rails were broad. Whenever the car tilted, side wheels caught the wooden rails and aided to preserve the equilibrium of the train.

### The Dark Continent.

The population of Africa, according to the latest and most reliable estimates, is given at 163,000,000, or fourteen inhabitants to the square mile, while the population of the three Americas is given at 121,713,000, or eight inhabitants to the square mile. It must be remembered that while explorers tell us of large districts in Africa that are scantily peopled, there are also vast regions densely populated of which but few persons have ever heard. It may in fact be said that only the fringe of the Dark Continent has as yet been reached after 1,000 years of intermittent exploration.

### Big Texans.

The six Shields brothers of Collins County, Texas, have an average height of 6 feet 8 inches, and Col. Henry Thurston of Titus County, Texas, towers up to the height of 8 feet 5 inches.

### A Cider-Drinker.

The town of Union, Me., boasts of a citizen who in three days last week drank 26 gallons of cider.

Besides the roundness of limb and redundancy of health that city women acquire from vigorous horseback riding, they gain a faculty for keeping their balance while on their feet if city conveyances. It is a most desirable acquisition for the city woman, whom we are accustomed to see tipping or staggering about in the street cars when forced to stand. Sharp-eyed men who ride horseback know at a glance when a woman standing in a street car is a horsewoman. They know it by the ease and sureness with which she adjusts herself to the motions of the vehicle, and at the same time preserves her feminine dignity.

The ex-Confederates in South America are reminded of old times when they are asked \$50 for a pair of \$5 boots, and when the clerk of the hotel presents them a bill of \$25 for supper, breakfast and lodgings. The only thing which has not advanced is small-pox.

CHARLES TAPPAN, who built the famous New York Tombs prison, is still living in that city at the age of ninety-five. He has seen the metropolis grow from a town of less than one hundred thousand inhabitants.



BOB MUSGRAVE.

the first. It would not be long after Bob entered a city, with some big tale of business prospects, before he would begin to excite the suspicions of some one with whom he came in contact and before he was hardly aware of it he would be damned out of town.

Thus he went to Chicago; but his same old difficulty, "down on his luck," began to torment him there and he decided upon a bold scheme to obtain money. He became acquainted with a woman named Kate McLaughlin, or Kate Burton, as she called herself, who was not of the highest morals. He and Kate put their heads together and it was not long afterward that Mr. Musgrave took out life insurance policies amounting to \$35,000. Next Mr. M. was in receipt of a long box, which excited the curiosity of those of his "friends" who saw it. The box announced his intention to take up his abode in an old deserted cabin near Terre Haute, Ind. There was one friend who had always stood by Bob and that was Charley Trout. When Bob went to Terre Haute and to the cabin Trout informed the good people thereabout that Bob had ensconced himself there and persuaded two men to go and see him. One or two days later the old cabin was reported to have burned down. Upon searching the ruins the charred bones of a skeleton were found and the report that Bob Musgrave had been burned. Then it was learned that some one had bought a skeleton and ordered it to be sent to the address to which the long box had come and thus that mystery was cleared up. Next Musgrave was recognized in Chicago and it was seen that the bones discovered in the old hut were of the fake skeleton bought by him. Bob was at last arrested on the charge of attempting to swindle the insurance companies out of \$35,000. He was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary and fined \$500.

### THE AMATEUR CARPENTER.

#### Bits of Furniture Which May Easily Be Made at Home.

A very pretty piece of wall furniture may be made by an amateur carpenter—a thing which is clock, cupboard and shelves for bric-a-brac combined, says the New York Tribune. Buy one of the round kitchen clocks which can be bought at any house-furnishing place, and some small turned pillars from the joiners,



together with some molding, a couple of hinges and a lock from the hardware shop, and put them all together after the fashion of the sketch. Corner seats are easily made in a room and are very pretty. The foundation is simply a low three-cornered stand covered with boards. Make a bag stuffed with hair and nail it on the frame. Cover this with a pretty furniture chintz and finish with a founce of the same. Two long, thick cushions form the back.

### Men of Iron and Phosphorus.

Statisticians say that an average man of 154 pounds weight has enough iron in his constitution to make a plowshare, and enough phosphorus to make half a million matches.

### A Costly Dog.

Farmer Hardin and Lawyer McKinney, of Moberly, Mo., went to law over a 10-cent dog. The farmer lost the suit, and also lost over \$100 in costs.

The mines of the world last year produced value to the amount of \$1,876,000,000, of which \$700,000,000 was in coal. The United States produced \$600,000,000, or about one-third of the total.