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No. 169 T. E. Bowman Secretary.

Items Gathered in From Far and Near

George Washington University.

From the Springfield Union.

We believe that the senate committee on agriculture and forestry has acted wisely in making a favorable report on the bill to extend the benefits of the Morrill act, and the several amendments to it, to the District of Columbia, and specifically to George Washington University, located in the District. As the committee says, no good reason suggests itself for debarring the District of Columbia from benefits enjoyed by the states and territories as a result of the measure which has proved of such great value in developing and extending the advantages of scientific and technical education. The committee finds no foundation for the assertion that George Washington University is a sectarian institution. It is not a public institution in the sense that the state colleges are, but the committee points out that in no less than six instances previously institutions resting on private foundations have been designated to receive the benefits of the Morrill act. Among these were Yale, Brown, Cornell and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The committee finds it was not the intention of the act to force each state to establish a state college or universiy in order to be qualified to administer the fund provided. By its present charter George Washington University is subject to the visitorial and supervisory power of congress, and by the proposed bill four federal officials would be made ev-officio trustees of the university and an annual report on its work would be made to Congress.

It is found that the university is already complying with the terms of the Morrill act, and that of its 1,520 students last year, 546 were pursuing subjects called for by this instrument. It has established a college of engineerin gand the mechanic arts, schools of architecture and pharmacy, a college of veterinary medicine, courses in botany, zoology and chemistry, and mist of the subjects commonly embraced by the term "mechanic arts." It is prepared to comply fully with the provisions of the Morrill act, including, among other things, the advancement of agricultural science. The university seems to be doing an excellent work and there is no good reason why it should not have the same support as is extended to institutions in the states and territories. Though residens of the District of Columbia cannot vote, they need not be discriminated against in the education of their children, nor should young people from the surrounding states be discouraged from attending an institution that has evinced such a worthy spirit of enterprise and self-help.

Sounds Like Irony.

From the Newark News.

And even now, every once in a while, somebody refers to Philadelphia as "the City of Brotherly Love."

Is It Possible?

From the Chicago Record-Herald.

There are in the United States senate several men whom we are almost sure George Washington would disapprove of if he were here now.

Mob City.

From the Detroit Free Press.

Civilization seems to find hard sledding in Cairo, Ill.

TWINKLES

(By Philander Johnson)

Pungent Flavors.

"One of these food experts says that a cactus leaf is edible."

"Well," said the man who is not an epicure, "a cactus leaf is a little spiny. But I shouldn't think it would hurt any worse than horseradish or chile con carne."

Embarrassing.

"I'll have to get another typewriter," said the bustling man. "This one is constantly stopping my dictation to ask how some word is spelled."

"That's a great loss of time."

"I don't mind the time, but it interferes with discipline for me to have to keep saying I don't know."

Pursued.

Whah is a pusson g'ineter go
To dodge dis mighty dread,
With groun'hogs waitin' down below
An' comets overhead?

A Motto Disproved.

"What broke up your theatrical company?"

"The playwright introduced a line that was sure of a big round of applause. The leading man, the leading woman, the comedian, and in fact everybody, insisted on having the opportunity to speak it. The result was a general quarrel."

"And what was the line?"

"'There's glory enough to go 'round.'"

Exactness.

"So your little girl objects to saying 'Now I lay me down to sleep'?"

"Yes. She is a truthful child, and we have been living in a room near an elevated railway in New York where nobody could sleep."

A Spring Sarcasm.

The season is approaching
Which we hail with dulcet song;
The eggs will not stand poaching
And the butter's rather strong.
For coughs and colds we're treated
In scientific terms,
And most of us have greeted
A variety of germs.

The frolicsome bacillus
Floats by, so light and gay.
He doesn't mean to kill us;
That's just his little way.
Let no selfish moods confound us—
Let us all rejoice to see
That the microbes all around us
Are as happy as can be.

MASONIC CALENDAR.

Tuesday, March 1, Richmond Lodge, No. 196, F. and A. M. Stated meeting.

Thursday, March 3, Wayne Council, No. 10, R. and S. M. Stated meeting.

Friday, March 4, King Solomon's Chapter, No. 4, R. A. M. Called meeting. Work in the Past and Most Excellent M. degree.

Saturday, March 5, Loyal Chapter, No. 49, O. E. S. Stated meeting.

Notwithstanding the duty of 40 per cent, a barrel, large qutntities of apples from Oregon, Washington and other states are consumed in Western Canada.

A REAL FOURTH.

"Four months from now the children of this country, and this city will be busy killing themselves."

If some man were to stop you on the street and tell you that, you would begin to look for the proper authorities to have him locked up.

For you would think it very improbable.

You would think it very absurd.

Why should the children of this or any other place, upon a day appointed, engage in the practice of exterminating themselves?

The dealers in fireworks already have their agents on the road. And Fourth of July is coming.

Some people object to the noise.

Such people have never been young.

They do not know the joy of getting up early in the morning and, punk in hand, pockets stuffed with glorious sound making machinery, waking the neighborhood. They do not know the joy of sending a tin can into eternity with a giant cracker.

Such people even add zest to the day's pleasure by threatening to send for the police.

Such people verily rejoice when some little friend of ours in the fire of life, puts out an eye or gets the lockjaw from a toy pistol.

If we had our way about this business we would begin right now to keep the community from being guilty of contributory murder.

We should not say a word about the noise.

We should take the trouble to give the KIDS A SQUARE DEAL.

THEY ARE ENTITLED TO THE FUN.

THEY DO NOT DESERVE TO HAVE LOCKJAW.

RIGHT NOW, BEFORE THE DEALERS LAY IN THEIR SUPPLIES, LET PAINS BE TAKEN TO AT LEAST RULE OUT THE VERY DANGEROUS THINGS AND LEAVE PLENTY OF NOISE.

This will not please some of our readers—the ones who mind being hit by an occasional snow ball.

We haven't much faith in just passing ordinances.

Though we would like to have it arranged that the murderous varieties of fire works should not get into the hands of our very good friends—"the kids."

Ordinances are for dealers.

And, to let them have a square deal on this affair, whatever is done, ought to be done now.

Then, instead of lecturing our children about the danger and making them restive under the rein, by driving them and disappointing them, we would like to see everyone get young for one day and go out and help the youngsters have a good time.

We do not even think that a long Fourth of July speech is necessary—except it be to remind some of the older people that we are facing just about the same thing now that worried the Signers.

But we are interested in the children.

Give them a real party and show that you are entitled to be their parents and their friends.

Give them something that has some fun and some pleasure in it—say a sham battle, and let them have a hand in the game too, Boy Scouts, say.

THERE WILL NOT BE ANY CASES OF LOCKJAW or any eyes put out if you will spend a little bit of your VALUABLE TIME.

Don't let any one mention a Sane Fourth. But fight the Lockjaw and give OUR FRIENDS A REAL FOURTH without contributory murder.

HE HAD TWO WIVES

And One of Them Is Said to Be an Inmate at Easthaven Hospital.

NO. TWO ASKING DIVORCE

Marion, Ind., March 1.—Mrs. Elizabeth Ridgley filed a petition in the circuit court for the annulment of her marriage to Daniel Ridgley. She charges that the defendant was already the husband of Catherine Ridgley when he married her on November 1, 1905. She supposed Ridgley's first wife was dead, this representation having been made to her, but after living with Ridgley for two years she discovered that wife No. 1 was living and was an inmate of the asyulm for the insane at Richmond. Upon discovering that her husband was a bigamist she left him on September 25, 1907. Ridgley is now serving a term in the state prison for criminal assault.

The complaint was filed by Attorney B. Bobbs Shively, being the first document that he has entered in the circuit court.

A LITTLE PLEASANTRY.

He Tried It on the Duchess According to the Rules.

"If seated next to a lady at dinner and if at a loss for a topic, touch lightly on the weather. Then turn to dress. If that fails, try a little pleasantry."

With these words from "Etiquette For the Populace" stamped upon his memory, Mr. Quickrich, who had made a million out of candles and thus gained a sudden entry into society, escorted the Duchess of Dash into the dining room. The multiplicity of forks and knives and spoons staggered him. The soup nearly made him faint. But he took his courage and an olive in both hands and launched forth pluckily.

"Bloomin' dull day, duch, ain't it?" he began, recalling topic No. 1.

"Ahem!" he coughed as he remembered the next topic, dress. "Er—do you wear flannel next the skin?"

A marble shoulder nearly knocked him in the eye—a very cold and frigid shoulder.

"Hum!" muttered Quickrich. "Rather 'ard to get along with. Let's see. I'll try a pleasantry."

The Duchess of Dash's back was turned to him. He protruded a forefinger and jabbed her in the ribs.

"Click!" he cried playfully.

And that absolutely did it, and himself with it.—London Answers.

Shocked at Bare Suggestion.

"I don't think," said Mr. Rich to the prospective son-in-law, "that you can dress my daughter in the style befitting her birth."

"Good gracious!" exclaimed the startled young man. "I wouldn't want to!"—Dundee Advertiser.

Hope for India's Child-Wives

A CHILD WIFE OF INDIA AND HER HUSBAND.

The 25,000 American women organized to fight child marriages in India have won a first victory.

Prominent Hindu citizens of Calcutta, awakened by the dangers of a system that is depleting the vitality of the race, have held a mass meeting and declared against the marriage of girls under 16 and men under 25 years of age.

If the campaign begun is successful, 258,780 betrothed baby girls under 4 years of age, 2,201,404 baby wives between 5 and 9 years old, 8,105,759 wives whose ages range between 10 and 14 years—in all 10,307,163 wives under 14 years of age—will have American women to thank for their salvation.

The fight of American women against the Hindu practice was brought to the attention of the public last year when Mrs. Caroline P. Wallace of Calcutta toured the country lecturing and enlisting women under the banner of the Indo-American Woman's Restoration league.

The league aims to restore Hindu women to the safe and honored position they occupied before the invasion of the Mohammedans in the sixth century A. D. That invasion brought into the country the practice of child betrothals and marriages.

The marriages no longer have religious significance. A hundred superstitions hold the people in thrall and cause frightened mothers to give up their babies to the most revolting practices of licentiousness under the guise of marriage.

Millions of little girls, forced to become wives and mothers before they have passed their childhood, dumbly despairing and sometimes ending their own lives to escape their 40 or 50-year-old husbands, have touched the hearts of American women, who have organized to save the children.

The Restoration league had its origin in a visit made to India nine years ago by Miss J. M. Holmes, Miss Carrie A. Tennant and Mrs. Wallace, all of Los Angeles. In India they saw the most hopeless womanhood in the world. They investigated the revolting practices to which little girls are given over, and the terrible custom of child-widowhood, which means that the baby whose husband chances to die is a widowed outcast for life.

The three women organized the league and since then Mrs. Wallace and Miss Tennant have been almost constantly in India. The action of the Calcutta mass meeting against child marriages was the first of the kind ever taken by leading Hindus.

THE TRAVELS OF A LIE

New York, March 1.—Somewhere on this continent a lie started. It had to do with false hair and leprosy, and it grew and grew, until today there is not a city of any size in the United States that isn't filled with this lie made local.

You've heard it. Everybody has. It runs this way when it is told to you:

"Say, did you hear? There's a girl on the South-side (or the East-side, or across the river, never in your own locality), who has leprosy. Why, her skin is flaking off snow white, her teeth are loosening and they say she is a ghastly sight. Why, it's right here at home, and—do you know?—she took it from wearing a switch."

Or else:

"She worked in Blank's department store, in the hair goods department, and she got the leprosy from handling Chinese hair—all the black switches come from China, you know. And they say some of the other girls in Blank's hair department are sick at home, and they have strong symptoms of leprosy."

Now, this is a lie, for no one ever got leprosy from handling or wearing hair switches, nor has medicine a record of a single bona fide case of any skin disease contracted from handling or wearing false hair.

But the lie has cut such inroads into the false hair trade that it has become a very serious thing in New York, the center of the hair goods industry.

The New York investigation has shown practically beyond dispute that the lie was deliberately started by an American manufacturer of hair goods to cut off foreign competition.

A typical illustration of the lie's progress comes from Chicago. Continually Health Commissioner Evans of Chicago is called to the telephone to hear some mysterious individual inform him of a case of leprosy contracted from Chinese false hair. Several times he has investigated, to find a situation something like this:

The inspector went out to talk with the telephone informant. That lady didn't know where the leper lived, but Mrs. Blank did. The inspector went to Mrs. Blank. All she knew was what Mrs. Dash had told her. Mrs. Dash referred the inspector to Mrs. Smith. Mrs. Smith passed him along to Mrs. Jones. Finally he reached Mrs. White. All she knew was a telegraphed story she had read in a newspaper.

Detroit was a center for leprosy stories. Boston and Baltimore both got undesirable publicity in this respect. Cleveland had rumors for months. The story spread to the Pacific coast.

Dr. L. Duncan Bulkley, an authority on leprosy, and who now has a leprosy case at the New York Skin and Cancer hospital, said the hair story is ridiculous.

"It would be impossible to contract leprosy from hair, even though the hair came from the head of a leper," he said.

HAS BLOOD POISON

Isaac Spahis, a student at Earlham college, and a son of Mr. and Mrs. Doddridge Spahis, of Milton, is confined at his home with blood poisoning, resulting from knocking off the nail of one of his toes while playing basket ball at the college recently. It is not believed that his illness is serious.

Melbourne, Australia has never seen any real fighting, but it has had several scares. Its people for a long time cherished the delusion that the Russions had designs upon their city. Twice Russian admirals dropped in there casually, took soundings, and landed observation parties. Once the citizens were aroused from their beds in the small hours of the morning by cannons booming and rocket firing down the bay. "The Russians at last!" was the general cry. But it was only a too-joyous British captain who had made a record passage from London.

The average yearly slaughter of foxes in Germany is about twenty thousand.

During the first fifty years of the old American navy, 1798-1848, the mortality of naval officers resulting from naval wars. In the eighty-two duels listed by a recent writer, thirty-six men were killed, all naval officers except three civilians. The per cent. of mortality was 22, or five times the mortality of the federal army in the civil war. One-half of those not killed in these duels were wounded. The large number of casualties was undoubtedly due to the short distance between the combatants, which customarily was only ten paces, or thirty feet. In a few duels the distance was even less. In the Barron-Decatur duel it was twenty-four feet, and only twelve in the Bainbridge-Cochran duel.

NOTICE F. O. E.

Business of great importance for Wednesday night, March 2nd, 1910. After the business session a Dutch Lunch will be served. All Eagles please be present.

Ed. J. Myers, W. P.
Frank Hartzler, Sec'y. 28-1-2