

BOLT OF SILVER MEN.

WALK OUT WHEN GOLD PLANK IS ADOPTED.

Republicans Adopt a Platform Advocating the Single Gold Standard—Free-Coinage Delegates Sever Their Connection with Former Associates.

Leave the Hall.

The third day's session of the Republican national convention was called to order by Chairman Thurston at 10:30 o'clock Thursday forenoon. Five thousand people stood outside the convention hall clamoring for admission and quarreling with doorkeepers. Inside the hall there was a restless activity among the delegates and visitors and an eager desire to see the wheels move.

Chairman Thurston without any preliminaries plunged into business by announcing that the first thing on the program was the report of the committee on resolutions. Senator-elect Joseph B. Foraker, of Ohio, crowded to the front, climbed the steps and presented the platform, while the audience and delegates followed the reading with intense interest.

The preamble refers to four years of Democratic rule compared to thirty years of Republican rule as good grounds to appeal to the American people. The four years of unrestricted rule of the Democratic party is denounced as a calamity and a record of incapacity. The adverse balance of trade, the deficit in the treasury and the piling up of the public debt and menace to the redemption fund are declared. "We are not pledged to any particular schedule," but the question of rates should be governed by conditions. The restoration of discriminating duties for the upbuilding of the merchant marine is favored. The money plank, which caused so much discussion and over which arose the contention, reads as follows: "We are unalterably opposed to every measure calculated to debase our currency or impair the credit of our country. We are therefore opposed to the free coinage of silver except by international agreement with the leading commercial nations of the world, which we pledge ourselves to promote, and until such agreement can be obtained we believe the existing gold stand-



SENATOR HENRY M. TELLER.

ard must be preserved. All our silver and paper currency now in circulation must be maintained at a parity with gold, and we favor all measures designed to maintain inviolable the obligations of the United States and all our money, whether of coin or paper, at the present standard, the standard of the most enlightened nations of the earth." A plank favoring liberal reciprocity is incorporated and the repeal of the reciprocity agreements is condemned. The plank on foreign affairs favors the independence of Cuba and control of Hawaii by the United States and indorses the Monroe doctrine. There are planks favoring the extension of civil service reform, a declaration against the use of the public money for sectarian purposes, in favor of arbitration, for liberal pensions and the building of the Nicaragua canal by the United States Government.

At the conclusion of the reading Senator Teller presented a silver substitute for the gold plank in the platform, and made a strong speech in defense of the bimetallic views of the white metal men. After he had spoken to the resolution Foraker moved to lay it on the table. The gold men voted 518 1/2 to a total silver representation of 105 1/2. Foraker then moved the previous question on the adoption of the platform, and the platform was adopted, a separate vote being taken on the financial plank, resulting: Yeas, 812 1/2; nays, 110 1/2.

As soon as the platform with the gold plank was adopted the silver men from Colorado, Idaho, Montana and Utah, headed by their leaders, arose and marched out of the convention hall, renouncing the Republican party and its declaration of principles.

Notes of Current Events.

Walter T. Hatch, senior member of the firm of Walter T. Hatch & Son, bankers and brokers of New York, died at his home in Brooklyn.

Eugene Barnett and Jepps Wenar, railroad ticket speculators doing business at New Orleans, were convicted of forging tickets of the Southern Pacific Railway Company.

H. J. Smith, general superintendent of the Edison electric light plant in New York and president of the recent electrical exhibition, was fatally injured by a fall at Washingtonville, N. J.

The famous collection of violins owned by the late R. D. Hawley of Hartford has been sold to Ralph Granger of San Diego, Cal. The price paid is said to be in the neighborhood of \$20,000.

Charles Tillotson, aged 23, a student in the New York Medical College, committed suicide in Hartford, Conn., by taking laudanum. Despondency over the morphine habit is the alleged cause.

Much surprise was manifested at Indianapolis by the announcement that Gen. Fred Kneller, for four years United States pension agent for Indiana, had been disbarred from practice in the Pension Department.

Dr. James W. Cox died at Albany, N. Y., aged 68 years. He was a member of the county and State medical societies and was also senior member of the American Institute of Homeopathy. He was a thirty-second degree Mason. He was also one of the founders of the Fort Orange Club.

Capt. William J. Mobley, aged 54, dropped dead from apoplexy on a train near Washington, D. C.

COSTLY LUNCH OF AN OSTRICH

It Took a Surgical Operation to Get a Purse from His Stomach.

B. C. Wallace, a wealthy gentleman from the East, has been making a tour of Southern California during the past winter, and about a month ago came to this city. A short time after his arrival he went out to visit the ostrich farm, and spent several hours in inspecting the queer birds, which seemed to interest him very much. There was one big male ostrich in particular that struck Wallace's fancy, his plumage was so beautiful and his carriage so grand. After admiring and commenting on the big fellow's many good points Wallace turned to get an orange from a bag which his wife was holding, thinking to present it to the ostrich.

Feeling something tugging at his pocket, Wallace jumped around just in time to see his well-filled leather purse slowly disappear into the bird's mouth. Wallace frankly confesses that he was completely dazed for a moment, but the case was a serious one, and when the purse showed itself slowly sliding down, making a big protuberance on the side of the bird's neck, he felt that the time for action had arrived. Leaning over the board fence as far as he could reach, Wallace grabbed the bird about the throat and tried with all his might to choke his purse up, but one upward kick of the big fellow's hoof settled any further effort in that way. Wallace was almost willing to feel grateful for the small favor of an unbroken arm, but there was money in the purse, and he could not see the ostrich making food of his worldly goods with impunity. Meanwhile Mrs. Wallace had called the keeper.

By this time the purse had made the passage and was no doubt comfortably stored away in the bird's stomach awaiting the process of digestion.

"Nothing for it, sir, I'm afraid," said the keeper. "Was there much money in the purse?"

"My lord, man, there's thousands in it, besides bonds, notes, etc.," exclaimed Wallace. "Can nothing be done?"

"Not unless you buy the bird, kill him and rob his stomach," answered the keeper.

"Great Scott, I don't want an ostrich, dead or alive, but name your figure," said Wallace.

The keeper told him the bird was worth \$500.

"Pretty costly, but there's ten times that amount inside him, and I guess this will be one time it will pay to kill the goose for the golden egg."

The bargain was almost struck, but at Mrs. Wallace's suggestion it was decided to get a surgeon to come out from the city and operate on the bird, and try to extract the purse without killing him outright. "This plan was immediately acted upon, the operation being performed by one of our young surgeons, and resulting most happily. The purse was found intact, with its valuable contents unharmed. It is now three weeks since, and the ostrich has entirely recovered, so that Wallace had merely to pay the surgeon's fee and a slight bonus to the keeper, who in turn presented Mrs. Wallace with a fine plume from the bird which came very near costing her husband so dear—Los Angeles Letter to Philadelphia Times.

He Knew Her.

Postoffice clerks no doubt possess a larger amount of general information than they are sometimes credited with, but the Irish World tells of one concerning whom the exact opposite is true.

I had occasion to go to the postoffice to solicit aid in "tracing" a package that had failed to be delivered in season for Christmas. The politeness of the clerks reminded me of a friend of ours who was a postoffice clerk, and one of the most polite of Irishmen. He was born in County Kildare, and emigrated to New York at 10 years of age. At 25 he had attained a six-foot physique, a big black beard, and a clerkship in an up-town postoffice station.

He told me gleefully that one day, looking through the little brass bars of the "general delivery" he saw approaching a Mr. Barney McGuffin, a fine old Irish gentleman he had known at home. The old man was unchanged, but the boy had outgrown Mr. McGuffin's remembrance.

"Is it too late for the steamer?" said Mr. McGuffin, as he poked a letter through the bars for

THE WIDOW O'BRIEN.

Curragh of Kildare, Kildare Co., Ireland,

whom Tom had also known as his father's neighbor at home.

"Is this to the Widow O'Brien, who lives on the Ballywink Road?" asked Tom.

"And how did you know she lived on the Ballywink Road?"

"What would I be doing in the postoffice if I don't know that the Widow O'Brien lived on the Ballywink Road?"

Tom said that frequently after that he saw the old man gazing at him with awe and wonder, as he explained to some companion:

"That's the man what knows everybody in Ireland."

Wood for Pillows.

Most Mongolian beauties do not know what a feather pillow means, and the Japanese pillow consists of a lump of wood about the size of a loaf of bread, with a piece of soft paper tied on top of it, so that it will just fit into Yum Yum's neck and prop her head off the floor.

Lawn Tennis.

Lawn tennis was invented by Major Walter Wingfield, who brought out the game, under another name, in 1874. The first public game was played in 1875.

Signers of the Declaration.

Thirty-nine of the fifty-six men who signed the Declaration of Independence were college graduates.

LABORS OF CONGRESS

RECENT SESSION THE SHORTEST FOR THIRTY YEARS.

Bills that Have Become Laws—Many Measures Introduced, but Few of Importance Added to the Laws of the Country—Pending Legislation.

Done at Washington

The Fifty-fourth Congress was the shortest "long session" in thirty years, and one of the shortest in the history of the Government. Of the measures which have become laws, the most important, from an international standpoint, was the bill creating the commission "to determine the true divisional line between Venezuela and British Guiana." Of scarcely less general interest were the bills prohibiting prize fighting in the territories; permitting appointments in the army and navy of former United States officers; who had served in the rebellion, and making one year's residence in a territory a prerequisite to obtaining a divorce there. Excepting these, however, the remainder of the 225 bills and resolutions which received the President's approval were not of a character to warrant special mention. The more important were the bills incorporating the National Society of the Daughters of the Revolution; opening the forest reservations in Colorado for the location of mining claims; regulating proof of death in pension cases; providing for a naval training station in San Francisco harbor; making it unlawful to shoot at any railway train or any person thereon, or to throw missiles into such train, and repealing clause 61 of the tariff law, providing for a rebate on alcohol used in the arts. The session, however conspicuous by reason of its brevity, resulted in the introduction of a larger number of bills in the House than during any similar period for a quarter of a century. The total number of bills introduced during the entire Fifty-third Congress was 8,987, of which 4,405 were introduced during the first session, which corresponds to the session just closed, and in which latter the aggregate is swollen to 9,500.

Status of Cuban Legislation.

The popular interest in the Cuban revolution was shown in the large number of resolutions—more than fifty in all—that was introduced and referred to the committee on Foreign Affairs. After careful consideration a concurrent resolution was reported, for which was subsequently substituted, in conference, the Senate resolution expressing the sympathy of the United States with the insurgents, recognizing their belligerency, and calling upon the President to use his good offices to secure the independence of the island. Being a concurrent and not a joint resolution, it did not call for the President's signature, and its only effect was to express the sentiment of the American people as reflected in the two houses of Congress. Measures for which there has been a widespread demand include the bankruptcy bill, the McCall bill, providing an educational test for immigrants; the labor commission and labor arbitration bills, and the bill simplifying the rules of the pension office, so as to facilitate the adjustment of private pension cases.

The Finance Committee, to which was referred 105 different measures, succeeded in getting through the Senate but three of any importance that have become laws—the filled cheese bill, the amendment to the administrative feature of the tariff act permitting express companies to pay the duty on packages valued at not more than \$500 and deliver it to the residence of the importer direct, and the bill to repeal the free alcohol clause of the tariff law. The Dingley bill came out of committee with a free coinage amendment which prevailed in the Senate, and this proposition was rejected by the House.

Bills Placed on the Calendar.

Some of the most important bills prepared by the committees were not given a hearing in either house or passed but one house, and will be on the calendar for consideration during the short session if their supporters are able to secure time for them. Among the most important of these are the Lodge-McCall bill for an educational test for immigrants, with the Corliss amendment to prevent the invasion of Canadian day laborers; the Phillips industrial commission bill; the Curtis bill to lessen the number of crimes for which the death penalty can be imposed by United States courts; the bankrupt bill, and the Pickler pension bill, all of which were passed by the House. Among those passed by neither house are the statehood bills for Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma; that for a territorial form of government for Alaska; the Pacific railroad funding bill; the Nicaragua canal and Pacific cable bills; the plan for the reorganization of the Indian territory government, for which the Dawes commission and Representative Curtis of Kansas are joint sponsors; the Loud bill to reduce the scope of the fourth-class mail matter, and bills to reorganize the revenue marine personnel, to increase the salaries of railway mail clerks, to revive the grade of lieutenant general for Gen. Miles. A large fraction of the session's business related to the public lands, and important amendments were made to the public land laws.

Miscellaneous Bills.

Among the miscellaneous acts passed during the session were the following: For the detail of revenue cutters to enforce order at regattas and yacht races and insure the safety of the spectators and participants.

To reconvene the United States delegates to the international marine conference for the destruction of the income tax returns.

For the deportation of refugee Canadian Creek Indians from Montana.

To establish the government of Greer County as a county of Oklahoma (after the decision by the Supreme Court that Greer County was not a part of Texas).

Forbidding divorces in territories unless the parties applying have been residents for one year before the applications.

Authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to distribute medals and diplomas awarded by the World's Columbian Commission.

Authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to remit fines, penalties and forfeitures in laws relating to vessels and to discontinue prosecutions.

Giving the use of the White lot and Washington monument to the Christian Endeavor convention of 1896.

To allow the return, duty free, of all articles sent from the United States for exhibitions and fairs.

Fixing time for vessels to unload.

WOMEN WASH FOR GOLD.

North Carolina Dames Bear Their Part in the Mining Operations.

Among the inhabitants of the southern mountains, among those strange left-over people whose customs have little changed from what they were 200 years ago, women bear a large share of the burdens of existence, and they don't call themselves new women.

In the South mountains of North Carolina, lying to the south of the old town of Morganton, the poorer residents obtain a small amount of money by panning gold in the "branches," as the little streams are called. It was told that by far the greater part of this work was done by women, and I was invited to make a journey through the mountains with one of these women to act as guide and preceptor.

As we stood the next morning before a log hut the door opened and a woman stood before us. She was introduced by my friend as "Tine" Hank. About 30 years old, rather small, slight, dressed in a coarse gown of nondescript color and material, her eyes were of the most beautiful brown, while her glossy black hair was done into a simple knot at the back of her head. Her feet were bare and brown as the soil which formed the floor of the cabin.

"Tine" had been forewarned of our coming and was ready to start at once with her gold pan under her arm. In a commanding tone she called to a man who sat by the fireplace, telling him to get a shovel and follow. We took our way down a crooked trail which ran alongside one of the "branches." If it had been a pleasure to see the grace and beauty of this woman in repose it was a marvel to observe her gliding along the forest path, with every muscle in play, every motion adjusted to the needs of the moment, now stepping deftly from one stone to another, now grasping the small limb of a tree to aid her in a steep part of the path.

When we reached a place where heaps of gravel and sand showed that panning had been done, "Tine" assured us she could obtain a "color." Taking the shovel from the mountaineer, she drove it into the bed of the shallow stream, pushing it down by placing her naked foot on the edge of the blade. Having carefully chosen a painful of gravel, she crouched down and commenced the operation of "panning." I have seen this delicate task performed many times, but never before with such rapidity and dexterity. In an incredibly short time she gave the final twist to the iron pan, and exhibited it to us with the small remaining amount of gravel collected in its lower edge, while the tiny yellow scales, the "colors," were arranged in a sort of line in the upper part.

Then she jumped to the opposite side of the branch, digging with her hands at some loosened pieces of quartz in the opposite bank. She returned, carrying three or four pieces in her hands. One of the fragments she held out triumphantly, saying, "I'll carry right smart gold," while her bright eyes shone with pleasure.

Placing her trophies on a flat stone, she proceeded to beat the quartz to a fine powder. Scraping the crushed material into the pan, she proceeded to a small pool in the stream and went to work as deftly as before.

A pretty picture it was and a novel one, this delicate featured, barefooted woman, bending over the edge of the stream, which rushed along among the gray rocks, taking its path down the slope of the mountain under the big pine trees. When the pan was presented for inspection there, indeed, was "right smart gold." Instead of a few flakes a yellow streak showed on the black surface of the pan—"almost a pennyweight," as the mountaineers informed us. This being placed in a sharpened quill, brought along for the purpose, we left the "branch" and started for other profitable workings.

During the day we encountered several women, usually in small parties, engaged either in panning or in beating up the loose vein rock after the primitive method which "Tine" had employed. They told us they averaged about \$1 a day when they worked hard, and there was, of course, always the chance of striking a "pocket," which might give them \$20 or \$30 in a lump. They were able to turn their winnings at once into cash by selling the gold to the local storekeepers.—New York Herald.

His Liberal Reward.

The champion mean man up-town seems to be a young man, who recently advertised in the papers offering a "liberal" reward for the return of a pocketbook containing \$30 in cash and some valuable papers. Two young men found the pocketbook in Norristown and called at the loser's house to return it. He handed one of them fifty cents. The finders protested, saying that it had cost them 65 cents to come down from Norristown, and that they hadn't enough money to get home again. The fortunate owner of the pocketbook dismissed them with the remark that he couldn't help that.—Philadelphia Record.

Insanity and Divorce.

The lunacy statistics of the kingdom of Wurtemberg show that out of 1,040,000 people the lunatics number: 113 married women, 224 girls, 338 widows, 1,540 divorcees, 140 husbands, 234 bachelors, 338 widowers, and 1,484 men living apart from their wives. The moral of this for married people seems to be, Don't rush to the divorce court.

Coal in Minnesota.

Several excellent deposits of anthracite coal have been discovered in Minnesota recently. The veins thus far discovered are only about five feet in thickness, but the coal is of excellent quality.

As a rule, there is most justice in the side of the story that is not told.

BLUE AND THE GRAY.

BRAVE MEN WHO MET ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE.

Thrilling Stories of the Rebellion—Old Soldiers and Sailors Relate Interesting Reminiscences of Life in Camp and on the Field—Incidents of the War.

The Andrews Raiders.

Rev. W. D. Cole, of Mijwauke, while at Atlanta, last fall, made the acquaintance of Capt. W. A. Fuller, who was conductor of the passenger train seized at Big Shanty by the famous Andrews raiders in 1862. There was no more thrilling adventure during the war than Andrews' raid into Georgia. Like Gettysburg and Franklin, everything written about it is read with deep interest. It was a part of the plan of the dauntless raiders to capture Chattanooga, then considered the key to the Southern situation. In Buell's army was Gen. Sill's brigade, in which were the Second, Twenty-first and Thirty-third Ohio. From these regiments came the volunteers who took part in the daring raid. The plan was to penetrate 200 miles within the Confederate lines to Marietta, where the raiding party was to board the train, and at Big Shanty, now called Kenesaw Station, the capture was to be made. Big Shanty was a military camp. There were 3,000 Confederate soldiers there when the raiders arrived. When the train stopped at the station the Confederate guards were only a short distance away.

While the trainmen and the passengers were at the eating house breakfasting the capture was made, and the raiders started for Chattanooga, intending to burn the bridges behind them, thus cutting off reinforcements from below, and making it possible for Buell to capture Chattanooga. But a series of mishaps caused a failure and the capture of the dauntless raiders.

"In partial retirement in the city of Atlanta," said Mr. Cole, "there lives a man to whose daring and devotion to the Confederacy the capture of Andrews and his company was due. This man is Capt. W. A. Fuller, who was the conductor of the stolen train. The energy and the fearlessness of the pursuit which Fuller commanded was simply astonishing, and gave evidence of his courage and determination. Not one man in ten thousand would have been capable of such a pursuit. During a recent visit to Atlanta I was a guest of Capt. Fuller and his gentle wife for a time, and from him heard the thrilling story of the pursuit and capture. History tells the story as Capt. Fuller does.

"After many months in prison Andrews and seven of the company were executed in Atlanta. Andrews was hanged just off Peach Tree street; the other seven at a point now included in Oakland Cemetery. Eight of the party broke jail in Atlanta, and after weeks of privation and untold suffering reached the Union lines. The remaining six were removed from Atlanta to Castle Thunder, Richmond, from which prison they were exchanged in March, 1863, after eleven months of imprisonment. Four years after their execution the bodies of the eight were removed to the national cemetery at Chattanooga, where they now lie. At their graves Ohio has erected a fitting monument, upon which is a facsimile of the 'General,' the engine which they captured. The engine itself is among the prized possessions of the Georgia State Road, and was part of the exhibition in the Transportation Building at the Columbian Exposition. It has been at several national encampments of the Grand Army, and is to be at St. Paul next September, when the national encampment meets there.

"Capt. Fuller was in command of an independent battalion, detained to guard the rolling stock of the Georgia State Road, and kept it from being captured by Sherman's army. He left Chattanooga with 550 freight cars, 120 passenger coaches and fifty or more locomotives. These were all surrendered in April, 1865, with the loss of only twenty-seven cars. In dodging Sherman's men Capt. Fuller had his rolling stock on all of the roads in Georgia, North and South Carolina and on some of the Virginia roads.

"The scene at the fall of Atlanta," said Capt. Fuller, "beggars description. Panic-stricken people, with streaming hair, fled along the streets. The gathering darkness of the night was lighted with the flash of siege guns and the lurid flames of the blazing city. It was at this time that the Confederates determined to explode 120 carloads of powder to prevent its capture by the Union army. It was simply awful. The thunderous roar of the successive explosions shook the foundations of the burning city, and each explosion sounded like the clap of doom. It seemed as though the day of judgment had come.

"The next morning the conquering files of blue-clad soldiers marched along the desolated streets of the surrendered city. Upon the ruins of the old a fairer city has arisen. We hail thee, fairer Atlanta, queen city of the empire State in new South!"

Mr. Cole was not old enough to be a soldier, but his father was; it may be doubted if there is a soldier who takes more interest in the armies and their work. Last summer he rode over battlefields from Chattanooga to Atlanta on a bicycle, and next year he will visit some of the fields in Virginia and spend several days at Gettysburg.—J. A. Watrous, in Chicago Times-Herald.

A Story of the War.

Col. Sidney G. Cooke, of Herrington, Kan., and a possible candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor of Kansas, is probably the only man in the world who ever sneezed a bullet out of his head. Col. Cooke was badly wounded at the Battle of the Wilderness, a ball from a Confederate rifle

having penetrated his brain. His comrades left him on the field where he fell, for he was dead to all intents and purposes, and the newspapers published his name with the list of those who yielded up their lives in the conflict. All day and until long after nightfall Sidney G. Cooke, who was yet a lad, lay in a clump of bushes on a ridge. The Federal skirmish line was broken early in the day by a Confederate detachment, but not routed. The contending forces surged back and forth for hours and when both armies retired from the field at sunset the ridge was strewn with a thousand lifeless forms.

The night was very dark. A lone Confederate crept about the field, unobserved by the Union sentinels, in search of a brother, supposed to have met death in the bushes. A rifle, still grasped in the apparently dead soldier's hand, attracted his attention. He stopped to appropriate the weapon for himself, when Cooke groaned. The rebel had a few drops of whisky in his flask, which he forced into the wounded man's mouth, and he revived. The rebel carried Cooke into his own camp, a prisoner.

Cooke's wound was dressed and he improved rapidly. The bullet, however, remained in his head. In three weeks he was sent to Andersonville, where he remained about seven months. Arrangements having been made for his exchange, he was sent into the Union lines. He joined his company and was placed on duty. The lead in his head did not bother him at all. One day while marching in the rain he contracted a severe cold and nearly sneezed himself to death. He sneezed for ten days. With the last sneeze came the bullet. It had been in his head a year. Col. Cooke now corresponds with his Confederate friend, Charles M. Jones, a lawyer, of Greensboro, N. C.

Another Lincoln Story.

Mr. Lincoln was one of the rare talkers who could always point a moral with an adorning tale taken out of his own experience. Everybody has experience if he only knows it. Most of us are so much in the habit of taking in wisdom and fun through the printed page or the story as another man tells it that we lack the capacity to see it for ourselves.

The story teller is the man who finds his own material. An old Southern politician was moralizing thus a few nights ago and eulogizing the man the South used to dislike:

"When Lincoln first came to Washington I went to see him, so prejudiced against him beforehand that no man with less genius could have overcome it. I left that first interview his friend. No man ever came under the charm of Lincoln's personality without respecting him, and, if allowed, loving him.

"One day, after we had become fairly good friends, I told him of my early prejudice.

"Mr. Lincoln," I said, "I had heard every mean thing on earth about you except one. I never heard that you were too fond of the pleasures of life." Mr. Lincoln sat for a moment stroking his long cheek thoughtfully, and then he drawled out in his peculiar Western voice:

"That reminds me of something that a boy said to me when I was about ten years old.

"Once in a while my mother used to get some sorghum and some ginger and mix us up a batch of gingerbread. It wasn't often, and it was our biggest treat.

"One day I smelled it and came into the house to get my share while it was hot. I found she had baked me three gingerbread men, and I took them out under a hickory tree to eat them.

"There was a family near us that was a little poorer than we were, and their boy came along as I sat down.

"Abe," he said, edging close, "gimme a man."

"I gave him one. He crammed it into his mouth at two bites and looked at me while I bit the legs from my first one.

"Abe," he said, "gimme that other'n."

"I wanted it, but I gave it to him, and as it followed the first one I said:

"You seem to like gingerbread?"

"Abe," he said, earnestly, "I don't s'pose there's anybody on this earth likes gingerbread as well I do," and, drawing a sigh that brought up crumbs, "I don't s'pose there's anybody gets less of it."

And the old politician said Mr. Lincoln looked as though the subject was ended.—Burlington (Iowa) Hawkeye.

Grant's Offer to Gen. Pickett.

We all criticized Grant for that drastic war measure of his by which he discontinued the exchange of prisoners, but he certainly behaved very handsomely to Lee and Lee's troops at Appomattox. And when he became President he was kind in giving places to ex-Confederates. Longstreet himself profited by Grant's friendship in that way. Grant offered to make Gen. Pickett a United States Marshal for one of the Virginia districts, but Pickett declined the office, telling Grant that as popular as Grant was with the people, he (Grant) could not afford to make such an appointment. This was as much as to say that Pickett could not change his affiliations, and that for him not to do so would be to injure Grant in the view of the Northern public. President Davis spoke very kindly indeed of Gen. Grant in a letter published about the time of Grant's death. Indeed, Grant stands far higher in the estimation of Southern veterans than any other general of the war on the Northern side.—Richmond (Va.) Dispatch.

The crater of Etna is a quarter of a mile high on a plain three miles across; it falls in every 100 years. In an eruption in the year 1633 the city of Catania was overturned in a moment and 18,000 people perished in the ruins.