

THE THREE MISS BROWNS.

Their Wonderful Present and What

Came of It.

rang fearfully.

ard opened the door.

is 25 cents due on it."

age of cigarettes.

house.

in chorus.

the box lid.

pectations.

"only Miss Brown."

door bell."

Bang! bang! went the door bell. It

"Betty," said the boarding-house

mistress, "go out and see who that

giant is that is trying to break the

The door bell jingled and rattled

A district messenger, three feet

The small messenger held his cigar-

"Here's a box for Miss Brown. There

Betty paid the money and took the

Then he shot down the steps like a

meteor and actually ran to a cigar

store on the corner after another pack-

hallway, "here is a box for you!"

"Miss Brown!" called Betty from the

Three pretty young ladies answered

the call, for it happened there were

three Miss Browns in the boarding-

"Which Miss Brown?" asked each

"There is no first name," said Betty;

The three fair Miss Browns looked

certainly meant for a Miss Brown in

their boarding-house, for the number

had been written in large numbers en

The Miss Browns agreed that they

would open the box and if there was

nothing in it to indicate which of

them the box was intended for they

The three Miss Browns opened the

There was nothing in it but a brick.

A DREADFUL DAY.

The Quick-Tempered Father and His

Darling Little Boy.

night before, "working on the books at

the office," you know, and when he sat

down to breakfast with his wife and

Willie, rosy-cheeked, mischievous, and

lovable Willie, their only child, he was

He found fault because the coffee

had cooled (while breakfast was wait-

ing for him), he grumbled because his

eggs were too hard boiled, and he made

his wife and child as miserable as he

The climax of his ugliness was

reached when for some fancied sin on

Willie's part he rushed the boy into

the parlor and gave him a sound

When breakfast was resumed it was

eaten in silence except for the child's

The father was sorry for what he had

done. He had a nervous temperament.

He did not stop to smoke his usua!

morning pipe, but hurried away. An

he reached the door Willie came up to

"Willie wants to kiss papa. Willie

The father's heart was touched and

he regretted his actions. Riding down-

town in the train he read in his morn-

ing paper of the death of a little boy

by being run over while at play by a

passing truck. He imagined the scene,

and it was impressed upon his mind.

Then his mind ran on with strange im-

aginings. What if his boy should be

killed. What if when he arrived home

at night Willie should be dead-dead

before he could tell his boy how much

he loved him, and how sorry he was for

Of course there was not one chance in

a million of his losing his child; but

then! there was that one chance. The

idea soon developed into a presentiment

that haunted him all day. He per-

formed his duties in a mechanical man-

ner, while picturing a white casket,

and a chubby little face cold in death.

By night he had worked himself into a

terrible mental condition. He left the

"L" train and walked with nervous

him with upturned face and said:

The father had been out late the

box with gleeful faces and great ex-

would divide its contents.

The day was April 1.

not in good humor.

himself was.

thrashing.

oves papa."

his cruel conduct.

steps toward home.

half-choked sobs.

ette lightly and gracefully in the air

high, stood on the doorstep, smoking

a powerful cigarette. Now and again

a cloud of smoke hid him from view.

and rang! Betty tripped downstairs

OATCAKE'S APRIL 1.



ARMER Oatcake had come to town on a load of hav. After exchanging it for the market price he proceeded to see the "sights," like farmers sometimes will. He had not proceeded far before his atten-

tion was attracted by a huge box on top of which was a board sign, which read as follows:

LOOK OUT FOR THE BEAR. Of course Mr. Oatcake could not resist the temptation of taking a squint at bruin, so he ambled up to the box rather nervously and peeped through the bars that had been nailed across the top to keep Mr. Bear Finding that the box was entirely empty Mr. Oatcake began to scratch his head. How had the bear got out? Then someone yelled April fool. Mr. Oatcake allowed that it was a good one.

Later in the day Mr. Oatcake took in the dime museum. He interviewed the fat girl, talked populism with the bearded lady, visited the chamber of horrors, and had enjoyed himself generally when he saw the following sign: SEE THE GREAT

RED BAT.

Draw Back the Curtain. He drew back the curtain. Then he at the box in a brown study. It was saw a big red brick and turned a double somersault in his haste to get away. He hadn't counted on being Aprilfooled twice in one day. After leaving the museum Mr. Oat-

cake thought he would take a drink or two, and at once proceeded to a convenient liquor dispensary. "I'll take a beer," he said, putting a nickel on the bar; "been April-fooled twice and have concluded to drown my feelings." He was just the individual that the bartender with the decoy beer glass was looking for. It was produced in short order, and Mr. Oatcake showed himself to be rather an adept at the art of blowing off the foam. Then he expanded his capacious maw, preparatory to taking a gulp. But it wouldn't gulp worth a cent It was only an artificially colored glass with real foam. Farmer Oatcake coacluded that he had better hitch up and start home. Nearing a railway grade crossing within the city limits he saw a man frantically waving a red flag and telling him to stop.

"No yer don't, yer gol darned flannelmouthed son-of-a-gun; I've been fooled three times already," and he plied the whip with effect. In another instant Mr. Oatcake and his outfit were taking a ride on the cowcatcher of the engine.



TURNED A DOUBLE SOMERSET. Fortunately he was not badly hurt, but the approach of April 1 always causes him to shudder.

Why the 'Gators Were Not There. An American naval officer, wishing to bathe in a Ceylon river, asked a native to show him a place where there were no alligators. The native took him to a pool close to the estuary. The officer enjoyed his dip; while drying nimself he asked to his guide why there ere never any alligators in that pool. Because, sah," the Cingalese replie4, bey plenty 'fraid of shark."

hey have a brand of whisky in San onio called the "Horn of Plenty" use it will corn you copiously .-s Sifter.

the house as usual. The father missed a usual kiss and "Hello, papa! I'm grand year ve come."

e ascended the steps. He saw white crape on the door bell. He recled and gasped for breath, and saw nothing but mist. Then recovering himself, he opened the door, and with moist eyes entered the house.

What was it he saw? Was it Willie? Yes, it was his little son who merrily shouted

"April Fool, papa; April Fool!" And papa didn't do a thing to Willie, -S. R. Egor in New York World.

SHE DID IT.

What He Was Sent For, Though Not

What He Expected. He was young and enthusiastic, and he loved her to distraction.

"If I could but serve you," he said to the object of his adoration, "I would indeed be the happiest of mortals. Command me."

And the damsel blushed and said she would.

"Stay here a moment and I will give you a note to take to a friend. You will bring back a package," and she stalled, oh! so sweetly, as she glided from the room.

She returned in a few moments and handed him the precious message. Away he flew. Distance was no object to him. He reached his destination. The letter was opened and returned with the remark that the package he was to fetch was at another remote part of the town.

He flew there, only to be referred to the sergeant of police, at the nearest station. The sergeant read the message and directed him to another official, who in his turn sent the young man four miles out of the city. But the elusive package was not to be found.

One sent him to Brooklyn, another to Jersey City, until at length, weary, footsore and unable to go further, he sank upon a doorstep and tearing open the missive read these words:

"Send the fool further." The dawn of April 2 was breaking.-New York Journal.

A Good One on Mr. Blank.

The best April-fool joke of recent times was played on a Chicago commission merchant a few years ago. Chicago commission merchants are not always good natured and Mr. Blank was no exception to the rule. In fact, he was unusually gruff, and was never known to take a joke as such. That is probably the reason that he was a favorite mark for the practical joker. On March 31 one of his friends caused the following ad to appear in the columns of a Chicago paper the following morn-

Wanted-Fifty Maltese cats at once. Highest prices paid. Bring them along. Blank, Commission Merchant, -S. Wa-

When Mr. Blank arrived at his store he was surprised to see a line of boys in front of his store each with a cat that they eventually will take the under his arm. When he learned what it was all about he became a veritable madman. It was many weeks before he recovered his composure.



Missionary-Did you notice which way my colleague_went? Cannibal-He just passed down five ni!nutes ago.

Folly am I; This is my day. The old, the young. The grave, the gay, Abide awhile with me to cheer The world's dull, humdrum way.

The richest man. The proudest girl; The polished wit, The heavy churl Are caught off guard and jostled much In folly's merry whirl.

No harm is meant: All's but for fun; And when the day Its course has run. Whoever's done the mischief gay

Have all themselves been "done."

A Future Convenience. Diggles had been working hard for a long time with a refractory heating apparatus. He came out of the basement with blue fingers and a red nose, and an expression of repressed emotion on his face.

"Maria," he said, "there's one comfort about it." "What is it?"

"We needn't worry about ice next summer. I think I have struck a plan that's entirely reliable. If we want to get anything good and cold we'll take it down and put it into that heating apparatus. Only we must be careful not to leave it too long, or it'll freeze," -Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette.

Harder to Get At.

"I suppose that it would take a great deal of observation and experience to enable a man to pick the fastest horso entered for a race," she remarked.

"Yes," replied the man of mournfu! experience; "but that isn't what you are trying to do. What you want is to pick the horre that is going to win."-Washington Star.

Willie was not playing in front of REBS AGAIN ROUTED DUN'S BUSINESS REVIEW.

ZELAYA'S TROOPS WIN THE SECOND VICTORY.

They Capture Pitral The Insurgents Lost 200 Killed and Wounded and Fled in Disorder Toward Leon Managua Wild With Joy A First Battle Soon.

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, March 16 -The Nicaraguan government troops won another victory over the Leonists at Pital, not far from Momotombo, yesterday. Between 2,000 and 3,000 men were engaged. The fighting was severe and the troops from Leon, Chichegalpa and Chinandega, the three strongholds of the Leonists, numbering about 1,000 men, were routed with the loss of 200 killed and wounded. About fifty of the government troops, which numbered about 1,200 men. were killed or wounded. The rebels were commanded by General Ortiz, the leader of the Leon forces. Baca, the rebel president, was at Leon supervising the work of putting that city in as complete a state of defense as possible. The government troops were commanded by Generals Paiz and Bo-

Pital is a small town near Lake Managua. Of the 300 buildings which compose the town, many are of wood, the others are of mud bricks with red clay tiles. Outside the town is a high ridge of ground which forms an ad-mirable point of vantage against an advancing foe.

There is much rejoicing here at the success of the president's soldiers. The church bells have been kept ringing ever since the news was made public, and a battery of artillery in the small park in front of the palace fires presidential salutes at intervals. The government troops are now be-

ing concentrated for the advance upon Leon, which it is expected will begin in a few days.

MENELIK'S TROOPS.

One Hundred Thousand Soldiers March Before Italy's Peace Officer.

Massowall, March 16.-The Negus Menelik has reviewed 100,000 of his troops in the presence of Major Salsa, the Italian officer who is treating for peace with the Abyssinians. The troops marched in good order and were well armed.

Later the Negus showed Major Salsa his quantities of provisions, the Italians having some time ago been under the belief that the Abyssinians were short of supplies. In fact, it is said that this was one of the reasons which prompted General Baratieri to make his disastrous advance upon

A MATRIMONIAL FEATURE.

W. C. T. U. Women Organize to Secure Good Husbands.

NORFOLK, Va., March 16 .- The women of the W. C. T. U. of Portsmouth will organize shortly the "Naples Matrimonial Society." They think that the organization of this society in this city will be followed by the organization of similar societies throughout the country by the W. C. T. U. and reaus now in operation in some of the northern cities

In Naples girls 11 years old and over assemble once every year in one of the churches of that city, and the unmarried men, who so desire, go there and choose wives. The proposed society will carry out a similar arrangement here, except that the girls who desire to assemble in a church to be thus chosen will have to register with the society three months ahead of the date, that the society may satisfy itself that they are girls of good moral character, and the men who are to apply at the church on these occasions to select brides will be required to register three months prior to the date of choosing, that the society may investigate their characters for the purpose of ascertaining if they are industrious and temperate. Only men who have these qualities will be allowed to choose a wife. Those who register will be informed fifteen days in advance of their standing. Men will be required to pay a registration fee of \$1, but girls will be allowed to register free. The intended brides will probably be required to wear white instead of biack, as in Naples.

The principal object of the society is to afford girls who desire to marry an opportunity to secure temperate

UNCLE SAM'S MILITIA.

and industrious husbands.

An Army of 9,500,000 Could Enter the Field in a Few Hours.

WASHINGTON, March 16 .- According to a report on the organized militia of the United States, which has just been prepared by the War department, the United States, in need, can put 9,467,694 men in the field. At the close of 1895, every State and territory, with the exception of Indian territory and Alaska, had an organized national guard. Total force of the militia numbers 115,665,of which 102,604 composed the infantry, 5,215 the cavalry, 5,267 the artillery, 640 the special corps, and there were 1,443 generals and staff officers. The total appropriation allowed the militia amounted to \$400,000. while the states during the same period spent \$2,834,976 on these organizations. It is estimated that the mobilization of the militia could be izations. effected in the different states and terrritories in from three hours in the District of Columbia to seventy-two hours in Oregon, other state organizations assembling between these two points.

New York is far in the lead of the number of men enlisted in the national guard, its strength amounting to 12,901 officers and men. Pennsylvania is second with 8,482, Ohio third with 6,493, Illinois fourth with 6,222, Missouri eighteenth with 2,107 and Kansas twenty-second with 1,815. Oklahoma ends the list with 15a.

The Chillan Duty on Cigarettes Increased WASHINGTON, March 16. - United States Minister Strobel at Santiago has informed the State department that the government of Chili has increased the duty on cigarettes from \$1.44 per 1.000 to \$5.30 per 1,000.

awa by Drugging, me,

Waiting is Still the Rule in the Gen-

eral Market New York, March 16.- R. G. Dun &

Co.'s weekly review of trade says: Waiting is still the rule. Large hope, but little actual business, explains the strength of some markets and the weakness of others. The feeling that the spring of 1895 ought to bring larger business will not suffice to meet expenses all the season if the larger business does not come.

It is especially noteworthy that prices of materials have varied quite differently from prices of manufactured products, although in most cases the advance last fall was commerced by extraordinary uplifting of prices for materials. Thus, cotton is 27.9 per cent higher than a year ago, but cotton goods average only 10.7 per Wool is about 5.3 per cent higher than a year ago, but woolen goods are, on the whoie, about 4 per cent lower. Pigiron is only 17 per cent higher than a year ago, while finished products of iron and steel average 45 per cent higher. These comparisons are important because they disclose something of the grave distocation of prices which inadequate consumption and combinations have

The market for wheat is weaker. with no better reason than the Government report of wheat in farmers' hands, which is altogether out of keeping with the Government estimate a year ago, and yet is probably more nearly correct.

Failures for the week have been \$2,911,775, against \$1,693,052 last year, and \$3,276,292 in 1894; manufacturing was \$896,915, against \$785,296 last year, and trading was \$2,005,560, against \$897,656 last year. Failures for the week have been 300 in the United States, against 266 last year, and 60 in Canada against 57 last year.

REPORT TO THE GENERAL

Colonel Nicot Returns From Chicago to New York and Salls for Europe.

NEW YORK, March 16.-Colonel Alexander Nicol, the special representative of the international headquarters of the Salvation army to the United States, sailed for England on the Lucania to-day. The colonel arrived from the West yesterday afternoon and was scheduled to speak at the big meeting in Fourteenth street to-morrow. At the national headquarters nothing could be ascertained as to the nature of the colonel's leavetaking. It was said, however, that Commissioner Eva Booth. Commissioner Carleton and Colonel Eadie were busily engaged with Colonel Nicol during the greater part of the night. It is stated that Colonel Nicol found the affairs of the army in the aneighborhood of Chicago to be in a turbulent condition; that the London office had been so informed and that General Booth had decided to summon his special agent home that the exact situation might be made clear to him.

CHICAGO, March 14.-An officer of the Northwestern division of the Salvation army says that Ballington Booth is coming to Chicago within a fortnight and that when he comes

there will be secession. He continued: "The declaration of loyalty won't stand in the way an in-stant when the question of higher fled to America. usefulness and duty comes up for decision. The War Cry scandal is a damaging thing to us while we remain under the flag. It never was Balling-ton Booth's intention that the intimate causes of his revolt should become public. The details of his difference with his father reflected no credit on the general, and Ballington willingly would have spared him pain, but some over-zealous friend has let the secret leak out.'

SUPPORTSTHIRTYTRAMPS A Wealthy Young Chicagoan is Squandering

His Wealth. CHICAGO, March 16. - The police are investigating a story that may result in the appointment of a conservator for William O'Brien. The case was not brought to the official notice of the department until Thursday evening, when O'Brien was arrested for disorderly conduct. It is alleged that O'Brien has an income of \$25,000 a year. For many months he has supported about thirty tramps and vagabonds. Stories are going the rounds that O'Brien has been known to spend as much as \$500 in one day on liquor and other extravagances for himself

and his following.

According to the police, O'Brien was born twenty-two years ago in Nashville, Tenn., where his father, a very wealthy furniture dealer, had large ing and large sums are said to have been-spent for liquor for himself and

A few days ago he is said to have received \$10,000 from his income, which he proceeded to spend in the usual manner with his vagabond friends. Thursday he was robbed of \$200, all that remained. When he discovered that he had no more money O'Brien became crazed. At Harrison and State streets he broke one of the windows the mails for fraudulent purposes. of a cable car. Detective Wagner arrested him after a struggle. Mrs. Maggie Nagle was slightly injured by the broken glass. Chill Shaken by Enrthquakes

VALPARAISO, March 16. - Several se vere earthquakes occurred Friday evening. The disturbances were predicted by Prefessor Falb.

Ballington Booth's Call. WASHINGTON, March 16 .- There is a prospect that Ballington Booth may accept a call to Washington. Negotiations are now under way looking to his taking charge of the National Gospel Mission Union, which was organized in Washington about a year

ago, and the headquarters of which are in Washington. Harvard's Orators Win-

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., March 16.-Harand the Crimson's long record of ora- the murdergrine! telemohs remains unbroken

Tifor are Tad inguest Award. | DI. MINE MOREURE MOREOTO

SILVER IN OHIO.

Free Coinage Democrats Organize to Defeat a Sound Money Delegation.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 15,-Forty of the eighty eight counties of Ohio were represented at a conference of silver Democrats at the Hollenden last night. At first it was proposed to work in unison for the following delegates at large from Onio to the Chicago convention: L. E. Holden of Cleveland, Allen W. Thurman of Col-umbus, G. W. Moore of Stack county and General E. B. Findley of Bueyrus. A hot debate defeated this proposition and it was decided to use every effort to send enough silver delegates to the State convention to carry that body, thus insuring a silver delegation to Chicago. Before adjournment a formal State organization was formed with General Findley as chairman. The four named undouptedly will be the silver candidates in the State convention for delegates-at-large.

WILL ADMIT WOMEN.

Kansas Methodists Decide for Representation by Both Sexes in Conference.

Arcutson, Kan., March 16.-The question of admitting women as delegates to the general conferences of the Methodist Episcopal church came up at the Kansas conference now in session here, and was decided in the affirmative, the vote being 80 to 14. It developed at the afternoon session that the Rev. Odell of Domphan had received \$1 only for his services during

the last year.

The following lay delegates were elected as delegates to the general conference at Cleveland, Ohio: Miller of Council Grove and W. P. Fryhoffer of Randolph. Ministerial delegates, Rev. A. S. Embree, Topeka; Rev. W. H. Underwood, Clay Center, and the Rev. J. A. Motter, Baldwin.

DR. BROWN'S CASE CLOSED The Congregational Council Is Balloting for a Verdict.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16 .- The Rev. C. O. Brown is waiting for the verdict of his eccleciastical judges.

Two executive sessions of the council have been held, but a verdict has not been reached on all points involved. The charge of immorality, so far as Mrs. Stockton is concerned, is not sustained.

The second vote was on the charge of intimidating a young woman member of the church. The deliberations of the council developed the fact that the charges of intimidation made against the pastor by the young woman are among the most serious of all. The council is more nearly unanimous upon this point than any other.

A Regicide Seeks Pardon.

CHICAGO, March 16,-One of the Russian Nihilists concerned in the assassination of Czar Alexander II of Russia has applied for a pardon to the Russian government, offering, if the pardon is granted, to join the Russian secret service and give the govern-ment valuable information. The name of the applicant is George Krasnow, and he has lived in Chicago under an assumed name, carefully protected by his countrymen. After the assassination of the czar Krasnow was arrested, but secured his release on

Archbishop Kenrick's Will-

Sr. Louis, Mo., March 16 .- The will of the late Archbishop Kenrick was filed in the Probate court yesterday. It was written by himself in 1888. To Rev. Philip P. Brady, now deceased, he bequeathed all his personal and real property. There are several codicils. The first, drawn up in 1850, provides for the payment of annuities tos number of relatives. The second codicil, written in another hand than the archbishop's, conveyed to Archbishop Kain the immense church property.

A Fort Scott Couple Elopes.

Forr Scorr, Kan., March 16.-Will Davison and Miss Lizzie Parks, two well known young people of this city, eloped yesterday, going to Kansas City to get married. They were unable to secure a carriage to drive them to a railroad junction north of town and enlisted the services of a dray wagon for that purpose. Davison and another young man admirer of the young lady had had an altercation over her and while visiting away from home, he met her and induced her to go.

Ex-Minister Nelson Dead TERRE HAUTE, Ind , March 16 --

Colonel Thomas H. Nelson died here this morning. He has been a conspicnous leader in politics for over half a century. He was a brother of General William Nelson. From 1861 to landed interests. Six years ago the 1866 he was minister from this counfather died and his widow soon followed. The property, the exact value as mediator between Chili and Spain of which O'Erien refuses to divulge, in the war of 1864 to 1866. From 1869 fell to him. The boy, then 16 years to 1873 he was envoy from this coun-old, entered upon a career of fast livcounty, Ky, in 1820.

Rothschilds Pleads Guily.

Monenty, Mo., March 16 - Abe Rothschilds, alias Henry Smythe. pleaded guilty to the charge of forgery in Judge John A. Hockaday's court here and was sentenced to four years in the penitentiary. Rothschilds is the man whom the United States officials had been after for years for using

South McAlester to Lose Railroad Shops. HARTSHORNE, Ind. Ter., March 16 .-

It is settled that all the round houses, machine shops and buildings belonging to the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf railroad will be moved from South McAlester to Shawnee. The work of removal has been begun.

Held Up a "Katy" Train.

GREENVILLE, Tex., March 16 .- The northbound Katy was boarded by a masked and armed man who entered the sleeper and went through the pas-The amount secured was sengers. small. As the train neared the city he jumped off. He had a confederate. Officers are on the trail.

Hanged for His Sister's Murder. PEORIA, Ill., March 16 .- Albert Walface was hanged at Pekin to-day for the murder of his sister, Mrs. Bowlby. vard's young orators won the competi- Dissatisfaction over the disposal of tive debate with Princeton last night, their father's estate was the cause of