Mrs. McCumber wife of the senator-elect from South Dakota, was formerly a resident of Fargo, where she employed as assistant manager of the Western Union Telegraph office. While still Miss Jennie Schorning she was transferred from Fargo to the Wahpetore office, where Attorney McCumber wooed and won her.





## KILLED BY LIGHTING.

















...ter trying it. S. M.

## HER BONNET.

**Caught Afire While the Speaker Was Addressing an Audience.**

New York Sun: At a meeting of the Society for Political Study yesterday the bonnet worn by the speaker of the day, Mrs. Belle Gray Taylor, caught fire from a drop-light on the speaker's desk, and had it not been for the presence of mind and fleet-footedness of Mrs. Almon Hensley would have been totally destroyed. Mrs. Taylor said afterward that there was no insurance on the bonnet, although there were several other things, including gold braid, blue velvet and black ostrich tips. When the accident happened the speaker was prefacing her talk, which was on woman's intuition, with a few remarks about five-minute papers, she having been asked to prepare one of that length.

"A long, dull paper is intolerable in this rapid history-making age," she was saying, "while a long, good paper has so much in it that you wish to consume"——

"Oh! Oh!" "Gracious me!" "Fire! Fire!" cried feminine voices from every part of the room, and the one man present looked at Mrs. Taylor's flaming headgear helplessly. He said afterwards that he might have known what to do if a woman had been in danger in a burning building, but that he was absolutely paralyzed at sight of a burning bonnet. But no one better knows the value of a fine bonnet than Mrs. Hensley, and before the lone man had recovered sufficiently to open his mouth she rushed to the platform and smothered the flames.

"What is it?" asked the speaker, calmly, when the danger was passed.

"Your best bonnet on fire," exclaimed many voices.

"Well, for once I've created a sensation," retorted Mrs. Taylor. "For once I've been actually brilliant. Ladies, the last word I uttered was consume," and then she went on with the remarks that had been interrupted by the threatened conflagration.

## CLEVER LITTLE STORIES.

Judge Wheaton A. Gray, recently elevated to the Supreme court commission, was hearing a criminal case in Fresno, and on a warm day, at the end of a long harangue by the prosecuting counsel, he noticed one of the jurymen asleep. As soon as the argument was completed, the judge addressed the jury in this peculiar manner: "Gentlemen of the jury, the prosecuting attorney has completed his argument; wake up and listen to the instructions of the court!"

Since Joseph Choate's appointment as ambassador to England one of his wittiest sayings is being retold. It was made over a private dinner table at which he and Mrs. Choate were guests. Someone inquired of him who he would like to be if he could not be himself. He paused a few seconds, as if thinking over the list of world celebrities, and then his eye rested upon his wife. "If," he answered, "I could not be myself, I should like to be Mrs. Choate's second husband."

Senator Caffery's constitutional argument was listened to at one time by six senators. One of these was Mr. Spooner of Wisconsin. Senator Caffery read an extract in the course of his remarks, which attracted Mr. Spooner's attention. Perhaps it had a familiar sound. At any rate he began to manifest some curiosity. "From what is the senator reading?" he asked Mr. Caffery. The Louisiana senator turned around with a surprised, not to say an injured, air. "I am reading," he said, with crushing emphasis, "from the constitution of the United States."

Mme. Modjeska and her company were playing one winter in the extreme north, much to the discomfort of Count Bozenta, the Polish star's husband, who hates the chilly northern climate. But at that time the show business was at a very low ebb in the south. One particular cold day Mme. Modjeska found the count shivering from head to foot, in spite of the steam heat in the hotel. "Oh, my dear, my dear!" he implored, "let us go south for the rest of the season. This climate will kill us." "But, my dear," replied Madame, "the south is dead." "Yes," said the count, "but she is such a be-autiful corpse.

**Favorite Pastime of Children.**

The fish may be represented by oblong pieces of cardboard (if mamma has time, pictures of fish may be pasted on these), the under side of each having a number to tell the child the weight of the fish he has caught. On the upper side place small double-pointed tacks, into which the hook is caught. The fishing hook may be made of a bent pin, and for the pole a long pencil will answer. On a rainy or snowy day the little ones will enjoy this sport hugely, and there will be no catching cold.

**The Age of Wind.**

"Mars, I watch affairs on earth closely," began the exalted Pluto, as he fanned himself with a section of halo in the midst of the great hereafter, "and I have become of the opinion that you are losing vigor. Everything warlike, from pugilism and the Spanish wars up to the general warcloud that you have had hanging over Europe for the last forty years, ends about the same way." "That is true," replied the illustrious god of war, "but, the fact is, I have sold out my whole business to Aeolus."

**Why the Job Suited.**

Merchant—What are your qualifications for this business? Applicant—I can't get anything else to do.—Puck.



A young tailor named Berry, lately succeeded to his father's business, once sent in his account to Charles Matthews somewhat ahead of time. Whereupon Matthews, with virtuous rage, wrote him the following note: "You must be a goose—Berry, to send me your bill—Berry, before it is due—Berry. Your father, the elder—Berry, would have had more sense. You may look very black—Berry, and feel very blue—Berry, but I don't care a straw—Berry, for you and your bill—Berry.



Victoria, a lioness in Sanger's circus, near London, has given birth to six cubs. This is believed to be the largest number born at one time in captivity. The cubs have been named after Queeen Victoria's children.



A single epigram may outlive a volume of machine-made philosophy










W. N. U. OMAHA. No. 11—1899

When Answering Advertisements Kindly Mention This Paper.




The February issue of the "Book of the Royal Blue," published by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, contains a very instructive article on "The Regular Army of the United States" by Major H. O. Heistand, Assistant Adjutant General. Major Heistand gives facts and figures concerning the military department since its organization, during the war of the revolution. Some of his statistics are very interesting. During the revolution the number of individuals actually in military service did not exceed 250,000; in the war of 1812 there were 471,622, of which 62,674 were regulars; in the war with Mexico there were 116,321, of which 42,545 were regulars; in the war of the rebellion there were 2,259,168 United States troops of whom 178,975 were colored, and 67,000 regulars, the total being 2,326,168; in the war with Spain there were 219,035 volunteers, (10,189 being colored) and 55,682 regulars, a total of 274,717. Major Heistand also gives the number killed, wounded and lost and the deaths from disease in each war, including the Indian wars, and other important facts.

A small boy is always very industrious when it is time for him to go to bed.



Men may be bribed, but you can't induce women to take "hush money."



A smoking tree has been found in the village of Ono, Japan. It smokes only in the evening, just after sunset, and the smoke issues from the top of the trunk.



John Chandler of Allen county, Ky., is the ancestor of a numerous family. He is the father of twenty-seven children, the grandfather of 105, and the great grandfather of thirty-five.

A big head doesn't always prevent a man from coming out at the little end of the horn.

Beauty is but skin deep, so it is on an equal footing with freckles.

If you find a pipe of tobacco, don't bring it home or someone will die.

Levi Z. Leiter, the Chicago millionaire, usually works with a cigar in his mouth. This cigar is never lighted during business hours.



Don't turn back when once started on a journey or bad luck will follow you.



If you give away a cat or one goes away don't let it come back or a cow or a horse will die.



**Iowa Patent Office Report.**

The total number of U. S. Patents issued last week is 349. Of this number 43 are for Designs, 28 for trade-marks, 7 for labels, 2 for prints and 1 reissue; all the others for compositions, methods and mechanical devices.

A patent has been allowed to F. Woodring, of Oelwine, Ia., for a simple and ingenious improvement in a well known art and described in his claim as follows:

In a buck saw frame the combination of two mating wooden stays that are unimpaired at their central portions by removal of wood, a flexible U-shaped metal clam having coinciding bolts in its ends and a screw bolt and nut, and for the purposes set forth.

A simple improvement in any known art may be of such importance as to control sales. When a dealer can point to a late patented improvement in a wagon, or farm implement, it often decides the selection of the farmer in making a purchase.

Consultations and advice about inventions and printed matter giving valuable information about securing and selling patents, free to all inquirers. THOMAS G. ORWIG & CO., Solicitors of Patents. Des Moines, March 4, 1890.

Every man can see where there is room for a lot of improvement in all other men.



The successful politician learns the A B C of politics at the primaries.



It's foolish to attempt the cultivation of friendship by giving your friends an occasional dig.