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# **BILLIARD HALL & FAVORITE RESORT.**

SIS THE PLACE FOR

Ice Cold Lemonade, Ginger Beer, Pop, Nuts, CHOICE CIGARS, CANDY, ETC.

BILLIARD and POOL TABLE. CALL and ENJOY YOURSELVES | fill up.

Origin of the Conscience Fund. [Washington Cor. Philadelphia Record.]

Every now and then you see an announcement in the papers to the effect that some anonymous person has forwarded to the treasurer of the United States at Washington a contribution to the conscience fund. You suppose from this that there is somewhere in the treasury a fund made up of such contribu-tions, which, by this time, must be of very considerable size. Now, the fact is, that there is no such thing as a separate fund for the contributions of conscience-stricken. Such contributions have always been conveyed into the treasury under the head of miscellaneous receip's. The term "Conscience Fund" was the invention of old Treasurer Spinner, the man with an autograph which was auto-

Twenty years ago, during the war, a letter was one day received at the treasury department from a man who, enclosing a check for \$1,500, said that that represented a little misappropriation of government funds of which he had been guilty when acting as quartermaster in the army of the United States.

Then came the happy idea into Spin-ner's handsome head. "We'll call that

a contribution to the conscience fund," he said, "and have it announced in the newspapers, and perhaps we'll get some more." The contribution to the conscience fund was duly announced all over the country. The treasury department promptly got "some more." From that time on for ten years the contime on for ten years the contributions were very numerous.

During the past ten years they have been constantly growing more infrequent. It is a problem whether the conscience of the country is growing more callous or more tender. The contributions to the conscience fund have never been very large in amount. The largest ever made was \$4,000, forwarded by a former internal revenue gauger in Chicago as the amount of the bribe he took from distillers who desired to defraud the government. It will be seen that none of the big thieves who have fattened on public plunder have ever availed themselves of this easy way of making partial reparation.

#### An Early Writing-Paper. [St. Nicholas.]

[St. Nicholas.]

Many centuries before Christ, Numa left writings upon the papyrus, whence our name, paper, is derived. This plant, which was revered as sacred by the old Egyptians, grows abundantly in shallow streams and marshes in upper Egypt and Syria. Bruce found it growing in the river Jordan, and noticed a curious fact, that it always presented the sharp, angular side of its pear-shaped stem to the swift current. The stem is eight or ten feet high, two inches in diameter, or ten feet high, two inches in diameter. and crowned with a fringe of hair-like leaves, which circle a blossom of slender spikelets. Beneath the brown sheath which envelops the root-stalk of this dark-green plant li other sheaths which are very transparent. These, when split into thin leaves and dried in the sun, were glued togetner, and formed the roll of papyra on which many of the ancient writing have come down to us. This paper was both flexible and durable. Specimens from Pompeii can be seen in the museum at Naples. In the fifth century papyrus paper, of which many varieties existed, was largely manufactured at Alexandria, and ranked high in the commerce of nations. Its use continued until about seven or eight centuries ago.

#### The Hudson's Bay Route. [Chicago News.]

Some time ago we took occasion to direct the attention of our readers to the Manitoban project of communication with Europe via Hudson's bay, and it is as well, now that the matter has taken definite shape, that we should acquaint them with its progress. The scheme is, in brief, to construct a railroad from Winnipeg to Fort Churchill, on Hudson's bay, whence steamers will convey freight to Liverpool. As a mat ter of course, the enterprise depends upon the settlement of the question, considered very doubtful at present, whether the straits forming the entrance to the bay are free from its long enough to permit of its being ice long enough to permit of its being conducted with profit. In the mean-time a railway from Winnipeg to Fort Churchill has been chartered with a land grant of 12,800 acres per mile, and the steamer Neptune, with a scientific expedition commanded by Lieut. Gordon, of the British navy, either has sailed or is on the point of sailing from Halifax to remain in the bay for a year to watch the straits. That is the state of the case at present.

#### Suiciding Gamblers.

[Exchange.] Statistics show that the tendency to suicide is much greater among regular gamblers from losses than among business men. The sharp strain of the gaming table, short though it may be, spoils the nerves and weakens fortitude more than the strain of business. Cayour, one of the most serene of men, was within an acc on one great gambling night of throw-ing half his fortune away rather than call a card, and only called it, as he re-lates himself, because a drop of perspira-tion rose on his opponent's forchead.

## [New York World.]

There is no flag, banner, gonfalon or oriflamme in existence so beautiful as the ensign of the American republic. Its colors are the most beautiful to be found in the rainbow. Its combination is aesthetic. Our flag is to all other flags what the rose is to the botanical king-dom and the eagle to the ornithological species. Our bosom not only swells with pride when we behold the emblem of our country, but our artistic sense is lulled to sweet repose.

#### [Chicago Tribune.]

three months?" "O, no, of course not. Quarterly in this case means every time the bill amounts to a quarter of a dol-

New Orleans Picayune: Patiencs comes in where there is nothing else tr

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Dr. GREEN.

[OPPOSITE HOTEL ON THE HILL.]

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