

lecture upon "What evolution is and what it is not." Everybody was relieved to hear him say that evolution was not being descended from monkeys nor something which contradicted the Bible. Not that some of us did not know that before, but there were two thousand people there and it was a most blessed thought that there were two thousand people anyway who might hesitate before again limiting evolution to those two charges. He performed another service for humanity in taking the fool-killer from the Santa Claus region of myths and identifying his victims as those who took patent medicine and committed suicide. The fool-killer's name in evolution is the survival of the fittest. Dr. Jordan's frankness and unrestricted and unhesitating expressions are very fascinating. This tall loose-jointed man knows no fear of men or politics. He does not seem to be aware that a definite affirmation or denial may start a dangerous combination against him. With the simplicity and directness of a child he combines rare scholarship, executive ability and knowledge of men. His success at Stanford university has discredited subtlety and indirection in presidents of colleges. The new style has not yet been adopted by all of those in authority but that it has not been without successful imitators is shown by the recent triumph of the president of Brown university.

Applicants for the position of postman should be selected with some reference to their knowledge of the district in which they wish to distribute mail. They should also be required to be ordinarily expert in reading all kinds of handwriting. So far as the experience of those who are directly interested in the rapid and correct distribution of the mail goes, the service in this city is unsatisfactory and blundering to a degree that passes patience. Men who have lived in the same location for twenty-five years have finally received their mail through the medium of the dead letter office at Washington, when the only fault of the address was that it did not give the street number—a very serious fault, but in an office which pretends to metropolitan fixtures, a directory is not an extravagant demand. Among the miscellany in the daily papers may be found an occasional anecdote of a letter addressed only by a picture, by a rebus, or in some other fanciful and puzzling way. Such a letter invariably reaches its proper destination, according to the patent insides. In the capital of the state of Nebraska a weekly paper addressed to Hon. I. M. Raymond, cor. Sixteenth and R, failed to reach the party addressed, and the excuse given at the postoffice was that the address lacked the exact number of the house. These things cannot with justice be charged altogether to the postmaster. The present genial incumbent has tried to do his duty manfully but, as everybody knows, he has not absolute control of the postmen, some of whom are so ignorant and so unfamiliar with the localities in the town that letters in their charge are left at any old place with a heart-breaking disregard for the address.

Governor Holcomb will not willingly admit that he is ignorant of the law as contained in the constitution and statutes of the state. Before being elevated to the executive chair, for several years he occupied the position of judge of the district court and he knows that the constitution fixes the compensation of the governor of this state at \$2,500 per annum and expressly prohibits that officer from receiving for his own use any compensation or

perquisites of office. He knew when he approved the act of the legislature making appropriation for the current expenses of the state government for the years ending March 31, 1898; and March 31, 1899, that that act contained an item of \$1,500 for house rent which was unauthorized by the constitution. He could not have been ignorant of the fact that at least two of his predecessors in office, one a democrat and one a republican, had vetoed a similar item in appropriation acts. He knew that it was and is his constitutional duty to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed." He knew that he was not entitled to draw from the state treasury one dollar out of the appropriation for house rent. He knew when he accepted the office of governor what the compensation attached to that office was and that it did not include a dollar for house rent.

He knows that if he cannot perform the duties of governor for the compensation fixed by law that he could not draw a dollar of the appropriation for house rent without making oath to a voucher stating that the claim for house rent was legal, wholly due and unpaid, and that he was fully conversant with the items and that in all manner and things the charge for house rent was a true, just and correct charge and item of indebtedness against the state of Nebraska. Possessing all this knowledge Governor Holcomb last month made out, signed and swore to a voucher and presented the same to the auditor and received from that officer a warrant on the treasury for the sum of \$360, on account of the appropriation for house rent. The Mutz investigating committee is conveniently at hand and under his own direction. For the sake of consistency this committee ought to investigate the governor.

It is the policy of the life insurance companies to urge their patrons to pay their premiums in full in cash and let the dividends accumulate in the hands of the company; such practice is advantageous to the company but not always profitable to the insured. From the weekly statement issued by the Mutual Life Insurance company of New York November 24, it appears that the late Charles A. Dana held a policy on his life issued by that company for the sum of \$40,000, upon which premiums had been paid to the amount of \$43,744.01. The company reports that it paid the beneficiary on this policy \$42,211.00, or \$1,533.01 less than it had received in premiums and besides all that the company had the use of \$42,744.01 of Mr. Dana's money. No wonder life insurance companies can pay their president's \$50,000 a year. Life insurance seems, according to the reports the insurance companies themselves send out, a delusion. If the astute Mr. Dana had put his surplus money into United States interest bearing bonds his family would have enjoyed the interest and could get back all the principal anytime they might chose. Savings banks, if they could be made as reliable as the United States is able to make them, would be a much fairer and safer place to put a surplus. But it generally takes more self government than the average man is capable of exercising to put by a surplus as regularly as the insurance agent collects his premiums. The average man is a victim of panics and a vicious banking system and has paid his insurance premiums the last five years by borrowing the money. Failing a creditor he has sold something to his uncle or somebody equally grasping but without the sign of the three balls. I am aware that these few remarks are on a well established system but the conclusions, based on the company's monthly reports are logical, and it seems to me, inevitable.

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SHAW,

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can buy the SHAW. Remember that they do it because they can. Why? Simply because their pianos are poorer in quality and cost less, their statements to the contrary notwithstanding.

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THE MATTHEWS PIANO CO.,

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The poster artist mourned his fate;
Of all his posters up-to-date
Not one had ever proved a winner;
But, oh, the masterpieces great
He made when he had struck his gait
Which happened when by luck he ate
An "old New England Christmas
dinner."

Symptoms of Insanity.

Miss Uptodate—Don't you think that Mr. Bildad is very weak minded?

Miss Knickerbocker—I don't know. Why?

Miss Uptodate—Well, I heard him say that he thought his wheel was no better make than any other.

The Liar.

First Tramp—I had a chance wunst ter go into de burglary line, but dat wuz agin me principles.

Second Tramp—Yer wouldn't do dat, eh?

First Tramp—Naw! Tink of fellers workin' t'ree at' four hours tryin' to open a safe.

"I hear that your newspaper has changed hands," said a man to a Georgia editor.

"Yes it's in the sheriff's hands now," was the latter's reply.

Swellbut—Are you going to attend the ball in costume?

Matwin—It's pretty co'd to go without it, isn't it?

First Clergyman—I don't think much of your preaching.

Second Clergyman—I'll bet you two to one, I've saved more souls than you have.

He—I begin to think—
She—Better let's than never.

Mephistopheles—I hav not been i Chicago for a week.
Asmodeus—Don't you feel homesick?

Hewitt—Why do you keep that straw hat hanging in your room?

Jewett—It helps me to forget that I have got to go out and shovel snow.

Johnnie—I don't like this neighborhood at all; it's too refined.

Mamma—Too what?
Johnnie—Too refined; I can't have any fun.

I always like to dine with a man who knows how to order a dinner.
Yes, it is almost as good as dining with a man who knows how to pay for one.

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Princess of Wales

is the name of the latest style of . . .

UMBRELLA

A large assortment of these, as well as Gentlemen's Umbrellas and Canes, are included in our stock of Holiday Goods.

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