BELLOWS FALLS NEWS.

The Fitchburg Road Deal.

Rutland Rumor That it Has Already Gone Through---the Ownership of the State of Massachusetts.

A despatch to the Boston Financial News from Rutland, the headquarters of the Rutland railroad, has the following:

"Although the Boston railroad men seem to doubt the rumors, it is believed in New York and elsewhere that the whole Fitchburg system went into the hands of the Vanderbilts some months ago. If this is so, the purchase by the Rutland railroad interests of the block of Rutland railroad stock amounting to over $2,500,000, long owned by the Delaware & Hudson company, the purchase of the Ogdensburg & Lake Champlain road, and the building of the Rutland Canadian railroads are simply the preliminary steps toward forming a trunk line from shipping points on the great lakes as far west as Duluth."

If this transfer has been made, Fitchburg officials profess to know nothing of it. It is also difficult to understand how a "foreign" railroad company could come into this state and gobble up a line in which the commonwealth is financially interested without legislative action.

On this point the Springfield Republican has the following:

The report of a Vanderbilt absorption of the Fitchburg railroad has been revived and is believeable. It is the Vanderbilt interest which has come into control of the Rutland road, and the Fitchburg forms a Boston connection for this northwestern route. In such a consolidation the Boston and Albany would lose some of its through traffic which now comes from the New York Central, and it may have been in view of this possibility that the Albany road is branching off in a southwesterly direction for connections with the Erie and Pennsylvania lines through the Poughkeepsie bridge route and Tariffville extension to this city. Such, at least, is the gossip in Boston.

But the state of Massachusetts is to be reckoned with in any Fitchburg consolidation. It owns 50,000 shares of the Fitchburg common stock, and the United States Investor says that the present legislature may be asked to authorize the sale of this stock in the interest of the Vanderbilt consolidation. The market value of the stock at present is $22 a share. It yields the state no income and is not likely to for a long time. All dividends above 4 per cent on the preferred stock must be shared equally by two kinds of stock, and the preferred ownership in the road would probably, for a time at least, just as soon see any surplus income above 4 per cent go back into the property as to share it with the state. Such is the commonwealth's return for all that it has spent on the tunnel. At the present market price the state's holding of stock in the enterprise is worth barely $1,100,000.

C. W. Osgood and family go to New York tomorrow.

Public schools will close for the Easter vacation March 24.

Mrs. S. W. Wilder sings this evening at a concert in Westminster.

Mrs. Herbert Mitchell of Springfield has spent a portion of the week with friends in town.

C. E. White returns tomorrow from Hartford theological seminary for the Easter vacation.

C. W. Osgood entertains his Bible class at his Green street home this evening with a talk on art.

A ladies' quartet has been formed and will make its first appearance at the farewell concert to Mrs. Wilder.

E. J. Gregory of Boston, an expert jewelry auctioneer, is in charge of Amadon's jewelry auctions this week.

The young people of the Universalist church gave a musical and literary entertainment in the vestry last evening.

Mrs. Angie Vaughn of Boston has been spending a week or two with her sister, Miss Dascomb, at Charles Gibson's.

Mrs. A. B. Dascomb, who has been in Hillsboro Bridge for the past year or two, is now at Westminster again for a little time.

Tuesday was a typical March day and four strokes of the fire alarm at 11 o'clock was the signal for solid session of the schools.

Rev. Albert Hammatt is giving a series of lenten sermons, the third one being given last Sunday morning, subject, "The Good Samaritan in a Modern Dress."

The Young Men's club will debate next Tuesday evening. Subject, "Resolved, That the United States Should Construct and Control the Nicaragua Canal."

Morris Corlew died at his home near Westminster Saturday morning, at the age of 82. The funeral was held Tuesday afternoon, Rev. E. E. Marggraf officiating, assisted by Rev. J. H. Reid.

Several changes in the telephone lines in town and those running to New York and Boston are being made. A second wire is being run to Troy and one to Boston, and several long distance lines are being put in.

"The lads and lassies of the Junior league" of the Methodist church assisted by others give an old-time entertainment and lunch at their church vestry this evening. The proceeds will be devoted to home missionary work.

W. H. Bodine, of Bodine & Davis, has bought the old Charles Hapgood place on Atkinson street of Mrs. Lydia R. Blood. He will build a house on the vacant lot for his own residence, and rent the house now on the other lot.

A concert is to be given at the Congregational church Tuesday, March 21. It will consist of vocal and instrumental music and readings. This will be the last public appearance of Mrs. S. Wilder, jr., before she leaves for her new home in Boston.

George Potter, a brakeman on the Boston & Maine road, was seriously injured Monday evening. Riding on one of the first cars of the south-bound mixed train at 7:30, he was struck by the stone-work of the tunnel and thrown to the tender. The entire scalp was taken off, but the skull was not fractured, and it is thought that he will recover. Mr. Potter's home is in Brattleboro.

A bird club was organized Wednesday evening, holding its first meeting at the home of Rev. J. H. Reid. The object of the club is to study the birds of our own fields and woods. The club was organized by choosing as president, Mrs. J. H. Reid; vice president, Miss Frances Osgood; secretary, Miss Abbie Leonard; treasurer, Mrs. C. E. Howard. The next meeting will be held March 22.

Another of Bellows Falls's old residents has passed away, Alfred Kemp. Not coming from his room as usual Sunday some member of the family went to it and found that he had taken his life. It is felt that the effect of a fall in which he received a severe blow on the back of his head caused him to commit the act. Mr. Kemp came to Bellows Falls from Ashby, Mass., while yet a young man. He was tax collector for the town of Rockingham for many years. He leaves one son, W. Oscar Kemp, with whom he lived. The funeral was held from the house Tuesday afternoon, with burial in Walpole. Rev. C. R. B. Dodge officiated.

New Hampshire Legislative Matters

Of Local Interest--Charter Granted for the North Walpole & Acworth Street Railway Company.

The New Hampshire legislature, which voted Wednesday to come to a final adjournment tomorrow noon, passed last week the bill granting a charter to the North Walpole & Acworth Street Railway company, and it has this week been signed by the governor and become law. It was not thought wise to push the matter of reaching Sunapee because of the certain opposition of the Boston & Maine Railroad company. The charter permits building between North Walpole and any point in Acworth, through the towns of Alstead and Langdon. It is controlled by residents of North Walpole.

The bill to incorporate the North Walpole Electric Light and Power company, the company owning the water power at Drewsville, has been opposed by personal opponents of Senator Thomas Nelson Hastings who introduced it, and on Wednesday it was doubtful if the bill passed. The objection raised was that it embraced certain rights of eminent domain affecting flowage rights between the villages of Drewsville and Alstead.

The bill to free the Connecticut river toll bridge at this place was killed in the committee on appropriations on account of the size of the appropriations asked for.

A matter of much interest locally is the development at Concord, during the session, of a boom for Senator Hastings of Walpole as the next governor of New Hampshire. His name is the only one at present discussed in political circles in Concord, and indications point to his selection as the Republican candidate though but little has been said of it in the near-by section of the state. By virtue of his present position as president of the senate he is lieutenant governor at the present time, and has made a very able and popular presiding officer.

A Rarely Quiet Town Meeting.

The annual town meeting on Tuesday was one of rare quiet and harmony. Considering the weather there was a fair attendance, which included a good representation of the prominent business men of the town. The entire business was transacted in an hour and one-half. There was not a ballot during the entire session, except in two instances, where the meeting authorized a single vote to be cast for an officer whose election is required by ballot by law. Almost the entire list of officers of last year were re-elected, the exceptions being in cases where the incumbents declined. A new lister is Geo. A. Weston, and a new overseer of the poor is Peter Dorand. The appropriation for Memorial day was $100, for the library $900, and for cemeteries $600. Most of the other business was routine and the tax voted—town and state—was 80 cents on the dollar, the same as last year.

Mrs. Mary Brockway celebrated her 88th birthday anniversary last week.

S. F. Huckings has sold his model hand laundry to Simon D. McLeod, who took possession Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Robinson, who have been spending a few days at N. H. Farr's, returned to their home in Providence, R. I., yesterday.

The many friends of Miss Helen Guild are very glad that she has so far recovered her health that she will be able to return to her home here tomorrow.

The Bellows Falls lodge No. 11, Knights of Pythias, received a visit from the Grand Chancellor, G. M. Rowell of Bennington, Tuesday evening. After the meeting a social hour and banquet were enjoyed.

The Brosnahan-Jackson Comedy company have this week been playing in Concord, N. H., and has been patronized by crowded houses, this being the last week of the legislature and the city being full of people.

The ladies' union of the Congregational church will hold a business meeting in the church parlors next Wednesday afternoon. Supper will be served at 6:30 by Mrs. Hildreth, Mrs. Kimball, Mrs. Shepardson and Mrs. E. L. Pond.

Engineer Nash completed last week the survey of Pine street, for the grading necessary for the electric road through that street, and placed it in the town clerk's office Friday. Tomorrow the hearing will be held in that office. As a week has been given to study the specifications, all will now be prepared to act intelligently.

The state committee of the Y. M. C. A. held a meeting Tuesday in the office of the Vermont Farm Machine company. They organized for the year by choosing as chairman, F. H. Brooks of St. Johnsbury; vice chairman, Gen. J. J. Estey of Brattleboro; treasurer, N. G. Williams of Bellows Falls; secretary, C. H. Moore of Montpelier. Gen. Estey and Mr. Brooks were chosen members for Vermont of the tri-state committee, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

CAMBRIDGEPORT.

Dr. Taylor of Bedford, N. H., made his mother a flying visit last Sunday.

Chas. Tenney of Rockingham carries on the W. P. Cassidy farm this year.

Mr. Pierson and family moved last week to a large farm in the north part of the town.

Miss Susan Bigelow and Mrs. Fanny Bucklin are ill and under the care of Dr. Osgood.

Mrs. Edith Hopkins, who has been teaching in Bennington county, came home last week.

A party of about 30 surprised Mr. and Mrs. Guy Thayer last Wednesday evening. Refreshments were served and the time was spent in dancing.

American Trade in China.

Rear-Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, who has just completed his tour of the world in the interests of the associated chambers of commerce of Great Britain, in an interview at London reiterates his well-known views on the subject of the "open door" in China as being the only possible policy of Great Britain. In so doing he said it was impossible to estimate the importance of the Chinese market, a single province of which, in his opinion, was worth the whole of Africa from a commercial point of view. The admiral also said that there will be war unless the "open door" policy is adhered to, and he asserts that American trade in China is progressing by leaps and bounds, proportionately much faster than that of Great Britain.

60,000 Men in the Army of Occupation.

[From the Springfield Republican.]

There are now stationed in Cuba 9600 United States regular soldiers and 22,800 volunteers—a total of 32,400 men. In Porto Rico there are 3600 regulars. When the reinforcements now afloat for Manila have arrived, Gen. Otis will have fully 24,000 regulars and volunteers under his command, aside from 4000 officers and men on the warships in and about the harbor of Manila. Our army of imperial occupation thus amounts to 60,000 men.

SAXTONS RIVER.

Miss Scollay is on her way home.

William Warner's new barn is nearly enclosed.

Dr. Anderson returned soon after the funeral.

Miss Nellie White is with Mrs. Charles Simonds.

Mr. Hammond has sold for a good price his large grey colt.

Monday was a good sap day, but Tuesday brought severe weather.

Mr. Merriam of New London, Conn., was a guest of William Cory early in the week.

Miss Laura Dutton is at home now. Her mother needs her and she is at home to stay.

Mr. and Mrs. Hall of Acworth, N. H., are to take charge of the Warner home before long.

Late word has been received from Frank Morrison at Dawson City. He is well and doing well.

Mr. and Mrs. Ned Taft are getting settled at housekeeping in the old home of former years.

The Spauldings on Thursday entertained the ladies' society at the Congregational church parlors.

Mr. Osgood has one of Edison's phonographs at his shop for the use of the public at a small fee.

Miss Grace Chapin has been spending a few days of her vacation with Miss Stella Buckingham at Geneva, Illinois.

Albert Barry has teaming for the Fall Mountain company. He has moved his family to the Henry Howard house at Bellows Falls.

Mr. Hume, who has managed the Barbour farm for the last year, expects to move soon to the "McQuade farm" over toward Rockingham.

Mrs. Byron Stickney is very ill. Tuesday a council of physicians was held at the Stickney home. Mrs. Farnsworth is caring for Mrs. Stickney.

Mr. Walker has removed from the Fred Morrison farm to Cavendish. We understand that Geo. Marks is going on to the farm just vacated by Mr. Walker.

Charles Davis, who has been since his return from the war at the home of Rev. Mr. Leach, went Saturday to Northampton, Mass., to work at the asylum.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Williams and Miss Grace Williams will go to Providence, R. I., Saturday. They go to attend on on Monday the marriage of their son.

The funeral of Madam Perry was held Monday afternoon at the Alexander residence, Rev. Mr. Boughton officiating. Dr. and Mrs. Holton from Brattleboro were in attendance.

The meeting of the Rockingham Sunday school association which was appointed for next Sunday evening will occur one week later, at the Baptist church, Bellows Falls, March 19.

Charles Osgood was again intrusted with the care of the highways of the town as road commissioner for three years at the town meeting Tuesday. He is an excellent man for the place.

A new piano was placed in the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Fuller Wednesday. It was lately bought of Henry Lake of Keene, N. H. The Congregational choir meet with the Fullers this evening to test and dedicate the new piano.

WESTMINSTER.

Judge Kellogg is attending county court this week.

Miss Holt visited at G. W. Metcalf's Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. Stephen T. Searle of Charlestown, N. H., is the guest of Miss Susie Kellogg this week.

On account of the severe storm Tuesday only about 25 couples attended the ball held at the town hall on that evening.

Miss Minnie Dunham, who is attending the State Normal school at Randolph, is spending her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elihu Dunham.

Morris Corlew, aged 82 years, died Saturday morning at his home. He had been a resident in town for the past 44 years. Four children survive him, besides two sisters and one brother. The funeral was held at his late residence Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, Rev. E. E. Marggraf, assisted by Rev. J. H Reid, officiating.

WESTMINSTER WEST.

L. A. Miller is making a visit of a week or more in Malden with his sister, Mrs. F. L. Harlow. It is his first trip to the city and he will take in the sights generally before he returns.

N. P. Dinsmore is beginning to removal of his household goods to his dwelling in the village. It is not expected that he will come to occupy it for a month or two yet. He has only partially recovered from his recent illness.

Mrs. G. W. Chandler and Miss Mabel are expecting to close their residence for a time and make their abode with L. F. Barnes.

F. G. Campbell has made a trip this week to Hoosac and Eagle Bridge, N. Y., for business purposes. C. N. Campbell was to start East from Great Falls about the first of the month, in the line of his business, but is not expected to reach here until about the end of March.

Eugene L. Ranney, whose family have been spending the winter at Pierce's mill, has returned to his farm residence.

Miss Ella M. McClening was married at her father's residence on the evening of the 4th to Samuel E. J. Smith of Athens. Only a few near relatives of the bridegroom and one or two friends of the bride were present. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Henry A. Goodhue.

At last accounts the matter was not fully decided, but there was fair prospect that Mr. McClening and Mr. Smith would remain in charge of F. L. Harlow's farm, or at least continue to occupy the residence.

At 10 o'clock, March 7, the town clerk and a few of the town officials appeared at the town hall, chose a moderator, read the warrant, and adjourned sine die, for reason of defect in warrant as mentioned last week. A new warrant has been posted for the 21st.

GRAFTON.

Mrs. Gilson has returned to her home from Saxtons River where she has been caring for her sister, who has been ill.

Miss Belle Hemenway returned to her home on Monday. She has been visiting her brother, Sidney Hemenway, of Walpole, N. H.

Word was received this week that Mrs. W. G. Wright's mother, Mrs. Hall, is dangerously ill at her daughter's in Watertown, Mass.

There will be a sugar sociable at the chapel on Tuesday evening. It is hoped there will be a good number present as a pleasant time is anticipated.

Maternity.

For who has borne a child knows to the full
Life's sweet completeness; in that pain-paved hour
Has gauged love's mystery, and braved death's power.
And lost all thought of self in one white soul,
Flesh of her flesh, which struggles for Life's breath,
Unknowing of Life's grief; but she, who knows
Is wrapt in joy so great all—all were worth
To wakes thus—out from the door of death
And clasp her first born baby to her breast.
—[May Austin in the Boston Transcript.

LATE NEWS.

Dewey's Health.

Secretary Long of the navy department has no official information as to the alleged breaking down of the health of Admiral Dewey. Private reports through neval officers who have returned from Manila say that the Admiral's health is much the same as for a year past.

It is not denied by these officers that the Admiral has aged in his appearance notably within the past year; his hair is undoubtedly whiter and his figure shows signs of that weakness which might be expected to come with advancing years. Dewey will be 62 years old next December, and for many years has not been a strong man physically. It is said by persons familiar with the Philippine climate that the second year is hardest to bear for a Caucasian, and Dewey soon will begin his second year there. In addition to this, he labors under the drawback of having undergone a most severe surgical operation for the relief of his liver. A man needs a sound liver in the Philippines of all places.

Sometime ago the President feared that the great strain he was under might overtax him, so he cabled Dewey, through Secretary Long, permission to return to the United States. The Admiral declined to avail himself of this permission and asked to stay, saying that in his opinion duty required that he should finish the task he had begun at Manila.

The President accepted this statement, and Dewey remains by his own wish. He is free to return to the United States whenever he cares to do so, and the department will relieve him by cabled orders. In that case Capt. N. H. Dyer, the commander of the Baltimore, who is the senior captain on the Asiatic station, would have command of the American squadron temporarily.

Discontent in Santiago Province.

Col. Hood cables from Holguin to Santiago de Cuba that intense excitement prevails there, owing to the cessation of public works, and that a mass meeting has been held, at which the action of the United States military authorities at Havana was condemned as "false economy" and as the "result of centralization." Owing to the pressing necessity of the case, Col. Hood says he has issued indigent rations to 3000 heads of families suddenly thrown out of employment. He fears there will be a large increase in the criminal classes of his district.

Practically the same news comes from all the other districts of Santiago province. Meanwhile money enough is lying idle in bank to pay all that is due and to keep the men at work. Col. Hood has requested the use of the former Spanish gunboat Baracoa, recently raised by the Americans, as a lighthouse tender.

Miss Caroline Hazard of Peacedale, Rhode Island, has been elected President of Wellesley college, to succeed Mrs. Julia J. Irvine.

Princess Kaiulani was in a dying condition when the steamer Alameda left Honolulu for San Francisco on March 1. Her ailment was rheumatism of the heart.

To supply water for the irrigation of the new acreage in Hawaii, which is being put under cultivation on the Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar company plantation, new artesian wells have been bored which yield about 40,000,000 gallons of water daily.

Twelve dyanmite cartridges, of foreign manufacture, were found behind the arsenal at Toulon, France, on Tuesday. Two shots were fired at the sentry before the Moutley magazine on Tuesday night. Minister Lockroy intimates that the experts have little doubt that Sunday morning's explosion was caused by foul play.

Disorderly Colored Soldiers.

The tour of the 10th immunes (colored) throughout North Carolina was marked by their drunken condition and shooting at people, houses and cattle along the railroad. During the few minutes that the train stopped at Raleigh there was drinking and disorder among the men. Several shots were fired. All along the route their conduct was the same. At Henderson the soldiers shot at private houses and school children. Several men were wounded. The officers of the regiment seemed to have no control over the men. Similar reports come from other points along the line. At several places armed white men compelled the negroes to keep quiet and at Atlanta a large body of armed police was at the railroad station when the negroes arrived.

Eleven Men Drowned at Sea.

News of the sinking of the tug James Bowen from Philadelphia, with 10 persons on board, and the loss of the second mate of the German steamship Albano on Tuesday afternoon while leading a life crew to the rescue of the crew of the mud barge, Admiral, was brought by Capt. Koch of the Albano, which entered the Hampton Roads Wednesday. The Bowen, having the barge in tow, was caught in a gale and sprang a leak outside of the capes. The Albano sighted the barge in distress, and succeeded in taking off the captain and crew. The second mate was washed overboard while making the rescue. Those on the tug Bowen were lost.

Burned by Acetylene Gas Explosion.

Irving Melendy, proprietor of the Melendy House in Jeffersonville, (Vt.,) was seriously injured yesterday by the explosion of acetylene gas. The plant was in the basement. Mr. Melendy went there smoking a cigar, which ignited the gas and caused the explosion. Mr. Melendy was thrown 16 feet, striking on a pile of wood. His face was badly burned and he may lose the sight of both eyes. His hands are also burned, and he is otherwise badly injured. The explosion did little damage to the hotel building.

Another Fire at Bennington.

The summer residence of Mrs. John B. Tibbitts, occupied by her son-in-law, James C. Colgate of New York, was burned at Bennington Thursday. The stone house was built during the civil war at a cost of over $100,000. Several pictures and some furniture valued at $10,000 were saved from the first floor. The insurance is about $35,000. The fire is supposed to have started from an overheated furnace. Mrs. Tibbitts is spending the winter in the Bermuda islands.

Names in the Postal Guide.

The following names of post-offices appear in the United States Postal Guide:

Mud, Twin Sisters—Texas.
Mule—Oregon.
Sodom—New Mexico.
Yellowjacket—Idaho.
Loyalsock, Option—Pennsylvania.
Wax—Iowa.
Pebble, Sawdust—Florida.
Seven Guns, Quality—Kentucky.
Virtue—Tennessee.
Wit—North Carolina.
Zero—Mississippi.
Love—Colorado.
Oats—South Carolina.
Pluck—Virginia.
Pure Air, Rockycomfort, Peculiar, Lick-Skillet—Missouri.
Sassafras—Maryland.
Pious—Ohio.
Rolling Stone—Minnesota.
Peppertown—Indiana.

Italy's Demand on China.

Italy demanded of the Chinese government recently a concession of San Mun bay. The intention was to make it a naval base and coaling station. The Tsung Li Yamen refused to grant the demand and the terms of the reply were so caustic as to arouse much feeling. The Chinese government has offered to send a written apology.

Not only did Italy endeavor to ascertain what attitude would be assumed by the United States in case of the former's occupation of Chinese territory, but she actually asked this government to support her pretensions.

The startling proposition greatly astonished the administration. Never before had the United States been consulted by any European power relative to its seizure of Chinese territory. But the note of the Italian representative is considered by the authorities as a formal recognition of the new position in international affairs which the United States has assumed as a result of the war with Spain, and of the immensity of the commercial interests of this government in Asia.

Secretary Hay's reply was brief and sufficiently plain to show Italy just how this government felt. It distinctly and unequivocally refused to support the Italian government, and stated that the United States had never supported or interfered in any way with the efforts of other governments to obtain territory and spheres of influence in China, and would most certainly not do so in the case of Italy. The tone of the note was deprecatory of Italy's intention, but no formal protest was made, and from present indications none will be.

Secretary Hay authorized the statement Wednesday that our government has no intention of participating in any scheme to partition China if such is entertained by foreign powers, and that it sees no reason for changing the policy it has long followed in regard to the Chinese empire.

The Methods of the Investigation.

[From the Boston Advertiser.]

Most American citizens, who look at this matter with decent impartiality and tolerable sense, think that the proper business of the three gentlemen selected from the officers in the army to investigate the army beef question is to take testimony until they are satisfied of the fact, of which proof is so abundant and overwhelming, that a good deal of the army beef was bad in Cuba and Porto Rico; and then to try to find out what the matter was, how such beef came to be furnished the soldiers, whether it was the climate or an accident, or bad management and neglect in camp, or criminal fraud; and if criminal fraud who the criminals are.

Buying cans of beef "in open market," in New York or Chicago or elsewhere in this part of the world, and making a stew of it, and getting soldiers to eat it, in order to cast discredit upon their testimony that the canned beef which they had when fighting the Spaniards made them sick, either before they ate it or afterwards, is about as reasonable as it would have been for the coroner's jury investigating the Adams-Cornish poisoning case of New York to send into "the open market" and buy a bottle of bromo-seltzer and have it tested, on the theory that if it was found innocuous something else than the contents of a bromo-seltzer bottle must have killed Mrs. Adams.

Riley's Opinion of Kipling.

In a recent interview, James Whitcomb Riley, the poet of the plain people, whose writings, in some subtle way, sweep our heartstrings, said of Rudyard Kipling: "A lot of fellows, who know nothing of Kipling's early history, think that he just did it,—that he just happened. But that fellow was hustling around newspaper offices from the time he was 13 years old. Born and brought up among a strange people, with queer customs, he was for years gathering material for his work. He has the greatest curiosity of any man I ever knew; everything interests him. In fact, he is a regular literary blotting-pad, coaking up everything on the face of the earth. Who before Kipling ever gave us animal talk? Æsop's Fables were kindergarten talk compared with his. I think he is one of the greatest writers we ever had. Think of a man only 32 years old, who has given to the world eleven volumes of prose and verse! He has only just started. Another thing, read him from beginning to end, study him, become as familiar with his work as you will, every new bit from him displays some trait, some line of thought that is new. That man is great."—[Saturday Evening Post.

A letter by Secretary Long, in reply to Admiral Schley's letter, was made public Monday by the Senate committee on naval affairs, and explained certain disputed points in the Sampson-Schley controversy, while protesting the department's desire to do full justice to both admirals.

Both branches of the Montana legislature have passed over Gov. Smith's veto a bill empowering the owners of two-thirds of the stock of a corporation to compel the holders of the rest of the stock to sell at an appraised valuation or accept stock in another corporation for their holdings. The bill will enable the Montana coppers companies to go into a trust if owners of two-thirds of the stock so wish.

Kipling's "Michigan Sons."

Lines to Two Railroad Stations Named After Him.

[From the Philadelphia North American.]

Several years ago Fred D. Underwood, now general manager of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, named two stations in the upper peninsula of Michigan "Rudyard" and "Kipling," one being in an agricultural country and the other in an iron ore district. Some time later a mutual friend informed Mr. Kipling of Mr. Underwood's action, and the celebrated author sent Mr. Underwood his photograph, with the following lines on the back:

"RUDYARD" AND "KIPLING."

"Wise is the child who knows his sire,"
The ancient proverb ran.
But wier far the man who knows
How, where, and when his offspring grows.
For who the mischief would suppose
I've sons in Michigan?

Yet am I saved from midnight ills,
That warp the soul of man.
They do not make me walk the floor,
Nor hammer at the doctor's door;
They deal in wheat and iron ore,
My sons in Michigan.

Oh, tourist in the Pullman car
(By Cook's or Raymond's plan,)
Forgive a parent's partial view;
But maybe you have children, too—
So let me introduce to you
My sons in Michigan.

RUDYARD KIPLING.

To Rudyard Kipling.

God give you health and length of years!
And us new treasures of your mind!
Your loss would leave a world in tears
And no successor leave behind.

You spake some things that liked us not—
Mistruth unmeant—hard-hitting truth—
Half truth, the worst of all—God wot
You had the courage of your youth.

But what you saw, or thought you saw,
With young and clear unblinking eyes,
You said; and by the Jungle Law
You could not have done otherwise.

"When 'Omer smote his bloomin' lyre"
The gods be praised, the schools were few,
He found a coal of living fire,
And passed it down the years to you.
—[James Jeffrey Roche.

The cruiser Reina Mercedes, which was sunk in the channel of Santiago Harbor during the bombardment by Admiral Sampson's fleet on June 6, has been raised and pumped out.

A new jail was built in Wellington, Kan., last year, and the authorities decided to name it after its first occupant. This person happened to be a woman, Mrs. Horton, and the jail was accordingly named Horton jail. Later the woman was proved innocent, and she has brought suit for damages.

California now has the anti-cartoon law which the New York legislature failed to pass. It provides that a California citizen's consent must be obtained before his picture can be printed in any California publication. Exception, however, is made of persons holding public office or convicted of crime. As for cartoons or caricatures, they are forbidden in case they tend to expose a person to public hatred or contempt, or reflect upon his honor, virtue, integrity or political motives.