

THE BIG ROCK RENT ASSUNDER.

Two Hundred and Eighty Thousand Pounds of Dynamite Exploded in the Interest of Navigation. New York dispatch: In order to protect life and property at the Flood Rock explosion to-day, the most careful and complete arrangements had been perfected. A force of 450 police in addition to the harbor police were detailed near the scene of action. Blackwell's Island contained a detachment of one hundred men, while one hundred were on duty at Ward's Island. All the buildings on the north end of Blackwell's Island were barred of inmates, including the almshouse, workhouse and lunatic asylum, who were massed on lawns at a safe distance from the explosion and carefully guarded. In the penitentiary the cell doors were thrown open and the prisoners conducted to the walls. The prison was surrounded by police, while large forces were stationed among the convicts to prevent escape or riot. All points on the shore from which Flood Rock could be seen were densely packed with people. The police were kept busy in keeping the crowd outside the danger line. Ropes had been stretched across the river above and below the place of explosion, and launches from the navy yard patrolled the river to see that no vessels attempted to pass through. When the bell of the tower of Stann's school building struck 11, fifty thousand people were waiting expectantly for the explosion, which was advertised to occur at that hour, but at that moment a number of people were still on Flood Rock. A few moments later, however, a tug boat took up anchor, and then the crowd braced themselves for the expected shock. Ladies and gentlemen in carriages stood up on cushions and leveled opera glasses toward the island. A hushed expectancy fell upon the vast crowd. The river in the vicinity of Flood Rock and Hallett's point was now clear of vessels. At a respectful distance, however, scores of excursion steamers, yachts and tugs, crowded with people, waited for the pressing of the electric button. At precisely 11:13 o'clock the bosom of the river was pierced with a mighty upheaval of rocks and timber. Up went glittering derrick and water until it seemed as if they never would stop. At a height of two hundred feet the uplifted waters paused and fell back again to the river. Mary Newton, the 11-year-old daughter of Gen. Newton, touched the button which fired the electric current that exploded the submarine mines. This is the same child who exploded the first Hell Gate explosion. The shock of the explosion was felt only slightly on the Astoria shore. The noise resembled far-distant subterranean thunder. When Flood Rock had exploded a mass of broken wreck was seen on top of it. The big derrick which had been left to its fate turned over on its side, broken. A huge tank which had been left at the north end of the island still stood in its place, tilted over a little, as it had settled when let down with the angry waters from its aerial flight. Immediately after the explosion fire broke out in the wreck and burned lustily amid seething waters. Four instantaneous photographs were taken by officers of the corps of engineers from the firing point at Astoria. As far as was possible to judge from the position and appearance of the wreck the explosion was a grand success, though for the present the vicinity of the blasted rock will be even more dangerous than heretofore until the wreck has been removed. The shock was felt to a slight extent in the city and distinctly in the city hall, the structure trembling for five seconds.

One of the engineers in speaking of the work done by the dynamite and "renda-rock" said that so far as his observations had extended the explosion was eminently successful. Flood Rock was not buried out of sight. It sank perhaps three or four feet and that was all. Some had affirmed that the bed of the river would be so broken up and jagged with rocks that the middle of the channel would become impassable until the debris was removed. Such did not prove to be the fact. Several steamers experienced no difficulty whatever in making their trips through the channel. If the work of the electric current failed at any point to discharge cartridges, it was probably under the rock known as "Nigger Rock" opposite the electric light stand, at Hallett's point. The keeper of the light, who watched the upheaval of the waters, said that the water at that point was not disturbed. It might be, however, that he was mistaken. The engineer felt confident that an examination of the bottom of the river would show that the rocks were shattered into fragments. Capt. John Somers, of the light-house boat John Rogers, after the explosion said: "We were to buoy the scene of the explosion after it had occurred if necessary. We found at the south end of the island six fathoms of water, and at the west end the depth was four fathoms. There were three or four feet of water there before this. We did not find it necessary to buoy the place at all, while the main channel is entirely clear, so that the explosion is a success, and vessels can pass without any fear."

THE STATUS OF SETTLERS.

Reference Being Had to Those on Debatable Indemnity Lands of the Manitoba Road. Bishop Ireland, in company with Father Stephan, of the Catholic Indian Bureau, called at the interior department to consult Land Commissioner Sparks on the status of the settlers who are on the debatable indemnity lands of the Manitoba road. They found Gen. Sparks disposed to do all in his power for the settlers. He said he was sorry the general principle of cancellation of indemnity limits should be made settlers any possible injury. In such cases all the power of the office within bounds of the law and justice should be extended to protect the settlers. There are about 200 farmers around Graveline, in whose welfare Bishop Ireland is interested. Besides these there are said to be over a thousand settlers at various points along the road in the same plight. Their lands are held under a contract from the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba railroad. The indemnity department is interested in the right of the road to these lands in doubt. The indemnity selections are well made, and the whole question now is whether the road has had no more land than it was entitled to. Soren Lister, formerly of the Ferrus Falls land office as a land lawyer, had undertaken to work through by an appeal to the general land office a considerable number of land entries on the land of the Irishmen. When the case was laid before Gen. Sparks, he said that as pre-emptors the present settlers would have thirty days in which to file after the land had been forfeited by the railroad and offered by the land office. As homesteaders they would have sixty days. The law clerks in the land office, however, found a provision of the law passed January 13, 1881, of which Gen. Sparks was unaware, that covers the case not only in Minnesota, but on all similar grants throughout the United States. It is so precisely to the point that it will afford relief to thousands of bona fide settlers who have been working of late over their land titles. It is as follows: United States statutes at large, vol. 21, page 31—Be it enacted, etc., that all persons who shall have settled and made valuable and permanent improvements upon any odd numbered sections of land within any railroad withdrawal in good

faith, and with the permission or license of the railroad company for whose benefit the same shall have been made, and with the expectation of purchasing of such company the land so settled upon, which land so settled and improved may for any cause be restored to the public domain, and who at the time of such restoration may not be entitled to enter and acquire title to such lands under the pre-emption, homestead or timber culture acts, shall be permitted at any time within three months after such restoration, and under such rules and regulations as the commissioners of the general land office may prescribe, to purchase not exceeding 160 acres in extent of the same by legal subdivisions, at the price of \$2.50 per acre and to receive patents therefor.

CHRONICLES BY CABLE.

Miscellaneous Matters of Interest Pertaining to Foreign Countries.

A government ukase has been issued in Russia ordering all governors and other officers throughout the provinces to use the Russian language exclusively in their official duties. Cardinal Manning's article on how Catholics ought to vote in the coming election has appeared in the Dublin Review. The Cardinal defends Parliament in constitution even though opposing Catholicism. He praises Liberalism which is devoted to the care of the poor, change of land laws, and the enforcement of local option. He strongly denounces secular education, and urges the Catholics to place the religious question foremost and support only those candidates who are in favor of placing voluntary schools a vital question in Christian education, and of appointing a royal commission to examine the education question. A decree establishing custom-houses on the Isthmus of Panama has been issued by the President of Columbia. This decree is issued under a law passed in 1884. The custom-houses at Colon and Panama thus provided will charge import duties at the rate of 60 per cent. of the duties levied at other custom-houses in the republic. Great excitement and indignation exists among the merchants, who will send representatives to intercede with the government. The Ambassadors of the powers are urging the Greek Government to stop its war preparation.

Bands of Bulgarians have raided Serbia territory and plundered the villages near the frontier. A force of gen d'armes have gone to the scene of the disturbance to drive out the intruders. The Romanian Chambers have been summoned to meet on the 27th inst. It is intended to mobilize the third army corps and a portion of the fourth. The Porte having asked for an explanation from the Serbian government of the war-like attitude Serbia has assumed in mobilizing her army and despatching troops to the frontier, an answer was given which was not considered adequate by the Turkish ambassador, and he has gone to Nissa to demand an audience with King Milan respecting the matter. The National Zeitung says Germany will join the bi-metallic conference when England consents to do likewise. The French war office received a dispatch dated at Tamatave, from Admiral Mot, commander of the French force in Madagascar, stating that the French and Hovas had an indecisive fight on the 27th of Sept. at Passandova Bay. The French lost 21 killed and wounded, the Hovas 300.

London dispatch: The rumor has gained credence in Europe that King Milan will issue a declaration of war, and it has wonderfully fanned the excitement over the situation in the east. A German envoy has been sent post-haste from Berlin to Nisch, and he is said to be carrying a most important message from Prince Bismarck to King Milan. The nature of this message is only a matter of conjecture, but it is believed that the German chancellor wishes to restrain the Serbian king from invading Turkish territory. It is almost certain that any attack by Serbia upon the neighboring provinces of Bulgaria would be like a spark in a powder magazine, but it is feared that Bismarck's restraining message will be too late to be effective. It is stated that Austria is in favor of the cessation of Weddin to Serbia, but that Germany and Russia refuse their consent. The trouble between Burnah and the government of India, will probably lead to the annexation of the former to India. The matter was seriously discussed at the Indian department. It is generally believed that a sufficient force will be sent to depose King Tewab and annex the country to India, in order to prevent future complication whenever the king of Burnah wants to raise money to give a great feast. A heavy shock of earthquake was felt at Palermo, Italy, Oct. 15th. The disturbance caused a three-story building to fall, burying its occupants beneath the debris. Eight corpses have been recovered from the ruins. President Grevy, of France has officially announced that he will enter the coming contest for the Presidency.

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL.

R. B. Hayes would never try to palm off an old hen as a spring chicken. Mary Anderson will receive a royal American welcome home on her arrival. General Benjamin F. Butler's hair is growing gray, but his heart is as youthful as ever. The friends of E. K. Appar, of New York, have resolved to raise \$3,000 for a monument to his memory. Secretary Whitney uses his country seat, five miles from Washington, only as a place for an occasional visit. Gen. Tombs on his death bed denies that he ever said he would call the roll of his slaves on Bunker Hill. Hon. William M. Everts is envied by many a dyspeptic. He is blessed with an exceptionally good appetite. It is generally supposed that the constitutional amendment, doing away with the October elections in Ohio, will be adopted. Major Daniel Simpson, the "drummer boy" of Boston, who is now 87 years old, attributes the preservation of his youth to baked beans. Sheriff Brinkerhoff, of Hackensack, N. J., has in his establishment the tallest man, the shortest dog and the liveliest coon in Bergen county. A South Carolina woman rode twenty-five miles through a drenching rain to meet her prospective husband. She has doubtless asserted her reign by this time. As long as the farmers have the numerical strength, as they have in states like Iowa and Minnesota, remarks the St. Paul Globe, there is no reason why they should not have legislation to suit them.

Not Equal to the Emergency.

He looked a bit hard-up, but he had a pleasant face and smooth address as he walked into the office of a railroad running West and asked for the superintendent. When conducted to that official's desk he began:

"I want the favor of a pass to Buffalo."

"Can't have it," was the prompt reply. "I expected that answer, and am prepared for it. I did not come here with a tale of woe. I have not been robbed."

"Not a rob. I did not lose my money on the street. I am not obliged to rush home to see my wife die. I am not a consumptive who is anxious to get home and die among his friends. All those pleas are old."

"Yes, very old and thin."

"And yet I want a pass to Buffalo. I feel that I have a right to ask it."

"On what grounds?"

"This morning I saved the life of a passenger on one of your transfer boats. He was a big red-whiskered man named Clark. Had he gone overboard, it would have cost you perhaps \$50,000 to settle the claim."

"Clark? Big man with red whiskers? Wretched man, you know not what you did! That's the man who already has a claim of \$20,000 against us for breaking his leg. If you had only let him go overboard we could have settled with his heirs for less than a quarter of the amount! Go out—go away. You have taken thousands of dollars out of our pockets by your meddlesome act."

The beat walked out without a word, but as he reached the door he was heard to grumble:

"I thought I was the best liar on the Atlantic coast, but I might as well hang up from this date!"—Wall Street Daily News.

Lame and Lazy—A Fable.

Two beggars, Lame and Lazy, were in want of bread. One leaned on his crutch, the other reclined on his couch. Lame called on Charity and humbly asked for a cracker. Instead of a cracker he received a loaf.

Lazy, seeing the gift of Charity, exclaimed, "What a cracker, and receive a loaf? Well, I will ask for a loaf."

Lazy now applied to Charity, and called for a loaf of bread.

"Your demanding a loaf," said Charity, "proves you a loafer. You are of that class and character who ask, and receive not; you ask amiss."

Lazy, who always found fault, and had rather whine than work, complained of ill-treatment, and even accused Charity of a breach of an exceeding great and precious promise: "Ask, and you shall receive."

Charity pointed him to the painting in her room, which presented to his vision three personages, Faith, Hope and Charity. Charity appeared larger and fairer than her sisters. He noticed that her right hand held a pot of honey which fed a bee disabled, having lost its wings. Her left hand was armed with a whip, which kept off the drones.

"Don't understand it," said Lazy. Charity replied, "It means that Charity feeds the lame and flogs the lazy."

Lazy turned to go.

"Stop!" said Charity. "Instead of coin I will give you counsel. Do not go and live on your poor mother, for I will send you to a rich aunt."

"Rich aunt?" echoed Lazy. "Where shall I find her?"

"You will find her in Proverbs, sixth chapter and sixth verse."

Moral: Instead of waiting and wishing a rich uncle to die, go and see how a rich aunt lives.

What Patsy Is Doing.

Mrs. Hoolahan, whose rather coltish son, Patsy, went out West a few months ago to seek his fortune, received great news from him yesterday.

"Did Patsy write to you?" we inquired. "No, he jabsers, he has never written a line since he left, but one of the Conner by's who went to Denver a fortnight ago promised to hunt up Patsy and let me know what he is doing."

I got a letter to-day, and Conner tells me that Patsy has a great situation as superintendent of a free-lunch route, which extends pretty much over the whole city."

"That must be a pretty nice thing," we suggested. "Well, should say so. Patsy is a nice boy, and I know he'd do well if he had a chance," returned the confiding old woman, her innocent, motherly old face brightening at the thoughts of her wayward boy's success, and showing no trace of suspicion that "the Conner by" was trying to be funny by perpetrating a joke on a loving and unsuspecting old woman.

There is but one easy thing to borrow, and that we don't want—trouble.

THE MARKETS.

Table with market prices for various commodities like wheat, flour, and other goods in Omaha, Chicago, and St. Louis.

Dakotans Auxious for Wives.

"We can accommodate ten thousand girls with husbands in Dakota on ninety days' notice," said Col. "Pat" Donan at the Grand Union hotel a few days ago. The colonel of the late confederate forces, now a journalist in the great territory, towered full six feet under a big slouch hat. "We have published in The Fargo Argus," he continued, "two thousand letters from as many young women, and have made many matches. In May, 1880, there was only one marriageable girl in Fargo, and to-day, with a population of 12,000, we have only four unmarried girls. In Deadwood, at the height of its mining fever, in 1879-80, there were five thousandachelors and only six marriageable girls. You get a great many tales in the east about the one young woman who take up farms in Dakota and reject all offers of marriage. Why, they don't live in the territory a year before they are wedded."

"Most of our men went to Dakota when they were boys, and that is the reason we have so many bachelors there—thousands of them, all willing to marry. The strange thing about it all is most of them know lots of girls in the eastern towns from which they came, and make no effort to wed them. They won't have the girls they used to know, and they can't get any others very well. Any attractive girl who will go there can queen it over the whole territory. Montana is older than we are, and has plenty of marriageable women. My, how those girls there ride horses! But in Dakota I know scarcely a town with an unmarried girl in it. It would surprise you to know how many army officials and men of prominence marry servant-girls. High or low, rich or poor, a good girl can have her choice. I know one prominent man who married a pretty waiter girl of one of the hotels the other day. She gave him as a wedding present a Dakota farm, some diamonds, and many other valuables. In Dakota women are equal with men before the law."

Col. Donan, although now a noted match-maker, is a bachelor himself. Maj. Edwards, editor-in-chief, and H. C. Plumley, managing editor, of The Argus, he says, are both unmarried, although they have overlooked and published all the two thousand letters sent him from eastern young women.

When asked about the alleged great poker game between Stanley Huntley and Maj Edwards, in which the former threw away four queens and drew three aces to an ace in hand, Col. Donan said: "The story isn't to be believed. Maj. Edwards knows how to deal, and having four kings in hand and a pot of \$4,400 on the table he would not deal his opponent three aces."

"What about the division and admission of the territory as a state?" was asked.

"The admission and division of Dakota have been agitated with us since 1870, when we had twelve thousand inhabitants. Since then there have been several constitutional conventions which have met, resolved, and sent delegations to Washington. Last winter we had a delegation at the capital which spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in vain. There are three things to prevent division and admission. The south will never permit the admission of two northern states if it can help it. The eastern high-tariff republicans will never permit two low-tariff states to enter if they can help it. The democratic party will never consent to the admission of two republican states if it can help it. Dakota will be admitted only when it consents to come in as one state."—New York Tribune.

Emery Storrs and the Millionaires.

One day a group of millionaires, who were sitting on the piazza at the United States, at Saratoga, began to chaff Storrs in a solemn fashion. He had just confessed to them that he was not worth any money, and that he had spent everything he made as fast as he got it. Suddenly he turned upon one of the would-be tormentors and began: "You rich fellows appear to think that money-making is an intellectual process, and that the wealth acquired by you proves that you are a very superior kind of men. You are very much mistaken. There is nothing intellectual about acquisitiveness. It is merely an animal trait. It is less highly developed in you gentlemen than it is in the chipmunk. The beaver is very much your superior in this regard. Where are the rich men in history? There are two only who live in the legends of literature—Dives, who survives on account of his fortunate connection with a pauper, and Croesus, because his name has been used by poets merely as a synonym. Gentlemen, where are the stockholders who built the Parthenon? Doubtless in their day they sat around in Athens and spoke of the fine work that Phidias was doing for them. But, gentlemen, where are the stockholders to-day and where is Phidias?" He went on in this quaint way for fully half an hour, and when he had finished even the millionaires did not seem to think that they had had the best of it.—New York World.

Conductors on reaching Chicago used to call out "Chicago! Twenty minutes for divorce." Things have changed since then. It now takes thirty minutes to get a divorce.

INDUSTRIAL BEKITYITIES.

Notes and Comments of General Interest to the Husbandman.

The electricians of the old world are among the latest strong advocates of employing trees as protectors from lightning. Investigation leads them to conclude that the greatest protection a building can have is to have tall trees near by. The branches are so many points conducting the electricity by the trunk to the ground. As to what particular trees are the best for this purpose, there is some question, but all agree that tall growers are the most desirable, also that those with erect branches are better than such as have spreading ones. Perhaps all tall-growing kinds like oak, poplar, hickory, horse-chestnut, elm, pine, or spruce, are of nearly equal value. In planting to protect buildings a distance of fifty feet away would be proper. To have the trees closer there would be danger in case of a stroke of lightning that the fluid would follow the ground to the building. A small pond between the tree and the building would render the protection about complete.

A farmer in Los Angeles county, California, who has been troubled with mice and squirrels, has evolved a cheap and sure means of dealing with these twin nuisances. Tubs or cans partly filled with water are put around the barn where the mice are most plenty, and they go to them for drink and are drowned. An average of about two thousand a month have thus been caught. In dealing with the squirrels the same means have been adopted, substituting a barrel partly sunk in the ground and half filled with water. Besides this, pieces of watermelon rind with a little poison sprinkled on it and put into the entrances to the burrows have been found remarkably efficacious, and by the combined use of these means the death rate among the ground squirrels has been swelled to astonishing proportions.

At the annual meeting of the Ontario Bee-keepers' association, held at Toronto, Sept. 17, the president advocated the establishment of an experimental bee-farm in which races of bees from foreign countries could be thoroughly tested. "After having the Asiatic races inflicted upon us," he said, "we are now threatened with the Carniolan." He expressed the opinion that the Italian race should be maintained and cultivated as the best bee America has yet tested generally. He advocated the formation of a union among the Ontario beekeepers, for the purpose of establishing a foreign market for the surplus product. He mentioned the Colonial and Indian exhibition to be held next year in England, as affording an excellent opportunity for the display of Canadian products.

In making preparations for the window garden do not forget the bulbs, which are so reliable and satisfactory. Plant them in pots or boxes of rich soil quite liberally mixed with sand, water and put in the cellar for five or six weeks that they may form roots, then bring them to the light, when they will soon begin to bud and blossom. By having a liberal assortment, and bringing them up at intervals, one may have blossoms all through the winter. Hyacinths, are, of course, the most desirable both for beauty and fragrance. The single are preferable for pots, as the bud forms and rapidly grows without a corresponding growth of foliage. If one wishes to retard the one and promote the other make a cone of paper to inclose the bud for a time.

Each hen in a house should have one foot of space on the roosts. One hundred hens then would require four roosts twenty-five feet long, and to prevent the hens crowding too much upon the top roosts these should be all on the same level. The roosts should be one foot apart, and be arranged in a frame hinged to the wall, so they can be lifted and hooked up for the purpose of cleaning. The roosts will take up four feet, and there should be eight feet more floor space; thus a house for one hundred hens should be twenty-five by twelve feet on the floor inside, and should be at least six feet high in the front, with ample ventilation.

In a Parisian process, known as lyophlasty, the wood is softened by steam and imbued with certain ingredients, which in part to it a sufficient ductility to enable it to receive bas-relief impressions from four to five millimeters in height. For medallions, bosses, etc., mastic is forced into the hollows so that all tendency in the compressed wood to split or open is completely overcome. For book-binding purposes, much seems expected from this process, as it is applicable to the scented or odoriferous woods—cedar, teak, cypress, rose-wood, etc., which repel worms.

The cranberry growers on Cape Cod have begun to gather their crop. At the beginning of the season the prospects were good for an unusually large crop, the average of which is 38,000 barrels, but the drought and fruit, vine and span worms have been instrumental in devastating many farms, so that the most sanguine do not expect the yield to be over 28,000 barrels. An estimate of the annual crop of Barnstable and Plymouth counties five years from now, unless interfered with by successive disastrous seasons, places the figures at 100,000 barrels. A bee-raiser has discovered toads

making great inroads upon the population of his hives. During the dry weather he examined the hives in the morning and found a toad at the entrance of each of several boxes. The toads were apparently asleep, but as soon as a bee or two appeared would shoot out their tongues and convey the honey gatherers into their capacious mouths. The toads were killed and dissected, and many bees found in their stomachs. The bee-raiser has elevated the hives.

An authority on diseases of sheep says the external symptoms of fluke in sheep are: A wasting condition, skin loose and flabby, sometimes spotted yellow or black, with a peculiar crackling sound when handled. After death, insects called flukes will be found in the liver. When it has fairly set in rot is incurable. In the early stages the sheep may be fattened. Feeding vegetable charcoal is said to be a cure. One-half dram sulphate of iron and 1½ drams common salt should be given daily, mixed in the food.

Sweet-potato raising is increasing in northern New York. Several farmers report a yield of from seventy-five to one hundred bushels per acre, and state that they can sell them in the nearest towns for 5 cents per pound. They succeed best when planted on quite low ridges, as the tapers are short and thick.

Salt is being freely used by certain New York nurserymen in their pear orchards for the purpose of counteracting blight. Iron filings and coppers in solution have been used for the same purpose. If these remedies do not prevent the disease, they at least correct a disposition to blight.

The importations of live stock from foreign countries to the United States for the seven months ending July 31, 1885, were as follows: Cattle 14,904, horses 11,710, sheep 4,185, against the following for the corresponding period of 1884: Cattle 25,425, sheep 1,875.

During last year bees in Ohio gathered 1,731,095 pounds of honey, estimated to be worth \$276,975, while the fowls produced 32,602,321 dozen of eggs, valued at \$1,890,348. The value of the eggs was nearly equal to that of the wool produced in the state.

Somebody claims to have discovered a new use for peaches in the making of peach wine. It is said to be the finest flavo ed wine ever discovered, and bids fair to become a favorite and profitable beverage.

A valuable bed of silicious earth, the only deposit outside of New Hampshire, has been found in Jefferson county, Kentucky. The earth is of a peculiar quality, and is used in polishing metals.

Dr. Paaren, Illinois state veterinarian, who has made the circuit of all places quarantined last year on account of pleuro-pneumonia, says there are now no traces of the plague left in the state.

Gen. Forrest in the 'Bus.

Gen. N. B. Forrest, the famous Confederate cavalry leader, visited New York, and one day, while riding in a Fifth avenue stage, a dude of the most pronounced type entered and took his seat in the corner opposite the General. While searching his pockets for something the youth withdrew a large envelope from which a number of papers slipped and were scattered on the floor. He picked up those within reach, and turning to Forrest, who looked like "a member from the rural districts," said in the drawing, consequential and supercilious tone peculiar to his class, "I say, can you reach those papers?" The General grasped the situation in a moment, and extending his arm, replied with well assumed country patois, "Wall, I jis kin, stranger, an' that's about all." Then he drew himself up to a sitting posture again and looked innocent, while the occupants of the stage roared, and the embarrassed dude proceeded to help himself, and as quickly as possible leave the unsympathetic company.

An old gentleman, who, to judge from his shaking sides, heartily enjoyed the scene, now changed his seat for one next to the General, and remarked to him: "Stranger, excuse me for the question, but where are you from?" "Arkansaw!" was the rejoinder. "Well," said the old man, "I've always heard that an Arkansian is a — of a fellow, and now I believe it. Shake hands, stranger!" He was doubly delighted a few moments later when, on arriving at the New York Hotel, Forrest introduced himself propria persona, and invited his new-found friend to become his guest at dinner.—Home Journal.

Secrets of the Household.

"Will you have a piece of the pie, Mr. Goodman?" asked Bobby's mother of the minister.

"Thanks; no," he replied.

"No, I guess not," said Bobby, rather hesitatingly.

The minister looked at Bobby in surprise. "I thought all little boys were fond of pie," he said.

"They are," replied Bobby. "I could eat that hull pie; but ma said if you didn't take any I mustn't, an' she'd save it for to-morrow."—New York Times.

It is said that western women have stronger voices than here the women of the east. It will be noted right here the compensations of nature in such cases. Western men have much larger ears than their eastern counterparts.—Lowell Citizen.