The Democrat.

BRONSON & CARR, Publishers.

MANCHESTER, - - IOWA.

The open door in China gives the dowager empress a chill.

Messenger pigeons being used in war is quite a contrast to Noah's dove business.

It used to be the strong brain that told in college work. Now it is the husky right leg.

There are different ways of hauling people over the coals. One is when the dealers run up prices.

In Kansas they are making sausages of rabbits. However, hairs in sausage are not altogether a novelty.

Considering the marked falling off in marriages instead of wedding marches it looks like popularizing "The Flag of the Union."

Few women have yet attained to the degree of wisdom that inspires them to save up their rainy day skirts for a rainy day.

Scientists say that in future ages all people will be brunettes. We suppose this will be due to the passing of the white horse.

Another college student has died from the effects of hazing. When will students learn that brutality is a crime—except on the foot-ball field?

The "automobile face" is said to be worse than the "bicycle face." The wearer looks as if he had suddenly been aroused from a nightmareless sleep.

The Chicago man who speared a waiter through the lungs with an umbrella made a wrong use of the article. The umbrella was designed to shed water, not blood.

It will always be a puzzle to thinkers that if 800 shots are fired for every person killed in war, why there is such a big percentage of loss from accidental shooting in the hunting season.

It is reported that Great Britain wants to buy the Galapagos Islands. This must be a mistake. If Great Britain wanted them she would first try to get them by sending surveyors there.

Hetty Green says no way has ever been invented to prevent people from throwing away their money. It is generally understood, however, that no such invention would be of the slightest use to Hetty.

The Queen of Holland is reported to be engaged to Emperor William's oldest boy, but it isn't likely that they will be married if the young lady finds out that such a union would be agreeable to her ministers.

The 10 per cent. a week syndicates offer a brilliant opportunity to get something for nothing, but, unfortunately for the credulous investor, the opportunity is afforded only to the men who run the syndicates.

Gov. Bradley of Alaska asks that the territory be granted statehood and an appropriation of $110,000 for a penitentiary. With such improvements the Governor appears to believe that even in Alaska almost all the comforts of home may be obtained.

A New York woman arrested for keeping chickens in her rooms supposed they were no worse than the squawking parrots and barking dogs of the other rooms of an apartment-house. Why should there be so much difference of opinion as to pets?

Think of a promoter in the intelligent city of New York inducing people to give up their money by promising them 520 per cent. a year! Evidently, if you want to hoodwink people, you want to hoodwink them well. If he had only promised a return of 6 or 10 per cent. he would, in all probability, have secured few victims. There is an immense amount of attraction in a gold brick.

The head of a large corporation says that he is tired of having letters involving thousands of dollars delayed because his stenographer's feelings were hurt by a reproof for tardiness. The remark sheds light on the fact that many corporations are supplanting women by men employes. Too many women have yet to learn that business is business, not sentiment, and that places are held, if not always won, by business qualifications alone.

The humorist's assertion that talk is cheap, women half price, seems in the whirligig of time to have brought in its own revenges. At the recent International Council of Congregationalists, every speaker exceeded the time allotted him, thus encroaching upon the privileges of his successor. At a subsequent meeting of a State Federation of Women's Clubs, only a single speaker overstepped the limit of time, and the exception was a man!

The necessity for some change in foot-ball rules may be seen when it is noted that in proportion to men engaged in action there were more casualties reported last fall from the campaign on the gridiron than from the war being waged in the Philippine Islands. Twenty-two men engage in a foot-ball game and the contest wages for an hour and a half. The casualties in killed, wounded and disabled will average 20 per cent., which, we believe, is very much greater than have marked the fierce and bloody battles of the world's history. True, a man is not killed in every game, but the death list, nevertheless, is far too heavy. As for broken limbs and noses and ribs and collarbones, these are but incidents to the sport.

There are other Bill Anthonys. Brave men who have faced dangers in flood and field, but find the everyday struggle of life more menacing, more trying than facing shot and shell. And there are many men and women who have done nothing more heroic than to "keep in with the procession" until now, but who feel discouraged and are not sure of the future. To all such it may be said that, however safe and easy our posterity may find the path of life, in days to come when perhaps justice and order reign, the conditions to-day give a splendid opportunity for character-forming. For this cause we should deem ourselves fortunate that we live in an age of stress and strife. For this reason we should set ourselves steadfastly to our daily tasks, however hard. Mark Tapley, one of Dickens' cleverest creations, accepted every hardship and trial as an opportunity for gaining credit to himself for cheerfulness and helpfulness. That is the spirit in which we can succeed. This is the ideal which we can carry with us in daily life and conquer.

Our new Department of Agriculture, which, when first authorized by Congress, was regarded by many as likely to prove more costly and ornamental than useful or profitable, is gradually justifying its creation. While the experiments in agriculture carried on under its supervision may not have been of great practical value to the average American farmer, the information it collects and furnishes to the public in its monthly bulletins and annual reports is worth many times the cost of collection and publication. It is well known that we raise cotton, wheat, corn, oats, various fruits and meat products to supply the deficiencies of the rest of the world, but it is not so well-known that we import $200,000,000 worth annually of the agricultural and forest products of other countries. The annual report of the Department of Agriculture for the present year presents this fact in clear and unmistakable figures, and the mere statement indicates that there is still a vast profitable and unoccupied field waiting for the American farmer. The bulk of these imported products, which include coffee, sugar, india rubber and a dozen varieties of fruit are chiefly grown in tropical countries. With our recent acquisitions in the West Indies, Philippines and the Sandwich Islands we are prepared to engage in the production of all these articles and the $200,000,000 prize is certainly worth striving for. As a prerequisite to success in this line the American people should cultivate a little more pride and faith in American products. We are importing and using very inferior American wine, which is exported first to be furnished with a foreign label when we could get a much better article at home if we were willing to be known as consumers of home-made wines. There is little doubt that we can produce figs, dates, prunes and other fruits which we now largely import. Oranges of the best we already grow in Florida and California, and with our new West India acquisitions all our tropical fruits can easily be of the home grown varieties. And why should we not be able to supply our own wants in the shape of coffee and tea and the sugar to sweeten both within a very few years? The fault of the American farmer to date has been his inclination to confine himself to the cultivation of a few staple crops, with which he often overstocks the markets. There should be greater diversity in his farming, and the reports of the Department of Agriculture point out very definitely the field in which this diversity can be profitably exercised. American farmers cannot study these reports too carefully for their own prosperity.

WEAPONS OF ANIMALS.

Claws, Teeth, Horns and Hoofs All Come Handy at Times.

Many animals, including both those that kill and those that are killed, are endowed with special means of offensive and defensive combat. The latter are often furnished with weapons of effective value, such as the horns of cattle and goats and the hoofs of horses, says the Philadelphia Times.

Even some of the largest animals, which are not carnivorous and may be said to have no enemies, possess special organs that they can use for inflicting wounds. Such are the tusks of the elephant, the horn of the rhinoceros and the antlers of the moose. Their primary purpose, however, is to aid in procuring food and in cleaving a way through forest and jungle.

With beasts and birds of prey weapons of attack are indispensable. Among the most highly developed are the retractile claws of the cat family, the cutting and tearing teeth of the wolf family and the talons of eagles and hawks. Even in lower forms of life we find highly specialized weapons, chief among which are the fangs of venomous serpents and the stings of bees, wasps and hornets, rendered far more effective by the presence of a powerful and sometimes deadly poison.

While noting the liberal endowment of creatures that prey upon animals, we must not lose sight of the fact that certain vegetarians are also well equipped with weapons of combat. The males of the bovine and the goat tribes in the wild state use these weapons largely in their combats with rivals of their own species, while the females employ them chiefly in defense of their young.

The bull fights with the head down, often with the eyes closed; and the horns, being usually short and nearly straight, can be used only one at a time, aided by the toss of the powerful neck. The horns of the cow in all the commoner breds are turned somewhat forward so as to be of the utmost service, and the faithful mother fights for her calf against dog or wild beast with her head raised and eyes wide open.

A stag brought to bay sometimes presents his antlers to the hunter. With some species these branching horns are shed at certain seasons, and during their renewed growth are for a time soft and useless as weapons. They gain strength and toughness at the season when rivalry and battles between the males are in order, and it is, therefore, natural to infer that the antlers are intended chiefly for this purpose.

Against many foes however, man included, the deer family find their best weapons in their hoofs, with which they strike and cut as with knives, sometimes killing dogs, wounding hunters and at other times cutting coiled rattlesnakes into pieces.

Advice from the Gallery.

Of the Dublin gallery boys a famous baritone, in his reminiscences, tells some facetious tales—one of "Faust," in which he played Valentine.

After the duel, Martha, who rushed in at the head of the crowd, raised his head and held him in her arms, during the first part of the scene, and cried out, in evident alarm:

"Oh, what shall I do?"

There was a deathlike stillness in the house, which was interrupted by a voice from the gallery calling out:

"Unbutton his weskit!"—London Spare Moments.

Spanish Is a Charitable People.

The Spanish are among the most charitable people on earth. Without a poor tax, Spanish communities of 50,000 self-supporters feed a popular population of 5,000 or more.

Because she didn't want a shotgun when she was a little girl, a mother can't understand why her son wants a shotgun. This is measuring other people in your half bushel.

POLITICS OF THE DAY

CRIMINAL AGGRESSION.

President McKinley has undoubtedly been guilty of criminal aggression in his assumption of war making power in the Philippines. In December, 1898, the President instructed Gen. Otis to enter upon a war of conquest and subjugation. This was before the peace treaty with Spain was signed.

Referring to this fact, Francis A. Brooks, a well-known Boston lawyer, says:

"But the crowning offense of President McKinley in this matter is the use made by him of the treaty-making power as the means of acquiring from Spain dominion and control by the United States over the political condition of a remote people against their will, and by employing the army and navy to accomplish that end. We suppose that the treaty-making power was conferred on the President by the constitution in the interest of peace, and that it is a gross abuse and perversion of that power to employ or avail of it as an excuse for subjecting an unwilling people to the dominion of the United States, as is now being done by the President."

President McKinley has taken upon himself a fearful responsibility. A responsibility ungranted by the constitution and unapproved by the people. There would have been no war in the Philippines if McKinley had offered the same terms there which were granted to the Cubans. Upon McKinley's conscience must rest the burden of causing the death of thousands of American soldiers and the expenditure of hundreds of millions of the people's money.

It is vain for the President to claim in his message to Congress that he has simply been engaged in maintaining the authority of our government. He has made war without authority, and Congress, with which body the war-making power rests, should recognize this fact and demand an accounting. But should Congress fail to do this, owing to the fact that it is now a creature of the Republican administration, the people will not fail to make such a demand and the result of the Presidential election of 1900 will be to deprive McKinley of any further power to usurp authority and to court criminal aggression.

Farmers and the Trusts.

Do the farmers realize that the Republican party proposes to keep the trusts in power? Realizing this, do they not also realize that they are taxed by the trusts much more heavily than by the Government, and that to vote the Republican ticket is to vote a continuance and an increase of this tax?

Take the matter of steel nails. Last year before the trust was fully organized the farmer sold his wheat for 65 cents a bushel and bought a keg of nails, needed on the farm, for $1.65. How is it this year, when the Republican party has encouraged, fostered and protected the nail trust? The farmer sells his wheat for 62 cents a bushel and pays $3.85 for a keg of nails. Somehow or another this farmer has been cheated out of three bushels and a half of wheat. Who did it? The Republican party, which upholds the nail trust.

Another illustration of just how these lovely Republican trusts work is given by the Cincinnati Enquirer as follows: "The workingman, earning $9 a week, who last year put a tin roof on his front porch, paid $2.45 for the box of tin, and had $6.55 left out of his week's wages. This year when he put a trust tin roof on his back porch he had to pay $4.85 for the box of tin and had $4.15 left out of his week's earnings. That man has no doubt discovered who stole the $2.40."

With these facts in view, what are the farmers and the workingmen going to do about the matter? It would seem the course of wisdom for them to vote against the Republican party, which is taxing them to the very limit of endurance. They know that they can hope for nothing but a continuance of this taxation as long as the Republican party remains in power. Will they continue to aid the oppressors and to place the yoke on their own necks?

Dilemma of the Protectionists.

There are things working together for good in our tariff system. We are pleading with the strongest for the the open-door policy. Can we justly prohibit trade at home which we demand abroad? We are seeking a world market for our manufactured product. Will our people submit to paying more for any of these products at home than they are sold for abroad? We are competing successfully with the so-called "pauper labor" of the world. Will we at home believe it is longer necessary to protect ourselves against it at home? We are aroused by the existence of trusts; we are determined to control or destroy them. Can we do either when, and so far as, they are protected by our tariff laws?

We have for these many years paid bounties to all sorts of private enterprises, indirectly and in unknown amounts. This tax was paid by the consumers in proportion to their necessities, and not in ratio to their ability. We are now asked to pay a bounty directly to ship owners out of the common treasury. Will the people stand it? The beneficiaries of the old system are grown bold and ask from the treasury as a right what they have before taken indirectly from the individuals. All these things and more are driving the system of protection to the wall. McKinley did not even mention it in his message. Protectionists are driven to a dilemma from which they cannot escape. The territorial expansion has forced them to it. Trade expansion would have done it, anyway. They cannot advocate either expansion and hold to protection at home.—Milwaukee Journal.

Seamen Denounce Ship Subsidies.

The action of the National Seamen's Union, at the annual convention in Chicago, on Saturday, may cost the Hanna-Payne ship subsidy bill the votes of some members of Congress who had been won to its support on the supposition that it would be popular among the seamen, as well as among the interested ship owners and shipbuilders. One of the strongest claims made for the bill is that it will tend to build up the merchant marine of the United States, and so give employment to a great number of American seamen. Special efforts have been made to secure the support of the labor interests for the measure on that ground. That element of the labor class most directly interested, the seamen, cannot be brought to look at it in this light. At the national convention a resolution was adopted severely condemning the scheme and declaring it "vicious, uncalled for, and of no benefit to labor in this country." President McKinley strongly recommended the principle of the bill in his recent message because it would bring "more work and wages to our countrymen." He will be pained to learn that the class of "our countrymen" he supposed would be most particularly benefited with "more work and wages" emphatically deny his proposition and reject his pet measure as "vicious."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

How "Opening the Mills" Has Worked.

McKinley hit upon a happy phrase three years ago, designed to keep the attention of the voters away from his attitude on the silver question. It was to the effect that it would be better to open the mills rather than to open the mints.

For a while after McKinley's election the process of opening the mills went on—not due in any way to his election, but because the United States was participating in the world-wide recovery from seven years of lean picking.

As soon as possible McKinley pushed through Congress a bill for higher tariff protection, the trusts sprung up in a night, and the process of shutting down the mills was begun and is in operation to this day. Scarce a day passes in which some trust does not shut down a few mills for the sake of limiting the output, creating an inadequate supply, and thus giving excuse for high prices and increasing prices. Consolidation of office forces, reduction of number of traveling men, economy in rents, reduction of advertising, and many other means have been employed by the trusts to make more money with less expense than formerly.—Helena (Mont.) Independent.

"I'll take care of you, grandma!"—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Polygamous Utah Office-Holders.

A full disclosure will reveal that Mr. Roberts after all had sufficient reason to believe that his plural wives would not bar him from Congress. The State of Utah is full of polygamous office-holders and President McKinley has, over the protest of citizens, selected polygamists for important Federal offices. All this was known to Roberts, and why should he alone be barred?—Denver Post.

WOULDN'T FORFEIT GOOD NAME

Mistake of a Woman that Helped a Church Out of Difficulty.

The mistake a lady recently made caused her husband to pay $450 more than he had expected, but resulted in a large increase in the fund being raised to pay off a debt on a local church. The lady is the wife of one of the best known coal men in this vicinity, and at the time she made the mistake she and her husband were at a meeting of the church, of which they are members, in a near-by town.

The meeting had been called to raise funds to pay off a pressing debt against the church. The minister made an appeal to the congregation for money and appointed a committee to take around a paper for subscription. As the member of the committee came near the coal man he said in a whisper to his wife:

"Put your name down for fifty."

The wife wrote her name and placed the figures opposite, and when the paper reached the minister he looked over the congregation and, with a smile, said: "I am delighted to see that Sister Smith has so nobly responded to the call I made and to the needs of the church. She has put her name down for $500, and it is the largest subscription on the paper. I know many of you are worth more than the lady who has so nobly shown her love for the church, and I hope you will strive to emulate her noble conduct. To give you a chance I will again pass around the subscription paper, and I hope none of you will fall behind our generous sister."

While the paper was being again passed around the husband of the lady became very anxious, and, turning to his wife, he said: "How much did you put down?"

"Well," said the wife, "I intended to put down $50, but I guess I put one cipher too much, but for goodness' sake don't let them know that I don't know how to write $50."

He did not and paid the $500, and when the subscription paper was returned the second time the subscriptions had been largely increased.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Rigid Test for Matrimony.

Both in the northern and western islands of Scotland the natives have some peculiar customs unfamiliar to the dwellers of the mainland. One of these, known as the "marriage test," is practiced in the island of St. Kilda, where the population barely exceeds a hundred. The desire among the islanders to increase this number does not seem to be exceptionally strong, and every man before he is deemed suitable for a husband has to perform an evolution with no little bodily risk. The St. Kildans are, of course, adept rock climbers, and the aspirant for matrimony is therefore subjected to the test of balancing himself on one leg on a narrow ledge overhanging a precipice, bending his body at the same time in order to hold the foot of his other leg in the hands. If found lacking in courage the maiden withdraws her betrothal, and should the man fall over the ledge, it is presumed that, in his case, he will be disqualified.

Choice of Victims.

New drummer—I can sell a big bill of goods to any man on earth.

Proprietor—That's all right, but don't exert yourself to sell goods to any man who hasn't got money.

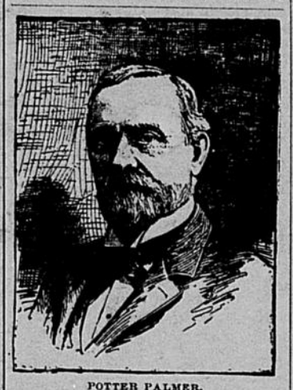
Coffee was not known to the Greeks or Romans.

POTTER PALMER, OF CHICAGO.

He Is Much More than the Husband of a Famous Woman.

The newspaper reading world knows much about Mrs. Potter Palmer, of Chicago. She sprang before the public eye as the president of the Woman's Board of Managers of the World's Fair. More recently, her successful management of the love affairs of Count Cantacuzene and Miss Julia Grant, her niece, has kept alive the public interest in this forceful and attractive woman. Like Mary Ellen Lease, she eclipsed her husband, of whom little ever appears in print. And yet Potter Palmer is a great business man, one of the real makers of Chicago and a power in the financial world—one of those silent forces, which contribute so much to the world's progress.

Potter Palmer was a young man when he located in Chicago fifty years ago. He invested a few thousand dollars in a dry goods store and soon had the cream of the city trade. His surplus cash went into real estate and the soil was fertile. He was a wealthy man when, at the close of the war, he took into partnership with him Marshall Field and Levi Leiter. State street, now Chicago's leading thoroughfare, was then a narrow, dirty lane. Lake street was the commercial center. Potter Palmer proposed to make State street the commercial center. Men ridiculed him, but he went over to the despised street, bought a mile of frontage and commenced building commercial palaces. His firm occupied the first and other firms quickly took others. When the fire of 1871 came, Potter Palmer owned thirty-two buildings on State street. All were destroyed. He borrowed $3,000,000 and rebuilt them, better and stronger than before. Then he looked about for a spot where he might build a home. What is now the magnificent boulevard known as the North Shore drive was then a heap of sand. Here he built and sold adjoining property to the best class of people. The boulevard is the result. Then he built the Palmer House, Chicago's finest hostelry in his day, which it is now said he will tear



POTTER PALMER.

down in the near future and erect in its stead a commercial palace.

These are a few of the things he has done for Chicago. He has never desired political honors, never sought them. He might have won honors in this field, but they were not to his liking. He has preferred to be the simple business gentleman, eager for the welfare of his city, building always for the public weal as well as his own good. His later years are spent in the midst of artistic surroundings of his exquisite home. There has always been in his nature that vein of sentiment which never desired that Chicago should be of the material only. Parks, boulevards, art treasures, music have to him always seemed as much a legitimate part of the being of the city as mercantile establishments and steam roads. He has enriched Chicago in this direction also.

A GREAT BOER LEADER.

Gen. Cronje, Who Opposed the British at Modder River.

While Gen. Joubert, commander-in-chief of the Boer forces, is the tactician, Gen. Cronje, who commanded the Boers at the Modder River, is the burly fighter of the Transvaal army. Of the two Cronje is the more representative Boer. Joubert, possibly from his French ancestry, is a man of a certain polish, and can be indirect when policy requires. Cronje is blunt and always to the point. His craft is that of the hunter, and thinly disguises the force that awaits only the opportunity.

GEN. CRONJE.

Gen. Cronje is greatly admired by the Boers. They think Joubert is a wonderful tactician and organizer, but they love Cronje, the silent man, of sudden and violent action. He is no man's friend. His steel-gray eyes peer out from under huge, bushy brows. He never speaks unless necessary, and then in the fewest words. He never asks a favor. When time for action comes he acts, and that with the force of fate, and with no consideration for himself or his men.

Cronje is a soldier and nothing else. He hates form. He hates politics, though a born leader of men. He was strongly urged to oppose Kruger for the Presidency in 1898, but he would not. He will have none of any rule but that of the rifle. He despises cities. He is a man of the velt.

It was Cronje who rounded up the Jameson raiders and, says a writer, "his maneuvering on that occasion was that of a Cromwell. So far as my memory carries, Cronje was not even specifically thanked by the Volksraad for his great service to the state. He was a burgher; it was his duty to repel the invader; he repelled him—and there the matter rested.

"They would have censured him had he failed; they refrained from comment when he succeeded.

"Cronje, riding back to Pretoria, had no guard of honor to receive him, no great civic function to fete him, no sword of honor to adorn him. He was plain Peasant Cronje, returning, heavy-hearted, from his wounded son's pallet in Krugersdorp Hospital, somewhat weary in the bones from those long hours in the steaming saddle, nowise elated, nowise altered from his every-day demeanor.

"Since then Cronje has received a seat in the Executive Council, and is now a personage with a substantial state salary; but the man is in no way changed. He is as individual as Kruger, strong in the faith of his own generalship as Joubert."

PET SUPERSTITIONS.

Some that Influence Mostly All Sorts of People.

Dr. Samuel Johnson would never enter a room left foot foremost; the brave Marshal Saxe screamed in terror at the sight of a cat; Peter the Great was not equal to crossing a bridge when he came to it, unless to do so was absolutely necessary; Byron shared with less famous people than he the dislike to having the salt at table spilled between him and his neighbor. A sneeze is with half the nations of the world nothing to be sneezed at. To exclaim "God bless you" when any one sneezes in your presence is a relic of what the Roman did before us, and before him the Greek. Mohammed gives directions of the same kind to his followers, and the Hindu of to-day utters his pious ejaculation after the sneeze by way of prayer or good wish on behalf of the victim.

Many people will avoid going under a ladder if they can get around it. The belief that if you put on your stocking the wrong side out it is lucky is very general, or was until the schoolmaster returned from abroad; and I myself remember an old woman who was convinced that turning her stocking inside out saved her from being lost when the fairies, one pitch-dark night, had misled her on a trackless English moor.

What is to take the place of a lucky horseshoe when we all ride in automobiles? There is no room for the imagination in them. Some new mascot will have to be discovered. Charms of one kind or another are carried by people that have a pious contempt for heathen superstitious; a small potato, for example, to avert rheumatism, or a chestnut. The late journalist, George Augustus Sala, never traveled without carrying with him, as a lucky card, an ace of spades. Somehow it failed to save him from his creditors. But creditors are notoriously deficient in imagination. If Shylock had remembered this when he drew up his bond "The Merchant of Venice" would never have been written.—Rochester Post-Express.

Nobody Claimed the Watch.

"Great Scott! but that's a fine watch," came from a chorus. "Where'd you ever get it?"

"Stole it," answered its possessor, calmly. "You don't believe me, do you?" he went on. "Well, I'll tell you how it happened. I was on a western district which enjoyed the reputation of being the toughest one covered by the house. I had some time to kill and so went into one of the gambling joints. It isn't necessary to go into details as to what happened. As luck would have it there were a half dozen others in the place besides myself who might be considered as possible victims. When the time came the lights were put out suddenly and then we had 'rough house' for about ten minutes. In the middle of it I felt somebody grab my watch and reached out after him. I caught someone and felt that he was just putting a watch in his trousers pocket I gave his wrist a hard wrench and got the timepiece. Then I broke away. When I got to the light I found the watch was this one. And as I never heard from the owner I have it to compensate for the loss of mine."

After which the waiter hurried over in response to six different signals.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Influenza Caused by Ozone.

On one occasion the present writer walked to the edge of Lake Michigan when a strong wind was blowing right from the lake. The bodily condition was as near perfect as could be, and yet in less than five minutes there was every evidence of having caught an extremely hard cold. The severe influenza continued until, on walking away, in less than 500 feet, it disappeared as if by magic. It is very certain that the temperature had nothing to do with this, nor the wind, but the influenza was directly due to the abundant ozone in the air. By inquiry it was learned that hundreds of residents who had lived upon the immediate edge of the lake had been obliged to move back three or four miles in order to relieve themselves from such experiences. Physicians readily admit that it is not always possible to say why one "catches" cold; it certainly cannot always be because of undue exposure or change in temperature, but probably also to changes in the electric condition of the air. Facts of this kind should lead to the extremest caution in studying any supposed relation between the weather and health.—Popular Science.

Society for Sock-Darning

In a neighboring Long Island village the young men have a new privilege. On paying ten cents a week they can have their socks darned by the belles of the village, who have organized themselves into the "Giddy Girls' Darning Club." One of the young ladies noticed a hole in the hose of a young man who was paying her a social visit the other night, and, on comparing notes, it was found that many of the other girls of the village had been impressed by the fact that the beaux of the place needed help in keeping their socks in order. The young man who was admitted to the privileges of the club must not be in the habit of smoking, drinking, playing cards, or doing anything real naughty. All he has to do then is to pay ten cents a week and wear his socks into as many holes as pleases him.—New York Cor. Pittsburg Dispatch.

Advice to a Daughter.

If you want to please the men,
Daughter mine;
Learn a little bit of art,
Some good poetry by heart,
Languages to wit impart,
Music fine.
Know the proper way to dress,
How to comfort and caress,
Dance a little, gossip less,
Daughter mine.

If you want to please the men,
Daughter mine;
Study how to make a cake,
Learn to stew and boil and bake.
Say you cook for cooking's sake,
How divine—
Be a housewife, all the rest
Counts but little, truth confessed,
Such girls always marry best,
Daughter mine.
—What to Eat.

She—To think that you once declared that you would love me as long as you lived! And now, hardly a year married, and you care nothing at all about me! He—But you see when I told you I would love you as long as I lived I wasn't feeling very well, and I really didn't think I would live long.—Boston Transcript.

Some girls are so particular that the only way you can hold their hands is to shake hands with them.

Were it not for the bliss of ignorance some people would always be unhappy.

SAMUEL GOMPERS.

Some Characteristics of the Famous American Labor Leader.

Samuel Gompers, the American labor leader, is as conservative as the English leader, Burns, is radical. Where the latter says strike, Gompers says arbitrate. "I cannot," he once said, "much as I hate oppression, endure the sight of hunger."

The nation owes a bigger debt of gratitude to Somuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, than most people imagine. Had it not been for the rock-like firmness with which, for nearly a fortnight, this man stood against a continent-wide strike of sympathy with the Pullman men, there might have been an uprising of organized labor, compared with which the strikes and riots that really did occur would have been mere child's play.

Mr. Gompers' diplomacy was not less striking than his wisdom. He at no time said that he would not advise a strike. He simply, by delaying action, gave his followers time to think. When they had thought, they saw the masterfulness of his course. Mr. Gompers proved himself to be a general worthy of leading so great an organization as the Federation.

Samuel Gompers is an American by adoption. He is of German descent, as his name indicates, though of English birth. Thirty-eight years ago he was apprenticed to a shoemaker in London. Then he was a lad of 10, with no brighter prospects, no greater advantages than those of ten thousand other apprentice boys of the world's metropolis. To-day he is the executive head of the most extensive combination of labor unions in the world. In this capacity

SAMUEL GOMPERS.

he wields a constant power by the side of which that of other labor leaders is nothing.

The lad did not like the shoemaker's trade, and, his release being secured, he learned to make cigars, becoming proficient by the time he was 13. Then, with his father's family, he came to America. Down to the time he began to work in the shoe shops, he attended day school regularly. After that he continued his studies at a night school, where he applied himself so eagerly as to excite the especial attention of his teachers.

Upon his arrival in America he joined a New York cigarmakers' union, and his gift of common sense and his power to express his thoughts logically and clearly quickly made him a prominent member. Later he was repeatedly sent as delegate to the international union.

When David B. Hill was Governor, he wished to make Mr. Gompers a member of the State Board of Arbitration at a salary of $3,000. The tender was courteously declined.

"If I should accept a political appointment," said Mr. Gompers, "my usefulness in labor organizations would be entirely and permanently destroyed."

In 1882 Mr. Gompers was made president of the American Federation of Labor, and now holds that office. His salary is but $1,000 a year, less than he could earn at his trade in good times, and a far smaller sum than could be commanded by a man of his unusual natural abilities and self-won acquirements in the business world.

A Matrimonial Lottery.

Every three months in the province of Smolensk, Russia, husbands and wives are chosen by the chance drawing of a lottery ticket. The tickets cost 1 ruble (60 cents) each. There is only one prize to be drawn, and it consists of the entire sum yielded by the sale of the tickets, amounting to 5,000 rubles ($3,000), together with a woman described as being of noble blood. The tickets are sold only to men, and the lucky winner of the prize will have to marry the damsel if he takes the 5,000 rubles. If, however, he be already married he is at liberty to turn over the money and the woman to any friend whom he may wish to put in for such a good thing. If the winner should be willing to marry, but is not found to be to the damsel's taste, then they are to be excused from matrimony and permitted to divide the rubles.

When Henry Irving Was Hissed.

"I was hissed every night for a week when I was playing the provinces about thirty-five years ago," said Henry Irving to a writer in Ainslee's, "I was given an engagement as leading man in a very small theater, and before I made my bow to the audience I learned that the man whose place I had taken was very popular in the vicinity, and that the people strongly disapproved of the way in which the management had forced him to retire, so that when I made my appearance the audience showed their disapproval of the manager by strongly hissing the successor to their favorite, and they kept it up for a week. It was a very unhappy week for me."

The Same to Him.

"How much for a photograph?" he queried, as he entered the room at the head of the stairs.

"My dear sir, you have made a mistake," replied the occupant of the office. "This is a dental parlor, while the photographer is next door."

"Oh, you pull teeth?"

"Yes, sir."

"How much?"

"Fifty cents apiece."

"Well, go ahead and yank out one or two. It's about the same to me."

The American Bird.

The turkey was first discovered in America, and brought to England in the early part of the sixteenth century. Since then it has been acclimatized in nearly all parts of the world.

A Shrewd Move.

Cora—What sense can you see in the game of golf?

Merritt—The sense is displayed by the players in having a boy to carry the big bundle of sticks for them.—Judge.

Why They Wear the Fez.

From an interpretation of a passage in the Koran Moslems are forbidden to have shades to their eyes, hence the absence of the peak both from the fez and the turban.

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY

International Bimetallism.

The Government has arranged for the payment of a part of the national debt in order to relieve the money stringency. The proposal to buy up $50,000,000 of outstanding bonds, thus putting that much more money in circulation, if not a confession that under our present currency system (we will not say currency laws, as we have no law on the subject which any statesman is wise enough to define), indeed is it not a frank avowal that the commercial interests of this country are continually menaced for lack of sufficient funds with which to do business? In other words, does it not vindicate the quantitative theory and those statesmen of broad and liberal views, including George Hoar, James G. Blaine, James A. Garfield and others, who so long and so tenaciously held out for bimetallism?

The New York News does not at this period, it says, propose to discuss generally and elaborately the benefits of a double standard "without regard to the action of any other nation." If there is anything in party platforms, however, or in the recent utterances of public men, including William McKinley himself, the strictly gold standard population of America consists of E. L. Godkin and Carl Schurz, one of whom has just voluntarily retired from active participation in affairs, and the other of whom possesses a mind so kaleidoscopic that there is no telling where he will stand this time next year. If McKinley were sincere, if his party followers were in earnest in the pretension that it desires bimetallism under international agreement, now is the time such an agreement could be forced with comparatively little difficulty. During the fiscal year ending June 30 last our exports of manufactures were greater than our exports of breadstuffs. We advanced to the first rank as a manufacturing nation, competing with the "pauper-paid labor of Europe" and demonstrating that activity in trade depends not upon high tariffs but upon superiority of workmanship and the adaptability of goods to the uses of any people. This is hard on the Dingley law, to be sure, but the trade balance it gives us proves beyond question that we are masters of the situation when it comes to dictating a monetary standard.

And this is not all. England is today in desperate straits for gold, was in desperate straits before the mines at Johannesburg were shut down. A usual source of supply amounting to $100,000,00 a year is cut off and the Bank of England has been for weeks laboring zealously in every possible way to start a gold movement from this side. But even that tremendous financial giant cannot overcome natural law. With exportations of American manufactures amounting to $1,000,000 a day, and with the crop movement to Europe under way, the tendency of gold will be to not only stay here, but to come here from other centers.

A German statesman of front rank, as quoted by New York daily papers, said positively that unless the agrarian element of his country permitted a broader and more liberal policy of international trade, the Empire would have to abandon the gold standard. It is well known that European powers of less influence, like Austria, Italy, Spain and the Netherlands, would welcome bimetallism if it were made general. France and Russia are the only two nations in a position to hold out should a commission like that which Senator Wolcott headed in 1897 go abroad as a dictator of terms and not as a solicitor of alms.

If the Fifty-sixth Congress has the good of the people at heart, it will take advantage of the situation and bring all Europe to terms. The time was never as propitious before, and it may never be so propitious again.

Repudiation.

Naturally enough the New York Board of Trade wants Congress to establish the gold standard. Wall street is the center of the money power in this country and what Wall street wants is a monopoly.

Now, what is proposed? Simply that the $1,360,000,000 worth of national obligations be made payable in gold. This is repudiation of the contract made with the people that these obligations should be paid in coin. To this the faith of the government is plighted. But Wall street wants the contract broken, wants the payment made in gold, wants the people to shoulder an extra burden, wants to fatten on the labor of the masses. And what Wall street wants the Republican party is bound to supply.

Repudiation is an ugly word, but McKinley and his backers will not balk at it. Perhaps they will not pass gold legislation. Perhaps the Republican politicians are shrewd enough to see that such action would result in McKinley's rejection by the people at the polls in 1900, but repudiation is what the Republicans advocate and it is what they will perpetrate if McKinley is re-elected.

For this reason, if for no other, McKinley should be defeated. The pledge of this government should not be broken. It should be made to keep faith with the people.

All Sorts.

Tight clothes and indigestion cause red noses.

The Germany army contains 10,000 musicians.

Good Friday was called Long Friday by the Saxons.

Nothing costs less nor is cheaper than the compliments of civility.—Cervantes.

If you have learned to "know thyself" then you are not apt to give thyself away.

Maurice, the son of the first "Prince of Orange," showed himself a born soldier at 15.

Hunt wrote some of his critical essays at 15, and later in life declared them to be his best.

When a horse thief's fate hinges on the decision of a self-appointed jury he is pretty sure to swing.

If we fasten our attention on what we have, rather than on what we lack, a very little wealth is sufficient.—F. Johnson.

The business portion of St. Petersburg was seriously damaged by fire in 1862, the property lost exceeding $5,000,000.

Russian battle songs are written in minor keys, and instead of being brilliantly martial are sad, telling of the soldier's fate.

In 1865 Carlstadt, in Sweden, was destroyed by fire, and it was noted as a singular circumstance that all the buildings in the town were consumed except the bishop's palace, the City Hospital and the jail.