

which projected from the side of his cage. Immediately upon sustaining the injury the queer creature went to a corner and selected a handful of clean sawdust to place until the bleeding stopped, which was in but a few moments. The sawdust was saturated with blood, which had dried and formed a most excellent coating for the wound, protecting it until entirely well. It should be mentioned that the dog's medical instinct does not halt at the saliva treatment. He is a physician as well as a surgeon. The dog that goes searching around in the field with apparent aimlessness and finally settles down to chew up some unattractive and unpalatable green is taking a prescription taught him by nature. The blades he eats are those of the couch grass—which your physician would probably designate on his prescription blank as *triticum repens* and it performs the offices of a purgative. Instances could be recited at length of animal display of the medical instinct. Horses, and even the less intelligent mules, eat clay when they are afflicted with a stomachic disorder, commonly designated by the veterinarian as 'sours.' Cattle suffering with eczema have frequently been known to plaster an affected hoof and joint with mud. Dr. Weir tells of a cow which deliberately broke the ice on a pond in the winter and treated her itching joint to a bath of mud. The fondness of the domestic cat for catnip is not a condition of mind attendant upon the enjoyment of absolute health, for it is only when the feline is feeling somewhat 'under the weather' that it will seek the solace of the soothing properties of this vegetation. Under such circumstances cats have been known to travel miles to get the catnip."

NOT the least remarkable of all the achievements in the line of surgery and medicine are those of the birds. The Advertiser writer says: "Dr. George M. Gould cites instances of woodcock killed, which, when examined, were found to be recovering from previous wounds inflicted by hunters. Such wounds, made by small shot in the body of the bird, were neatly dressed with down plucked from the stems of feathers and deftly arranged about the injured place. This work was evidently done with the beak of the bird. The skill of members of the feathered tribe in building their dainty nests is testimony to their ability in accomplishing work of this character with 'neatness and dispatch.' Of the success of this work Dr. Gould bears witness in the statement that the woodcock were found to be convalescent from old wounds. The same authority tells of cases of bone-setting by birds, which would be beyond belief if man was not already familiar with the marvelous intelligence of the lower creatures. Birds, which have fallen into the hands of naturalists and which had previously sustained serious wounds on the legs, were found to have actually reinforced the dressing of down with small straws or twigs just as a doctor would set a broken limb in splints before applying bandages."

GENERAL FREDERICK D. GRANT is on the defensive because of some remarks attributed to him. General Grant is quoted as having said: "And I am sorry that the time has come when the president of the United States has to talk and argue with the indicted mayor of a city as to whether or not the United States will carry out the provision of a treaty with another country." It was further reported that General Grant said that such a thing could not have possibly taken place between March 4, 1869, and March 4, 1877—the period during which his father was president. General Grant has written a letter to the president denying that he criticized him.

JOHN HURLEY, the Litchfield Gaelic student who recently announced that Virgil and Shakespeare were of Irish descent, now declares that President Roosevelt and Jonathan Trumbull, the revolutionary war governor of Connecticut, had a common ancestry and that ancestry was Irish. According to the Associated Press Mr. Hurley says the Irish family of Barnalls, Barnwalls, Barnewells, etc., were descendants of Bernal or Bernard O'Bierne, but the names became mixed with French forms. The family was named after St. Barnard, hence Barne, Bearne, Birne, Barney, O'Beirnaugh, Barnes, Burns, Barnel, Barnell, etc. Some of the Barnewells became barons of Thimblestown and Viscounts Kingsland and were variously named Trimble, Trumble, Trimbleston, Trimblestone, etc. Trimblestown and Trimblestown river are in County Meath, Ireland. One of the Irish ancestors of President Roosevelt, so Mr. Hurley declares, was named Barewall.

ACCORDING to the Washington correspondent for the Chicago American, a democratic member of the West Virginia legislature delivered a speech which is just now giving Senator Elkins all sorts of trouble. The American correspondent

says: "The speech was delivered during the session of the legislature to re-elect Mr. Elkins. The democratic solon, naturally enough, could not display any great amount of enthusiasm over the re-election of Senator Elkins. He wanted to see a democrat don the senatorial toga. But he could not see where Senator Elkins was to be congratulated, so he made a speech along those lines. The eloquent peroration according to the Washington version, was something after the following: 'Stephen B. Elkins is a fortunate man; he should be a happy man, and I doubt not that he is. He looks at the rugged hills and mountains of West Virginia, with all their hidden treasures, and on the sun-kissed and fruitful valleys of this great state, and a smile of ineffable contentment illumines his face. And why shouldn't he smile? He owns them. He looks on the great railroads that span the state, with their freight trains laden with the products of a busy people, and again he smiles. And why shouldn't he smile. He owns them. He looks on the legislature, met here to elect a senator of the United States, and once more he smiles. And why shouldn't he smile? He owns it.'"

E. H. HARRIMAN, head of the Union Pacific system, appeared before the interstate commerce commission, told some interesting things and failed to tell some other things which in the opinion of attorneys for the government would be equally interesting. Mr. Kellogg, attorney for the government, sought to show that there had been an enormous inflation of stock securities and liabilities of the Alton; that the Harriman syndicate had taken unfair profits by declaring a dividend of 30 per cent from the proceeds of the first sale of bonds, amounting to \$40,000,000; that the syndicate had sold itself the bonds at an unreasonably low figure only to resell them at enormous profit; that the Harriman syndicate had in the Alton capitalized the loss of former stockholders in the road and the money which had been spent by the old management for betterments over a period of ten years and already charged to operating expenses; that the books of the company had been doctored and that for an increase of stock and liabilities from about \$40,000,000 to \$116,000,000 there was nothing to show except an expenditure of \$22,000,000 in improvements on the property.

MR. HARRIMAN denied all of these charges. He declined, however, to answer many questions concerning his stock transactions. He told some things concerning the deal in the Alton road stock, and Mr. Kellogg for the government said: "In other words you capitalized the \$39,000,000 of the Alton stock for \$62,000,000?" Mr. Harriman replied: "That is as you put it." On the second day of his examination Mr. Harriman charged that Stuyvesant Fish was deposed from the presidency of the Illinois Central because of misconduct as to the funds of the company. He persistently refused to answer questions relating to stock transactions. He declared that railroads should be allowed to combine "under government supervision."

A CONCURRENT resolution has been introduced in the Missouri legislature providing for the proper pronunciation of the name "Missouri." The following section explains just how it should be pronounced: "That the only true pronunciation of the name of the state in the opinion of this body is that received from the native Indians, and that it should be pronounced in three syllables, accented on the second syllable. The vowel in the first syllable is short 'i,' in the second syllable long double 'o' (o or oo), in the third short 'i'; 's' in the two syllables in which it occurs has the sound of 's' and not 'z.' It will be remembered that twenty-five years ago the legislature of Arkansas decided that the name of that state should be pronounced Ar-kan-saw."

THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION suggests that a law be enacted authorizing an official investigation of railroad wrecks, and the Railroad Gazette makes this comment: "News of a killing railroad disaster comes by telephone and telegraph to five authorities—the railroad staff; the coroner; the district attorney; the state railroad commission, and the newspapers. While the railroad officers and men are caring for the hurt and dead, clearing the wreck, rebuilding the line, and searching for the cause, the four higher authorities are competing in independent investigations. The evidence is not collated, it is separated. The coroner arrests suspects, seizes broken parts and holds them as 'exhibits,' halts the officers in charge of removals, and is apparently within the law in enforcing any order. The representatives of the district attorney and the commission are also lawfully entitled to get and keep, if they can, evidence for their own consideration. The newspaper men need no legal enactment for

support in their work. They are not to be gainsaid. The establishment by congressional action of a bureau for investigating and making public the causes of important train accidents seems to be inevitable, and, if it is wisely planned and officered, should be not only inevitable but beneficent."

IN HIS ADDRESS to the students of Harvard college Mr. Roosevelt said that he hoped Harvard would not "turn out Mollycoddles instead of vigorous men." Defending football Mr. Roosevelt said that it is "simple nonsense, a mere confession of weakness, to desire to abolish a game because tendencies show themselves or practices grow up which prove that the game ought to be reformed. . . . There is no real need for considering the question of the abolition of the game." College authorities should make "their interference as little officious as possible." Mr. Roosevelt added: "We cannot afford to turn out of college men who shrink from physical effort or from a little physical pain. In any republic courage is a prime necessity for the average citizen if he is to be a good citizen, and he needs physical courage no less than moral courage, the courage that dares as well as the courage that endures, the courage that will fight valiantly alike against the foes of the soul and the foes of the body. Athletics are good, especially in their rougher forms, because they tend to develop such courage."

MR. ROOSEVELT is now being reminded by various publications that President Elliot of Harvard is, under the Roosevelt definition, a "mollycoddle." For instance, the New York Evening Post reminds us that in one of his annual reports President Elliot said: "The game of football has become seriously injurious to rational academic life in American schools and colleges." He mentions among minor objections the 'extreme publicity,' the physical injury of the players, 'the absorption of the undergraduate mind in the subject,' and 'the disproportionate exaltation of the football hero.' His main objection, however, is against its 'moral quality,' as resulting from 'immoderate desire to win intercollegiate games.' President Elliot enumerates:

The profit from violations of rules.
The misleading assimilation of the game to war as regards its strategy and its ethics.

President Elliot adds: "Civilization has long been in possession of much higher ethics than those of war, and experience has abundantly proved that the highest efficiency for service and the finest sort of courage in individual men may be accompanied by, and indeed spring from, unvarying generosity, gentleness, and good-will."

SPeAKING on the Smoot resolution in the senate Mr. Tillman said: "We have all heard that in the last presidential election an understanding was reached by those who had charge of the campaign that if the Mormon vote went a certain way a certain colleague of ours would be cared for. And we have heard it talked too that the chief executive, who was the beneficiary of that vote—though he did not need it—has exerted himself to the utmost to carry out that agreement, and is using his influence to stave off a vote and protect in every way he could the senator from Utah. These bargains are not conducive to the public welfare. I am sick and disgusted with this disposition on the part of the senate, and with congress actually surrendering everything into the keeping of the executive."

SOME LEARNED MEN are discussing the origin of the aurora borealis. A reader of the New York World writes to that paper to say that there is no mystery about this, adding: "The necessary conditions for the production of an aurora are a cold, dry, crisp night, with a swirling wind to take the dust from the earth up into the air. Some ten years ago several people, including the writer, were standing on the corner of Alexander avenue and Southern Boulevard, Bronx, when we witnessed the formation of an aurora. Cloud after cloud of dust was taken up into the air, and when it reached the height of the house-tops it suddenly produced the weird light of the aurora. An electrician in the party explained how the dust became charged with electricity, thus producing the light. I may add that the said electrician was greatly elated as he said: 'That is light without heat, and if certain dielectrics properly prepared were placed in a vacuum and subjected to a high electrical potential, artificial daylight would be the result.' The electrician shortly afterward filed an application for a patent, but the wise men in the patent office evidently thought he had buzzing in his brain, as his application was summarily rejected. Surely others must have observed the formation of the aurora, and I should be pleased to have them confirm the above."