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F. E. WILSON, Editor.

LA GRIPPE may not take the place of Santa Claus this season, but the outlook now is that it will be an unwelcome guest at many a Christmas table.

AN epidemic of train robbing seems to be passing over the country, but well directed leaden pellets administered with promptitude are most effective in checking its progress.

THE Indianapolis News shows how slight is the difference between the extremist of the two parties in relation to the tariff. The McKinleyites want it raised and the free traders want it razed.

THERE is a complaint in Massachusetts that the laws of that state allow females to marry at 13 years of age. The emigration of school marms, however, would seem to indicate that the law is practically a dead letter.

PRESS dispatches from Washington to the effect that Governor Altgeld will not be a candidate for United States Senator next year are not only authentic because they are authorized, but because they are in direct line with what was stated in the early part of last summer.

CONGRESS is starting off in a business like manner. The tariff bill is occupying its attention and is receiving that study which has marked its steady development since the idea was born in the Democratic party. That this congress will pass a tariff bill which will redeem the pledges of its advocates goes without question.

IT is beginning to dawn upon the Republican press that the employment of armed forces for the restoration of the Queen of Hawaii has never been a part of the policy of the administration. The fact was clear enough from the beginning, but now that it has been seen by the Republican press it may be considered as universally recognized.

MR. D. P. CLOYD went to Davis today with the buzz of a newspaper bumble bee in his ear. Dick is a good fellow, well qualified and all that, but when he tackles Davis with a newspaper he will find the hell box will be his fate. Davis ought to have a paper but its people as a rule don't want one; they are not sufficiently advanced for that innovation on the rights of barbarism.

BALANCE THEM UP FIRST.

MR. LINDSAY, the railway mail superintendent, has apparently been running a civil service reform bureau in this part of the country. He forms Democrats out and Republicans in; Democrats away from the polls and Republicans to the polls.

Civil service reform has been needing reversal for five years. It will take five years of pulling the other way to get an even civil service deal for Democrats. Even if the offices should be taken out of politics, the separation should not be made until a resemblance to a balance appears between Republican and Democratic party workers. The Cleveland administration cannot on a nonpartisan platform make several thousand removals, this winter without giving the victors more than half of the spoils.

Put the parties on an even footing in the offices and then it will be early enough to talk about taking the civil service out of politics.

—St. Louis Republic.

Any country merchant that wants holiday goods can get bargains at the Corner Drug store. Green & Co 347.

Our stock must be sold before January 1st. Cost and cash the inducement. Moritz & Goldman. 12, 5 ft.

If you want good jewelry or silverware, go to T. H. Parker. He has a large and well selected stock, and his prices are low. Every article you buy from him is guaranteed to be as represented. As many as three letters will be cut free of charge on every piece of jewelry or silverware bought of him.

Newspaper life appears to be very exciting in Russia. An editor in Kuzh recently discharged a proof-reader. Later in the day the man returned, killed the editor and then opened fire on the staff. Two were killed and the others escaped by jumping out of the window.

What is claimed to be the largest torpedo boat ever constructed will shortly be launched at Nantes, France. The length of the boat will be fifty meters, and it is estimated that she will attain a maximum speed of twenty-six knots an hour. She has been named the Lanquenet.

An interesting sentimental ceremony was performed in England recently when some friends of the dead poet and translator, Edward Fitzgerald, planted at his grave a rosebush that had been grown from one that flourished on the grave of Omar Khayyam, the Persian poet, whom Fitzgerald paraphrased so prettily into English.

Krupp employs 14,000 men, who, with their families, number 50,000, constituting the bulk of the population of Essen, while over 3,000 are located at various branch works, and the total number benefited by the numerous charitable and philanthropic enterprises of the firm is estimated at 25,200 workmen, and, with their families, 87,900 persons.

An interesting occurrence at the Carlisle Indian school the other day was the marriage of Otto Wells, a full-blooded Comanche, to Mary Parkhurst, an Onida girl. After the ceremony they went to Wells' home, in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, where he is a tenant farmer. He is a graduate of the school, which he entered as a blanketed Indian boy.

The common oilcloth used for flooring has a basis of very thick canvas woven wide so as to be without seams. This is first dressed with oil, which is carefully rubbed in; then several coats of paint are applied and allowed to dry. The colors are the last put on, being printed with wooden blocks, and that is the reason why, with a little wear, the colors disappear even while the oilcloth is still good.

An Atlantic City, N. J., photographer, Mr. Shaw, produces a photograph at a single exposure, which gives five different images of the same person in different positions. This is accomplished by placing the sitter between two mirrors placed at an angle of forty-five degrees to each other. The double reflections between these mirrors produces four images of the person placed in front of them, the principles being the same as that of the ordinary kaleidoscope. The original face is made in profile and the reflections give the full face, opposite profile and two rear views.

CUT-OFF DIALOGUES.

Tramp—Madam, I was not always thus—Madam—No. It was your other arm you had in a sling this morning.

Mr. Watts—I wonder if a woman ever does get too old to marry? Mrs. Watts—That's pretty hard to answer. Age does not always bring wisdom.

Nowitall—There goes a young artist who will make his mark some day. Growler—He'd better b-gin now; he can't sign his name so anybody can read it.

"Your husband is so magnetic a man," said the visitor. "I know it," responded the wife. "I found a steel hairpin sticking in his coat collar the other day."

He—But don't you think you could learn to love me? She—It might serve, like Greek and Latin at the colleges, not for use, but for mental exercise. I'll think of it.

The Poet—Did you receive those verses I sent you last week? The Editor—I did. "I haven't received anything for them yet." "No; but you will. The court will not convene until next week."

"Do you take the daily paper?" asked the newly installed janitor of the apartment house. "No," replied the lady to whom he was talking. "we subscribe for it, but the people in the next flat take it."

She—You mustn't try to kiss me at the station, for there are so many people there. He, protestingly—But everyone will think we are brother and sister. She—And we will be, too, if you attempt it.

"Was his injury accidental?" asked the New York man. "Not exactly," replied the man from Brooklyn. "What do you mean?" "Well, you might say it was in the natural course of events. He was run over by a trolley car."

"It am a mighty good thing for a niggah to hab a hopeful an' sanguine disposition," says Uncle Mose, "but w'en it gits sich a holt on heem dat he b'leebes he kin git a libbin' by wa'tin' fer it, he is got a little too sanguinity fer to be any good."

"I know exactly the character of the lady I am about to marry," "How did you find it out?" "Why, I took one of her letters to an expert in handwriting." "Wasn't that rather indiscreet?" "Oh, no; I didn't give him the original, but a copy."

"What's the price of an accident ticket?" asked the traveler. "Well," replied the agent thoughtfully, "if you take the last section of the train we can make you out one for a quarter. If you propose to ride in the last car of the first section we don't want you at all."

OUR WIT AND HUMOR

COLLATION OF FUNNY SAYINGS AND DOINGS

The Funny Writers Wear Their Brains—Out Thinking Up Stuff Like This—The Gals' Awakening—Their Long Felt Want, Etc.

The Gals' Awakening.



1. Miss—I want a pair of shoes, with pointed toes, the same as I have on.

Storekeeper—Yes, ma'am. Kindly let me see the size, please.



2. Storekeeper—My gracious, I don't think we have any of those in stock!

The American Fin.

Foreigner—What do you Americans do when the officials you elect fail in their duty to the public, and line their own pockets?

American—Do? Why, sir, we hold indignation meetings—yes, sir, our righteous wrath passes all bounds of propriety, and we actually burn them in effigy—yes, sir.

"What do you do next?" "Next? Why—we go back to our business, forget all about it, and elect 'em again."

Fairly Healthy.

Eastern Man (in the Rockies)—This is a good healthy country, isn't it? Western Man—Yas' its healthy enough, ef yeh don't put on too many airs.

Another Brute.

Wife—The doctor says I need a change of climate.

Husband—Well, the sky looks as if we'd have it in a few hours.

Deadlier Than Pistols.

Highwayman—Halt! My turn has come now. You are the book agent who button-holed me on the streets of Boom City, and I had to buy one of your bulky volumes in order to get away before a crowd collected.

Book Agent—Y-e-s; but I am selling an entirely different book now. Allow me to show you—

Highwayman—Save your breath! Your money or your life!

Book Agent—Money! I had plenty a few days ago, but the courts decided that I must pay the funeral expenses of all the people I had talked to death, and it took every cent I had. Now, just glance at this prospectus of the latest, best—

But the highwayman had fled.

An American Heroine.

Modiste—Haf you look ofer see new fashion plates I send you?

Lady—Yes, very carefully. "And vat you decide?"

"I have made a composite photograph of them all, and I wish you to make my dress look as much unlike it as possible."

Their Longfelt Want.



Old Gentleman—Ah! this is a grand piece of journalistic philanthropy. The poor fellows are evidently starving, and want bread more than anything else!



Alderman (Hickey) running for reelection)—Everybody come in an' have a drink wid me!

Prepared for Enjoyment.

Mr. Schwiglass—Vater, dine glass peer. Vat music to-night?

Walter—Vogner.

Mr. Schwiglass—Slut! vater! make id a schooner.

A STRAIGHT SHOT.

Which Made the Congressman Wish He Hadn't Asked Questions.

The congressman was telling stories. "It was on me, once," he said: "I had a friend who was dry as a humorist, but not always dry as a drinker, and when he was full he did foolish things. One of these was to buy a jackass for \$500, and when he sobered up and knew what he had done he sold him back to the original seller for \$400. Naturally the loss of a hundred made him sore and he did not like to be twitted about it. One day I saw him on a mule waiting in front of a store and I spoke to him. He was just full enough to be serious."

"Hello," I said, and he responded with a nod.

"You are a judge of that sort of animal you are riding, aren't you?"

"I don't know that I am particularly so," he said earnestly.

"I thought you were in the business."

"No, I ain't."

"Didn't you buy a jack for \$500 not long ago?"

"The crowd that had gathered giggled, and he looked more serious than ever."

"Yes, I did," he answered solemnly.

"What did you do with him? I asked, with a wink at the crowd to be ready."

"He looked at me solemnly."

"I helped elect him to congress," he said, without a smile, and the howl that went up made me seek shelter in the nearest place that could be found."

—YOU WHO—

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If you mean business, you will do well to see me, from the fact I will see twenty men who want to buy where you do not, and I believe I can make my commission and get you your money before you can sell. If you have

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