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THE ARGUS.

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All communications of a critical or argumentative character, political or religious, must have real name attached for publication. No such artiticles will be printed over fictinous signatures. Anonymous communications not noticed.

Correspondence solicited from every township in Rock Island county.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1891.

THE New York Press, the organ of the administration, say-, "rumor has it that Mr. Noble will soon be secretary of the

Ex SENATOR SPOONER'S discovery that the force bill still is an active issue in politics will be cheerful news to the white-souled Hoar and his compatriot Lodge who, when last heard from, were wandering at large in Massachusetts.

GOVERNOR PATTISON has requested Secretary Foster to permit the examination of the books of the Keystone bank by a committee of business men selected by him, in order to discover what became of the money stolen from the state and city. What says Wansmaker?

The Bloomington Pantagraph speaks of Fov. Pifer as a possibility in connec tion with the republican vice presidential nomination, and the Bulletin Democrat says Gov. Fifer would be eminently respectable and admirably equipped when brought into comparison with the mediocrity now rattling around in the chair. To which the Springfield Register adds: In the history of the nation the vice-presidential office has never presented such a complete vacuum as today.

Deficiency and Surplus.

Says the New York World: "The republican newspapers are supporting Secretary Foster's deceptive assertion that he has \$155,788,715.90 'net balance.' They and he know better.

Out of this sum must be taken the gold reserve, \$100,000,000, held for and sacredly pledged to redemption purposes: \$19,368,141.95, subsidiary coin, which is not a full legal tender: \$4,952,203 14, disbursing officers' balances, which the government may not use for general purposes; \$367,955.54, in minor coin and fractional currency, and \$21,588,636.09 deposited in the national banks, which is a dangerously small working balance when the government is spending \$6 -000,000 a month more than it receives.

These items make a total of \$146 276 .-986.22, so that in this showing the net balance is less than \$10,000,000. But against this must be charged, as appears in the debt statement itself, either \$38 .-461,875 25 or \$83,071,941 41, it is impossible to say precisely what is due for the redemption of national bank notes, so proceeds blind is the new method of bookkeeping. At any rate this is the fund which congress diverted from its purpose, and most, if not all, of which has been expended.

"There is already a deficiency of at least \$23,000,000 and no 'net balance' at all, according to the secretary's official statement, and no other result can be reached except by ignoring liabilities and unavail able assets. Honest business men never do that."

A short time ago the Chicago Inter-Ocean said the surplus was building up at the rate of a million a day. That was an assertion. The facts don't bear out the assertion. The Pittsburgh Post gives the figures as follows: "The receipts of the treasury were \$8,485,232 less than in July of last year, while the payments from the treasury were \$9,462,711 more than were paid out last year. The result is that the treasury goes behind hand \$17,847,940 in one month. This is burn ing the candle at both ends with a vengeance. The expenditures exceeded the income for the month by the enormous amount of \$5,419,306. It is interesting and important to note that this overwhelming excess of penditure is not due to any of the causes which republican apologists are wont to allege in excuse for the waste of money. That is to say, the pension payments in July were, by chance, less than in the same month of 1890, and not a dollar has yet been paid out either for subsidies or bounties. The second year of republican appropriations, in short, opens with a staggering excess of expenditure for "civil and miscellaneous" purposes, the fruit of Speaker Reed's legislation. It is not easy to see where this will end. At the present pace, the \$10,000,000 available cash in the treasury will disappear, together with the bank deposits, before the democratic congress meets, and even then relief cannot be afforded at once."

Harvest Excuesions.

On August 25 and September 29, the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern railway will sell harvest excursion tickets from all stations on its line south of and including Vinton, to all stations on its line north of and including Iowa Falls, in Iows, Minnesots and South Dakots, to all points in Arkansas, Indian Territory, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, Montana, South North Dakota; also to all points in Tennessee. Louisana, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and Florida at a rate of one fare and onesthird for the round trip.

For further information, enquire of any ticket agent of this company, or J. E. HANNEGAN,



The Manchots of the Cape of Good Hope

and the Theory of Development, At the Cape of Good Hope and its neighboring islands is found the most curious and remarkable of the sea fowl tribe-the manchots, or jackass penguins. These animals are of a strange and aberrant tyre hardly worthy the name of birds. Popular Science News has the following to say about them: Their wings are entirely use less for purposes of flight, and have apparently been modified into an organ more nearly resembling the flipper of a seal. The feet are large and clumsy, and, like the bear, the manchot is a plantigrade, standing upon the full length of the foot; but even with this advantage his move



ments on land are so clumsy that he is obliged to use the cluster of strong feathers forming the tip of the tail as an additional means of support when standing up-right. In the water, however, the limbs which are of so little use to it on land enable it to move with the greatest swiftness

The color of these birds is a pure white on the under part of the body, and a black or grayish blue above. Bands of a yellowish color have sometimes been observed on the breast and the sides of the neck, and tufts of bright yellow feathers about the eye. A peculiarity of the plumage of the adult male bird is the dark band surrounding the lower part of the body, as shown in the illustration. The average length of the birds is about two feet.

The eggs are laid on rocky islands and on cliffs bordering the sea. The nest is roughly constructed of stones and shells, the principal object being apparently to raise the eggs from the ground and keep them dry. Usually a single egg only is found in the nest, of a pure white color and globular in form, like that of a duck. After five weeks' incubation the young manchots make their appearance, and are fed from the beaks of their parents with partially digested food regurgitated from the stomach. After the responsibility for their young ceases the old birds commence to moult, and remain in a sort of stupor until the new feathers are grown and it is safe for them to take to the water once

When removed to the northern hemisphere the manchot tends instinctively to delay the nesting season about six months to correspond with the difference in the seasons between the two hemispheres. Intermediate types of animals like the bird described are the strongest witnesses to the truth of the theory of development.

Direction of Wind in Thunderstorms.

A correspondent writes to Science, from Lyons, N. Y., as follows: It has been no ticed in connection with thunderstorms in this vicinity this season that in every instance there has been an outflow of air in every direction from the storm, extending even beyond he area of precipitation and cloudiness. For example, in the case of a storm appearing upon the southwestern horizon and moving due east, and passing thence three or four miles south of this village, the weather vane pointed directly toward it continuously, veering slowly from southwest to southeast, showing that the wind came steadily from the storm. same thing also occurred in the case of a storm which appeared upon the northwestern horizon and moved eastward, passing three or four miles north of the village. In this case the vane pointed directly toward the storm throughbut, the winds being quite brisk. In other instances in which the storms passed directly over the village the same thing was manifest, the vane shifting sharply from west to east as the storms passed. In previous years I have noticed the pull of wind in front of an advancing thunderstorm moving in the same direction as the storm itself and occurring just before the rain began to fall, but my attention has never been called to such an outflow of air in every direction as has been apparent in connection with thunderstorms recently. be its explanation, it certainly is entirely inconsistent with the idea of an indraft and uprush at the center of the storms in which it occurs.

How Spools Are Made.

Birch wood is preferred. The wood is first sawed into sticks four or five feet long and seven-eighths of an inch to three inches square, according to the size of the spool to be produced. These sticks are thoroughly seasoned. They are sawed into short blocks and dried in a hot air kiln. At the time they are sawed holes are bored perpendicularly through each block, which is set on end under a rapidly revolving, long shanked augur. Next, one whirl of each little block against some little knives that are turning at lightning speed, fashions it into a spool according to the pattern desired, and that, too, at the rate of one a second for each set of knives. A row of small boys feed the spool making machines by simply placing the blocks in a spout, selecting the best and throwing out the knotty and defective stock. The machine is automatic, but there are some things which it cannot do, hence the employment of the small boys above mentioned. After the spools are turned they are placed in a large drum and revolved rapidly until they have taken on a fine polish. For some special purposes they are dyed yellow, black or red, according to taste. When one sees a spool of thread marked "200" or "300 yards" it does not sigpify that the thread has been measured, but that the spool has been gaged, and is supposed to have that amount of thread upon it, says The Implement Herald.

The Miles of Various Nations.

The miles of various nations, expressed in yards, are as follows: The Irish mile, 1,340 yards; Swiss, 9,153; Italian, 1,766; Scotch, 1,984; Tuscan, 1,808; German, 8,106; Arabian, 2,143; Turkish, 1,826; Flemish, 6,896; Vienns, 8,296; Roman, 1,682 or 2,025; Werst, 1,167 or 1,887; Dutch and Prussian, 0,480; Swedi h and Danish, 7,831.5; Eng-

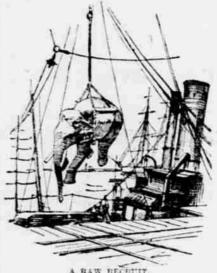


GIANT SOLDIERS.

Elephants in India Bear the Baggage of the Army and Brag the Heavy Cannon.

The very biggest of the British soldiers are in the East Indian army. They are eight or ten feet tall. They weigh five or six tons apiece. These giant soldiers are not men, however. They go on four feet instead of two. In fact, they are elephants.

Strange to say, the first elephants ever seen by Europeans, centuries ago, were sol-diers too. The Europeans had to fight them, as well as men, in the great wars of the east. In those days, elephants went into battle clad in armor. Sometimes they bore towers on their backs, filled with war riors. Some of those old soldier elephants were trained to cut and thrust with huge scimiters, which they carried with their An elephant can lift half a ton with his trunk. Think, then, what a tre mendous weapon such a swordsman could



Now the Europeans employ elephants in their armies in the East. The British soldier elephants in India today, however, are not fighters. They are workers; they bear the baggage and drag the heavy

Not long ago seventeen "raw recruits" vere shipped from Rangoon to Madras. Most of them were newly captured animals purchased for the government of India up n the country of British Burmah. one these huge animals were hoisted from the wharf in a great sling and lowered into the hold of the ship, as shown in the accompanying picture from Little Men and Women, which gives its readers the interesting facts here quoted. The elephants did not like going to sea in that way at all. They struggled mightily. They roared, They grabbed at the rigging with their trunks as they were slung up in midair. And then down in the hold they were so furious that it was more difficult to get them out of the sling than it had been to get them in.

Keep the Passions in Check. An old man was once walking with a little boy. They came across four shrubs. The old man said to his youthful companion:

"Pull up the least one." He obeyed with ease. Now the next.'

He obeyed, but it did not come so easily 'And the third.

It took all his strength to move its roots. but he succeeded. "Now the fourth."

In vain the lad put forth all his strength He only made the leaves tremble; he could not move the roots. They had gone strongly into the earth, and no effort could dislodge

Then the wise old man said to the ardent

This, my son, is just what happens with our passions. When they are young and weak, one may, by a little watchfulness over self and the help of a little self denial. easily tear them up; but if we let them cast their roots deep into our souls, there is no human power can uproof them. For this reason, my child, watch well over the first movements of your soul, and study, by acts of virtue, to keep your passions well in check."-Golden Days.

The Moinceas or Spice islands are a nu-merous group in the Eastern archipelago: none of them are large, the surface of the whole group is mountainous, several peaks attaining to the height of \$,000 feet. are volcanic in structure, some of the islands containing active volcances and numerous hot springs, while earthquakes are of fre Some of the mountains quent occurrence. present a beautiful appearance, being wooded to the summit; the soil is rich, the climate warm and very moist, but owing to the smallness of the islands and the prevalence of the monsoons the heat is seldom excessive. As the climate is quite unsuited for corn, the natives depend for food on the sago palm, the bread fruit tree and the cocoanut. Spice is the article of prod-uce most important to Europeans, cloves, nutmegs and mace being exported in large quantities. Sandal wood is obtained here; and small quantities of gold, coral and mother of pearl are found, while some trade is carried on with China in edible birds' nests and that other peculiar delicacy, the fins of sharks. The Portuguese, Spanish and Dutch have alternately struggled for pre-eminence on these valuable islands. They were captured by the British in the beginning of the present century, but were finally restored to the Dutch by the treaty of Pavis to 1811. of Paris in 1814.

> Ballad of Clarinthia Jane Louisa. This is Clarinthia Jane Louisa. Holding her brother Ebenezer. Happy little two!



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Mr. Clark, to the public:- I wish to say to my friends and the public. that I regard Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Distribuea remedy as the best preparation in use for colic and diarrhoea. It is the finest selling medicine I ever bandled, because it always gives satisfaction. O. H Clark, Orangeville, Tex. For sale by Hartz & Bahnsen, druggists.

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Albert Erwin, editor of the Leonard, Texas, Graphic, says: "For the cure of cramps in the stomach Chamberlain's Colic, Cholers and Diarrhoes Remedy is the best and most speedy I ever used." Many others who have tried it entertain the same opinion. For sale by Hartz & Bahnsen, druggists.

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