

THAT ST. LOUIS MYSTERY.

The National Government Taking Active Interest Therein.

A Washington dispatch says the national government has begun to take an active interest in the St. Louis Southern hotel tragedy.

RESCUED BY SOLDIERS.

The Endangered People in the Indian Country Rescued.

Winnepeg dispatch of the 24th: All Winnepeg gave a sigh of relief to-day when it was announced that a portion of Colonel Otter's force was camped across the river from Battleford.

BISHOP OF IDAHO.

Mr. A. K. Glorieux Consecrated at Baltimore.

With all the pomp and ceremony usually attending the elevation of a priest of the Catholic church to the higher orders Mr. A. K. Glorieux was, on the 23d, at Baltimore, consecrated in the cathedral as bishop in partibus infidelium and vicar apostolic of Idaho.

STAMPING OUT THE DISEASE.

Pleuro-Pneumonia Among the Cattle in Missouri Increasing.

H. M. Taylor, agent of the United States bureau of animal industry, arrived in St. Louis on the 20th from Washington, and has secured the co-operation of the Missouri Pacific, Washburn and Chicago and Alton railroads in placing an embargo on all cattle from Calloway county, in that state.

To this Col. Hunter received the following reply: Col. R. D. Hunter, President: I have asked the opinion of the comptroller of the treasury, and the attorney general, as to my power to destroy cattle that have been exposed to pleuro-pneumonia, and am promised a written opinion to-day or to-morrow.

The date of the earliest eclipse of the sun recorded in the annals of the Chinese, when "on the first day of the last month of autumn the sun and moon did not meet harmoniously in Fang," or in that part of the heavens defined by two stars in the constellation of the Scorpion, has been determined by Prof. Von Oppolzer, of Vienna, to have been the morning of Oct. 22, 2137 B. C.

FORT PITT ABANDONED.

An Old Indian Reports that a Battle Has Occurred.

Winnepeg dispatch: Battleford scouts from Fort Pitt report finding it abandoned and wrecked. An Indian told them a fight had occurred and that two police were killed; that the police and others in the fort had taken to boats in the hope of reaching Battleford.

The Treasury Investigation.

The treasury inquiry commission, of which Assistant Secretary Fairchild is president, has virtually concluded its inspection of the work of the commission in this bureau is awaited with much interest, as it is supposed to give an indication of the policy to be observed in the reorganization of other bureaus of the treasury department.

Sales of Public Lands.

Commissioner Williamson, of the General Land Office, has had prepared a statement showing the number of acres of public lands disposed of for cash and under the Homestead and Timber-Culture acts during the last ten fiscal years—1871 to 1880 inclusive.

Since that period there has been a gradual increase in sales and allotments, resulting in 1880 in the sale of 1,455,724 acres for cash, and the disposal of 6,070,507 acres under the Homestead acts.

Churches as Savings Banks.

There are in the city three penny savings banks in connection with churches. They belong to St. Andrew's, St. James' and All Saints. The banks receive any amount, from 2 cents upward, but do not encourage the depositing of large sums, the object in view being to promote habits of economy among the poorer classes.

THE MARKETS.

Table with market prices for various commodities like Wheat, Corn, Pork, etc. in Omaha, Chicago, and St. Louis.

At the gambling establishment of Monte Carlo the police have strict orders to search the grounds every night for the bodies of suicides, and to remove them as quickly as possible, that visitors may not be shocked by discovering the remains.

Origin of Familiar Proverbs.

"Truth is stranger than fiction," was invented by an editor as a head line to a twenty-line lie so monstrously extravagant that he knew nobody would believe ten words of it.

"I'll make a spoon or spoil a horn," was the thought of a man who never made a spoon in all his life, and who knew perfectly well that he couldn't make one, and only took a mean man's malicious delight in spoiling a horn.

"A wink is as good as a nod to a blind horse," was said by a man with a stiff neck, who wanted to nod, but couldn't. Although why any sane man should wish either to wink or nod at a blind horse no man can tell.

"Fast bind, fast find," was remarked by a police justice when he remarked the tough over to keep the peace, and fined him \$15.85.

"All's well that ends well," was said by a murderer who killed a dupe. The name of the murderer is suppressed lest he should be overrun with more orders than he could fill, and thus be compelled to hire a clerk, who would eventually run off with all the money.

"All's fare in love and war," was the inspired thought of a railroad conductor. "One swallow does not make a summer," was the brilliant remark of a man who was trying to see how many swallows do make a summer.

"Dead men tell no tales," was the joyous exclamation of the first editor who slew a man who came in with a continued story in sixty-five chapters. It was the same editor who, upon receiving a demand for 10 cents from a poet for an epic poem upon which he had labored twenty years, said: "Write makes snite," and then he smote him, that he died.—Bob Burdette.

The Dumb Made to Speak.

"Nearly every hospital and house of correction in the country has its regular attendance of malingers," says a physician at the Episcopal Hospital, Philadelphia. "Some are most cunning in their schemes to become patients. The comfortable bed, the good food, and the kind attention they receive are the temptations to try these deceptions."

"Why I once saw a case of feigned muteness. A youth of 17 was brought to us. His parents said he had spoken well enough until he was 11 years old but since that he had never spoken a word. He had his hearing perfectly. We tried a good many things—galvanism, tonics, and even, because we thought it was stubbornness, we had a clergyman to talk to him, but all was of no avail. At last we came to the conclusion that the young rascal was hoodwinking us, and we determined to try a trick upon him that had been tried with success before. Two of the physicians stood at his bedside as if consulting about his case. One of them said in a loud whisper to the other:

"Well, I'll tell you what we'll do. First of all we'll cauterize the whole under surface of his tongue, and, if that does not succeed, we will cut off his tongue and examine it under a microscope." Then, turning to an assistant, he continued: "Mr. Wilson, please get the iron red hot. We will use it at once upon this boy."

"The fellow didn't say anything, but he tried by signs to beg the doctor not to perform the operation. The iron was brought and the surgeon began arranging the patient. The sight of the instrument on its spirit flame, almost at a white heat, brought forth a terrible cry from the boy, the first sound in six years. Then one assistant held his legs, another his arms, a third his head, and a wedge was thrust into his mouth. Still not a word. The hot iron was lifted and brought near to his face, so that he could feel the heat. Whether the operation would have been performed or not I am unable to say, but there was no necessity, for the instant he felt the heat he shouted: "Oh, don't doctor dear, please don't; I'm not dumb. I will speak—I will, indeed."

"And he left the hospital that very afternoon."—Philadelphia Times.

Pictures of Waves of Sound.

Some remarkable photographs of a pistol bullet in its flight, under the illumination of an electric spark, have been secured by Prof. E. Mach, of Prague. He has also photographed the air streams which one may see over a Bunsen burner placed in sunshine, and has even obtained pictures of waves of sound, these last being made visible by a method in which advantage is taken of the irregular refraction of light by the waves set in vibration by sound.

The Time to Wear Glasses.

When persons find their eyes becoming dry and itching in reading, as well as those who find it necessary to place an object more than fourteen inches from their face to read, they need spectacles. Spectacles sold by peddlers and jewelers generally are hurtful to the eyes of those who read much, as the lenses are made of inferior glass and are not symmetrically ground. Unless the lenses are mounted in a suitable frame and properly placed before the eye discomfort will arise from their prolonged use.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Leather book-bindings may be revived by rubbing them with white egg.

The grated rind and the juice of an orange add much to the flavor of ginger cake.

Burnt umber, with a little Venetian red mixed with porter, makes a dark oak stain.

Flat fish, as a rule, keep better than round; they should be chosen for their thickness rather than for their size.

Velveten makes very handsome table scarfs. It may be embroidered in the same way as velvet and may be lined with satin.

Brass, when corroded and blackened, may be cleaned with rotten-stone, moistened with oxalic acid and water; polish with whiting or siliceon.

A sure test for eggs is the following: Dissolve one ounce of salt in ten ounces of water and put the eggs in. Good eggs will sink and bad ones will float.

Vegetables, when fresh, are crisp. Cucumbers must be perfectly firm and stiff. Celery breaks off clean when fresh; if it is stringy it has been kept too long.

In choosing mutton or veal from the carcass the quality may be determined from the fat inside the thigh. If there be plenty of clear, firm fat there, the meat is good.

A few drops of ammonia will be effectual in removing grease from the dishpan, and it is a good plan once in a while to add a little to the water used to cleanse the sink.

While it is conceded by most cooks that winter squash is best when baked, it is always necessary to use judgment about it, for if the squash is very dry it is rendered almost tasteless by cooking. In this case it should be steamed.

Veal should have firm white fat, and the lean have a pinkish tinge. If the barbarism of bleeding has been practiced, the flesh will be quite white. Veal should be six or eight weeks old before it is killed, else it is unwholesome. Too young veal may be detected by a bluish tint.

An old and reliable test for the purity of milk is to dip a smoothly-polished knitting needle into a cup of milk and withdraw it in an upright position. If the milk be pure a pendulous drop of the liquid will hang to the end of the needle; there will be no drop adhering to the needle if even a small quantity of water be mixed with the milk.

To clean and freshen old matting rub it with a cloth wet in salt water, being careful not to allow any drops of water to dry in the matting, as they will leave spots difficult to remove. Heavy, varnished furniture should never rest directly upon the matting, for even good varnish, becoming soft in warm weather will stain the straw. Matting may be turned if the loose ends of the cords are threaded in a large needle and drawn through to the other side.

Chickens prepared in this way are a change from the usual frites: Cut up two young chickens, cook them for half an hour in a saucepan with a little bacon cut in dice, adding thyme, two bay leaves, a small onion, parsley, and a piece of butter, moistening with white wine. Mix the yolk of three eggs in half a cup of cream and pour the mixture over the chickens, taking the saucepan instantly off the fire. Arrange the pieces of chickens symmetrically on a dish and serve.

In choosing fish see that the gills are bright pink, the fins stiff, and the eyes clear and full; the scales and skin must be bright. Lobsters and crabs must be chosen by their weight as compared with their size. When fresh, the tail of a lobster will quickly spring back into position after it is straightened. A medium-sized lobster, with narrow tail and heavy for its size, will be found to be choice. In buying part of a large fish, its freshness may be known by the bluish tinge of the flesh and the iridescence of the cut part. It is not fresh if the flesh be yellow.

This dessert is easily made and is very nice: One quart of apple sauce or eight tart apples stewed soft, with one cupful of water and strained. Add one cup of granulated sugar, half a teaspoonful of vanilla or lemon extract and the yolks of four eggs, well beaten. Put the mixture in a buttered pudding dish and bake twenty minutes in a quick oven. Beat the four whites to a stiff froth and add two tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar. Spread this over the hot pudding and brown very lightly. Serve when ice cold, with sponge cake or delicate biscuits. It may be eaten with cream.

Good beef, when fresh, has a fine grain and is of a vermilion color, with a slight tint of purple on the cut surface. It is firm, but tender to the touch, and is so elastic that no mark is left after pressure from the finger. The fat is yellowish-white, like fresh butter, and firm. Sometimes the lean is slightly veined with fat, but it must have no flavor of sweat. The surface must be quite dry when cut, scarcely moistening the finger. If a clean knife be pushed up to the handle into the raw meat, the resistance will be uniform if it be fresh; but, if some of the parts are softer than others, it has begun to decompose. When beef is old, coarse and sinewy-looking, it is lean and tough. Cow-beef is coarse-looking and has white fat.

Europeans in China.

An Englishman residing at Peking writes to the London Times that the position of Europeans in China is not materially altered by the war with France, because the people are ignorant of the affairs of State and have no interest whatever in matters which concern their country. With the exception of the absence of the French Legation, European society in China presents the usual features. Skating has been the chief amusement of the winter and receptions and balls have been common. Ignorance of the state of the war is the only vexation to Europeans, who are more concerned that the natives are to be.

PROHIBITION IN MAINE.

After Years of Legal Prescription, the Sale of Stimulants Has No Diet Out—A Bitter Fight in Progress.

Does prohibition prohibit? This is a question that has been mooted ever since the prohibitory liquor law was first put on the statute-book years ago. Gen. Neal Dow and his co-laborers in the field of temperance reform take the ground that prohibition has proved a great success. The old white-haired father of the Maine law, who is now 81 years of age, and who, despite his years, is as active and zealous in his war on the grog-shops as ever, will tell you that prohibition has crushed out every distillery and brewery in Maine, and such is the truth. He will tell you that under the operations of the law liquor-selling has been nearly suppressed in the rural towns, which embrace nearly three-quarters of the state, and he will point with pride to the evidences of thrift and prosperity as compared with the condition of things in the old rum times, when that beverage flowed as freely as water, and, as the result, poverty and degradation were to be seen on every hand. There are many grains of truth in this, and yet, at the same time, liquor-selling has not been abolished in the city towns. The traffic has only been circumscribed and driven into narrower limits. Any respectable looking person, even though he be a stranger, can find no difficulty in buying all the liquor he wants of the village apothecary, should he fail to get it at the country inn. The druggists, in fact, carry on the liquor business in Maine. Registered druggists keep liquor on hand for the compounding and manufacturing of medicine, but are not allowed by law to sell liquors of any kind unless compounded and manufactured in good faith.

The great weapon of the law is the search and seizure clause, which requires proof of two elements—first, of the keeping, and second, of an intent to sell liquor in violation of the law. With the ordinary rum-seller the mere fact of finding liquor in his shop is usually enough to convict, because it is not kept there for any legitimate purpose. With druggists, however, there must be proof of sale. As a result they have a constitutional right to sell liquor, and, as it is now heading, they are fast obtaining a monopoly of the rum trade in Maine, on account of the inherent defect in the constitution which no law can get around. But it is in the cities and large towns where liquor is principally sold, and where the evils of the traffic are more plainly seen. There is no doubt but what prohibition has accomplished a great deal of good in the way of suppressing the rum traffic, and it is equally true that the men, women, and children of to-day are more abstemious than were their fathers and grandfathers. Still the rum traffic flourishes; officers are unfaithful in enforcing the laws, and when they are executed the chances are that from some defect or loophole in the law the rum-seller escapes. The situation to-day does not show that Maine is the prohibitory state that she is represented to be. It was only a few days ago that Gen. Dow was forced to admit that "it is not overstrated the matter to say that in Maine to-day the liquor traffic is inflicting upon the people far more mischief, wretchedness, and ruin than they suffer from all the robberies and burglaries, frauds of whatever kind, from incendiarisms, conflagrations, and murder."

For the past six months the city of Bangor has practically enjoyed free rum. There are over one hundred places there where liquor is sold and no attempt has been made to enforce the law. The law is a nullity. In Lewistown, Bath, Augusta, and other cities no difficulty is experienced if one wants to wet his whistle. In the city of Portland, under Gen. Dow's own eyes, the liquor traffic flourishes, and yet at the same time in no other city has the law, for the past ten years, been more faithfully enforced. To illustrate how hard it is to break up the business in Portland, the prohibitionists for five years pursued a rum-seller in that city. They made him pay fines more than forty times, and then got him in jail. But this did not break up his business, for his brother took charge of it. Then the prohibitionists went for him, and when, after a protracted siege, he was forced to retire, his brother-in-law took his place, and carries on the business to-day.

Since the first week in January the prohibitionists have renewed the war on Portland grog-shops, and the campaign is to extend throughout the state, under the auspices of the Law and Order league. Rev. Mr. Munson, the agent of the league, is now enforcing the law with more vigor than has ever known before. Already he has sworn out more than six hundred warrants, at an expense of over \$2,500 to the taxpayers of Cumberland county, and in return, the amount of fines paid into the city treasury will not exceed \$200. Last year there were nearly one thousand prosecutions of liquor dealers in the state, and, while there were numerous convictions, the number of grog-shops was not diminished. During the last fourteen years some twenty-three thousand persons have been arrested in this city for drunkenness, and yet one would be puzzled to find one rum-seller the less. Gen. Dow himself says there are as many rum-shops as ever. Mr. Munson will find it exceedingly difficult to exterminate the last vestige of the liquor traffic, as he has announced he will do. This onward movement thus far has not panned out well. The liquor dealers understand their business so well that they are not easily scooped. They may be put to trouble or expense, but somehow they always manage to hold the fort. Men whose breath is redolent of cardamon seed or snake root, rarely if ever given in their evidence against the parties of whom they obtained their snifters. Municipal officers are loath to have the law enforced, and even the governor is not disposed to appoint special constables for the enforcement of the liquor law. The friends of the Law and Order league came before the legislature this winter, and it was only by the casting vote of the president of the

senate that they succeeded in getting the prohibitory legislation asked for. Gen. Dow was not pleased with the measures that were passed. There were not teeth enough in them to suit him, and yet they increase the penalties for liquor-selling, making it imprisonment as well as a fine for the first offense. Then if a man who is drunk is arrested and given a term of imprisonment he can be released if he will only disclose where he got his liquor. The "dump," or "hopper," or any contrivance which the rum-seller uses to destroy his liquors is evidence of illicit sales and can be used against him. Even the watchmen who stand at the door to give warning at the approach of officers can be arrested as partners in the crime of rum-selling. Drugging for liquors is prohibited, and so is the advertising of liquors in the newspapers. Still Gen. Dow is not satisfied with this legislation, and as one of the results he has cut himself adrift from the republican party, through whose agency alone prohibition has become the fixed policy of the state.

Gen. Dow and Mr. Munson are determined to make hot work of it in their present crusade, of crushing out the traffic before the national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic takes place here next June, which it is estimated will bring here fifty thousand people from all over the country. The Law and Order league in waging their battle are using all the weapons of procedure they can to annihilate rum-selling. Mr. Munson is willing to sacrifice his life in the conflict. He was characterized a few days ago in the court-room as an "ecclesiastical crank," but, whether he is or not it is evident that he is going to fight the battle to the bitter end and let the taxpayers pay the bills.

Last September the people of Maine, under regard to party, settled the question of constitutional prohibition, but this does not signify that prohibition is a success. On the contrary, the liquor prosecutions of the past, as well as those now instigated by the Law and Order league, are ineffectual in stopping the traffic and in making gains of our people. It certainly looks as if prohibition does not and will not prohibit in Maine.—Portland Cor. New York Herald.

The Key of Death.

In the collection of curiosities preserved in the arsenal of Venice there is a key, of which the following singular tradition is related: "About the year 1690, one of those dangerous men in whom extraordinary talent is only a fearful source of crime and wickedness beyond that of ordinary men, came to establish himself as a merchant or trader in Venice. The stranger, whose name was Tebaldo, became enamored of the daughter of an ancient house, already affianced to another. He demanded her hand in marriage, and was, of course, rejected. Enraged at this, he studied how to be revenged. Profoundly skilled in the mechanical arts, he allowed himself no rest until he had invented the most formidable weapon which could be imagined. This was a key of large size, the handle of which was so constructed that it could be turned round with little difficulty; when turned, it discovered a spring, which on pressure, launched from the other end a needle or lancet of such subtle fineness that it entered into the flesh and buried itself there without leaving external trace. Tebaldo waited in disguise at the door of the church in which the maiden whom he loved was about to receive the nuptial benediction. The assassin sent the slender steel unperceived into the breast of the bridegroom. The wounded man had no suspicions of injury, but, seized with a sudden and sharp pain in the midst of the ceremony, he fainted and was carried to his house amid the lamentations of the bridal party. Vain was all the skill of the physicians, who could not divine the cause of this strange illness, and in a few days he died. Tebaldo again demanded the hand of the maiden from her parents, and received a second refusal. They too perished miserably in a few days. The alarm which these deaths, which appeared almost miraculous, occasioned excited the utmost vigilance of the magistrates, and when, on close examination of the bodies, the small instrument was found in the gangrened flesh, terror was universal; everyone feared for his own life. The maiden thus cruelly orphaned had passed the first months of her mourning in a convent, when Tebaldo, hoping to bend her to his will, entreated to speak to her at the gate. The face of the foreigner had ever been displeasing to her, but since the death of all most dear to her it had become odious (as though she had a presumption of his guilt), and her reply was most decisive in the negative. Tebaldo, beyond himself with rage, attempted to wound her through the gate, and succeeded; the obscurity of the place prevented his movement being observed. On her return to her room the maiden felt a pain in her breast, and uncovering she found it spotted with a single drop of blood. The pain increased; the surgeons who hastened to her assistance—taught by the past—wasted no time in conjecture, but, cutting deep into the wounded part, extracted the needle before any mortal mischief had commenced, and saved the life of the lady. The state inquisition used every means to discover the hand which dealt these insidious and irresistible blows. The visit of Tebaldo to the convent caused suspicion to fall heavily upon him. His house was carefully searched the infamous invention discovered, and he perished on the gibbet."

A Matter of Money.

"My daughter will receive five thousand dollars on the day she marries you," said an Austin father to a suitor for his daughter's hand, "she will receive five hundred dollars and the rest from time to time as my circumstances justify it." "That's all right, my dear sir," replied the mercenary youth, "but hadn't we better wait with the marrying until we get everything together."—Texas Siftings.