

Lunatics in an asylum in St. John, N. B., have decided to publish a paper. No better proof of their lunacy could be shown.

Tesla says that a person who sleeps nine hours a day ought to live a hundred years. It is a mystery how the Philadelphians manage to die at all.

The newspaper of 1897 may contain a social item to the effect that "the happy couple then entered, to the entrancing strains of the divorce march from 'Smile and Grin.'"

The United States Senate is to test a new ventilating system during the present session. The Senate never will be satisfactorily ventilated, however, until the work is done at the polls.

It does not require much courage to burn a Spanish flag away out here in the interior of America—not near as much as it required in the days of boyhood to burn pepper on the schoolroom stove.

The Denver Times says that "Miss Frances Willard is to be presented on a bust to her alma mater." It would be a waste of time to try to untangle this; but it may not be amiss to say that Miss Willard is not to be given away, to anybody or to anything, and also that she never is "on a bust," anyway.

Neither mendicants nor millionaires are the happiest of mankind. The man who has a good business, and who can make a reasonable living and lay aside something for the future, who can educate his children and can leave enough to keep the wolf of want from the door of those he loves, ought to be the happiest of men.

Joseph Bailey, Democratic leader of the House of Representatives, declined to attend a White House dinner because he never has worn and never will wear a dress suit. Texas will no doubt be pained to learn that the juvenile Congressman has permitted dress suits to scare him away from a good dinner. He should have stuck his pants in his boots and waded in.

The New York Tribune advises Chicago to "negotiate for a cession of the Canadian half of Lake Michigan, and take a census of the fishes to keep somewhere in sight of the procession." This would be inexcusable in any other than a New York paper, but of course a journal which believes Hoboken is the western boundary of the United States is not supposed to know that there is no such thing as "the Canadian half of Lake Michigan."

The Chicago police department reports that Dennis Lynch, who graduated from the civil service commission's list of eligibles and became a full-fledged policeman, attempted to rob a citizen on the streets late at night, and the wayfarer arrested the officer and escorted him to headquarters, where he lost his star within twenty-four hours after his appointment. Dennis seems to possess the true police instinct, but in his enthusiasm he tackled the wrong man at the start, and of course his name is what it is.

There is one institution in France which has hitherto contrived to withstand all the numerous and revolutionary changes of government, namely: the Bank of France, which owes its origin to the first Napoleon. The question as to the renewal of its charter has just come up for discussion in the Legislature, which has voted its prolongation. Since the foundation of the bank it has had but ten governors, while France has during the same period of time had no less than nine different regimes and considerably over a hundred Cabinets.

Voting by machinery has not yet been perfected so far as practical demonstration shows. The apparatus which was used at Troy, N. Y., broke down after it had worked a while and caused the electors and judges no end of trouble. Forty-two men had voted up to the time of the accident, and when the recording dials were examined to discover the cause of the accident, it was found that by some error of the mechanism all these votes were recorded for one set of candidates. It may be that these contraptions can be made absolutely flawless, but until that time the old way of voting would better be adhered to. There is such a thing as carrying labor-saving devices too far.

The multiplex printing telegraph, invented by Prof. Henry A. Rowland, of the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, will soon be put upon the market. By the instrument an operator can transmit a telegram written upon a typewriter and have it reproduced in typewritten form at the receiving end. In addition to the typewriting part of the invention, Dr. Rowland, with his new machine, can send over the same wire five or six different messages at the same time in one direction, which, in duplex, makes ten or twelve messages that can be transmitted on the same wire at the same time. Thus, with five operators at each end of a line, sending each an average of thirty words a minute, 300 words can be transmitted each minute. Dr. Rowland inquired at the Patent Office in Washington, and was informed that no such invention has ever been received there, typewriting telegraphy having been attempted before, but upon entirely different principles. He has

used a synchronous device in his invention, and in the mechanical arrangement of the typewriter has used but eight combinations. The current of electricity transmitting the message can be relayed, and in this manner the invention can be operated for great distances. When completed, Dr. Rowland says, the new instrument will be as convenient and as easily operated as the ordinary telegraphic dispatching and receiving apparatus.

A Berlin dispatch says that hereafter it will be the settled policy of the German Government to direct the stream of German emigration elsewhere than to the United States. South and Central American countries are mentioned as the places to which an attempt will be made to turn the tide, the reason assigned being that in those countries "the autonomous and uniform make-up of German colonies will not be politically interfered with." This is very vague, but probably it means that German emigrants to South America can still continue to be German citizens and subject to military duty. The German immigration is as good as we get from Europe, and yet the United States is not suffering even for that. If German emigrants prefer South or Central America let them go there, but it is doubtful if the efforts of the Government to control the matter will amount to much.

Can we ever truly benefit ourselves without benefiting our neighbors? We each have a certain amount of capacity and power in various directions, which we are continually giving out to the world, either in the form of work, or assistance, or affection, or influence, or in some other way. This power may be wasted and diminished, or developed and increased. One of the chief causes of the former is an enfeebled organization and impaired vitality, and a large factor in the latter is a healthy and vigorous condition of the physical system. It is true that these are not wholly under our own control, but science is daily revealing to us how much of them we may secure by sanitary surroundings and hygienic habits. In cultivating these we are adding to all our powers, and, as these powers directly result in benefiting the world, self-care becomes not merely a prudent but a moral and social duty.

Astronomers believe that they have discovered that the two smallest planets, Mercury and Venus, which are both nearer the sun than the earth, have practically stopped revolving around their respective axes. Each of these planets, it is claimed, revolves on its axis in the same time it takes to journey completely round the sun. This results in only one side of each planet receiving the sunlight. Hence there is everlasting night on one-half of each planet and everlasting day on the other half. This is the same condition as prevails on our moon. So that, if astronomers are correct, the solar system has three worlds that to all appearances are dead. Three dead worlds! Can this be possible in a universe we have been accustomed to look upon as full of life? Suppose the astronomers are right in stating that Venus and Mercury have no revolution that can produce the changes of night and day, so that perpetual night reigns on one-half of each planet. It does not follow that life cannot exist in these worlds. Before deciding that these orbs are destitute of life, the factor of human activity or the activity of beings akin to human beings must be considered. If these worlds have ceased to revolve except extremely slowly, does this not mean that they are much older than the other planets? And if older, whatever life existed on them must have attained a wisdom we know nothing of. What is there against the idea that the dark sides of these worlds are brilliantly lit up with electricity and warmed by the same agency? They may be thickly peopled by beings who work and play on the bright side for a period and then retire to the dark regions for rest. This is a more attractive view than the one that dead worlds cumber the universe.

As Others See It. "Now that's what makes me crazy," said Mr. Patten, tapping the pink monthly in front of him. "If there was ever anything idiotic in the world, there it is. That's the limit of clumpery." "What's the matter now?" asked Carter. "Look here. Here's a department called 'Answers to Correspondents.' It fills a column of space, and nobody on earth can make head or tail of it except the people who wrote in and asked the questions. Why didn't they write to these ignoramus instead of putting in a lot of stuff that distresses and puzzles regular readers? It's lunacy, that's what it is."

The "department" to which Mr. Patten referred led off as follows: J. T. M., Cedar Grove, Ill.—Yes. "Myrtle," Buena Park—At least three times a day. Reader, Smoky Center, Pa.—Undoubtedly, unless she sends word otherwise. Oscar, Yamville, Ga.—Some do and others don't. It depends. Kitty G., Burlington, Iowa—Under the peculiar circumstances you may have been justified. H. H., Saginaw, Mich.—In the eighth round. No. With the right hand. Mrs. G., Dayton, Ind.—Oct. 19, 1867. Your second question is puzzling. Use arsenic. "I'm going to call that column the puzzle department," said Mr. Patten, glowering at it. "Now what the dickens happened on Oct. 19, 1867? And what is it 'Myrtle' must do twice a day? Put on some complexion wash, I suppose. There's an editor that annoys 10,000 innocent people in order to answer one fool question.—Chicago Record.

WORK OF CONGRESS.

THE WEEK'S DOINGS IN SENATE AND HOUSE.

A Comprehensive Digest of the Proceedings in the Legislative Chambers at Washington—Matters that Concern the People.

Lawmakers at Labor. The House Friday completed the consideration of the Senate amendments to the Indian appropriation bill and sent the bill to conference. The main contention centered about the Senate proposition to open the Uncompahgre Indian reservation under the mineral land laws. Finally an amendment was recommended to the effect that no corporation should be allowed to obtain possession of these granite deposits, but that the Government should lease the lands in limited areas and for limited terms of years. The Senate amendment striking from the House bill the provision for the ratification of the oil and gas leases made by the council of the Seneca Indians last December was disagreed to. A resolution was adopted by which a committee of twenty-five was appointed to attend the dedication of the Grant tomb in New York on Tuesday, and the House agreed to a program of three-day adjournments.

The Senate chamber had a deserted appearance when the session opened Monday. Mr. Harris of Tennessee was at his desk for the first time in many weeks, and was congratulated on his recovery from a serious illness. In the absence of the Vice President and President pro tem, Mr. Frye, Mr. Nelson of Minnesota occupied the chair. Dr. Milburn's opening prayer made eloquent reference to the gathering of thousands to pay tribute to the great chief, Grant, and invoked that the glow of patriotism freshly kindled may strengthen our nation, our Government and the Union of the States. When the Indian bill was reported back from the House an effort was made to send it to conference, but Mr. Gorman objected, saying it had been understood that no business whatever was to be transacted. Thereupon, at 12:05 p. m., on motion of Mr. Morrill, the Senate adjourned to Thursday.

The question of whether business was to be done by the Senate was raised by Mr. Pettigrew Thursday. Mr. Pettigrew proposed that the Senate direct a conference on the Indian appropriation bill. A message from the President transmitting the report of the commission to adjust the boundary line between the United States and Mexico west of the Rio Grande was read. Mr. Quay presented a resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Interior for information as to whether the leases of the Senecas' oil lands had been made in the usual manner and whether there had been any corruption. It was agreed to. Mr. Pettigrew followed with a resolution calling on the Commissioner of Labor for information as to the cost of producing 1,000 feet (board measure) of white pine lumber, the answer to include the cost of work in the woods and in the mill, both in the United States and Canada. This was adopted, with the addition of a question concerning the cost of stumping. The House was in session seven minutes. The journal was not read. Both houses adjourned to Monday.

Dr. W. G. Hunter.



The man accused of attempting to secure the Kentucky Senatorship by bribery.

Sparks from the Wires. Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul officials estimate their flood damages in the Northwest at \$150,000.

It is now believed that the alleged boodling sensations in the Michigan Legislature are without foundation.

A series of cloudbursts, accompanied by heavy winds, caused great destruction in and about Eufaula, I. T.

President Diaz of Mexico has issued a decree establishing a naval school at Vera Cruz, to be opened July next.

Holman's son may be the Democratic nominee to succeed his father from the Fourth congressional district of Indiana.

Peter Maher and Tom Sharkey will fight for a \$10,000 purse, in the vicinity of New York, between May 25 and June 1.

To get rid of an objectionable street railway the municipal authorities of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., tore up three miles of track.

Antonio Maximo Morla, the principal party to whom Spain recently paid the famous claim of \$1,000,000, is dead in New York.

The Turkish minister at Washington denies that Edhem Pasha has been superseded in command of the army operating in Thessaly.

Three persons were struck by Pittsburg trolley cars Sunday. Of these one is dead, another is expected to die, while the third will recover.

SAME OLD CHESTNUTS.

By making the foreigners contribute from \$150,000,000 to \$200,000,000 annually to get into our market we enable our own people to run their business at a profit.—American Economist, Organ of Protective Tariff League, March 26, 1897.



Uncle Sam: "Say, Dingley, you might as well come down. You're not getting any chestnuts, and you're not fooling voters. McKinley had some experience up that tree—it's a horse chestnut—in 1890. He pretended that he was making the foreigner pay the tax, but he soon found out what the people thought of him and his bill. The bulk of Americans are both honest and intelligent. The intelligent voter knows that you can't make the foreigner pay his taxes, and the honest voter prefers to pay his own taxes. You can never make your bill popular by such tomfoolery."

THE TARIFF ON CUTLERY.

Why the Trust Can Dictate Such Outrageously High Duties.

One of the worst schedules in the Dingley bill is that relating to cutlery—especially pocket cutlery. The duties on pocketknives range from 100 per cent to 300 per cent above present duties and are nearly double those in the McKinley bill. Why, you will ask, are these duties so extraordinarily high? And why are they allowed to remain there? Both questions are easily answered.

It is unnecessary here to go into details. Before McKinley's nomination one of the five or six large manufacturers of pocket cutlery, who was prominent in the trust, which raised prices an average of about 35 per cent under the McKinley bill, began to hustle for McKinley. He is said to have raised a large sum of money by passing the hat among the 20 or 25 cutlery manufacturers. Just how the money was spent is not known. It is probable, however, that several McKinley delegates to St. Louis owed their presence there to this fund. The hat passer himself was one of the very few delegates from New York who was for McKinley first, last and all the time. He was one of Hanna's most trusted lieutenants. One of the two favors which he is said to have asked as compensation for his valuable services was the fixing of the cutlery schedule. This privilege, being an ordinary and expected one under the protection system, was readily granted by the power behind the throne. This is probably the whole story. It explains fully why the duties are there and why they will stay there.

Below is given in detail some of the effects of the proposed duties as applied to importations for the last fiscal year. Of course but few knives will be imported under such exorbitant duties.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE.

First.—All pocket knives not costing more than 40 cents a dozen, 35 per cent ad valorem.

Second.—Costing more than 40 cents a dozen, 1 blade, 20 per cent ad valorem and 50 cents a dozen.

Third.—Costing more than 40 cents a dozen, 2 blades, 20 per cent ad valorem and \$1 a dozen.

Fourth.—Costing more than 40 cents a dozen, 3 blades, 20 per cent ad valorem and \$1.50 a dozen.

Fifth.—Costing more than 40 cents a dozen, 4 blades or more, 20 per cent ad valorem and \$2 a dozen.

Knives costing over 40 cents per dozen, 45,000 dozen, 1 blade, average price, 60 cents; value, \$28,800; at 20 per cent and 50 cents a dozen; duty, \$20,700.

302,000 dozen, 2 blade, average price, \$1.03; value, \$308,700; at 20 per cent and \$1 a dozen; duty, \$472,722.

277,000 dozen, 3 blade, average price, \$1.27; value, \$351,700; at 20 per cent and \$1.50 a dozen; duty, \$485,558.

251,000 dozen, 4 blade, average price, \$1.72; value, \$430,420; at 20 per cent and \$2 per dozen; duty, \$565,884.

Total value, \$1,223,770; total duty, \$1,584,254; 129 1/2 per cent.

Estimated that of 2, 3 and 4 blade 25 per cent are of pearl or shell, adding duty as follows: 88,000 dozen, 2 blade, at 50c. \$44,000 69,250 dozen, 3 blade, at 75c. 51,938 63,500 dozen, 4 blade, at 75c. 47,625

\$1,740,317—129 1/2 p. c. RESULT: Knives to the value of 6 per cent of importations, duty would be 35 per cent. Knives to the value of 94 per cent of importations, duty would be 129 1/2 per cent.

HIRAM DART'S REFUSAL.

Why He Did Not Marry the Charming Widow Breese.

When old Hiram Dart was in his 75th year the faithful old wife, who had been his companion for a full half century, sickened and died, and, to the surprise and amusement of his rural neighbors, old Hiram set forth in search of another wife before Hannah, his first spouse, had been six weeks in her grave.

He made no secret of the fact that he was "in the market," and seemed surprised that the bidders were so few. He attributed this fact to the general lack of taste and judgment in the "wimmin folks" of the present day.

"They're a flinty lot, anyhow," said old Hiram, "an' it comes o' this fool new wimmin idee."

One day old Hiram drove by a neighbor's house all "rigged up" in his Sunday best and with a blue satin necktie forming a marked contrast to the big red geranium in his buttonhole. He tarried for a moment at his neighbor's gate, and frankly confessed that he was "goin' to a sparkin'."

The object of this amatory visitation was the Widow Breese, who lived "over Hebron way," and with whom old Hiram was wholly unacquainted. Some one had, in a spirit of either malice or mischief, made old Hiram believe that the Widow Breese, a robust, well-to-do woman of about 60, would be inclined to look with favor on Hiram's suit.

"An' it won't be no harm done to go an' see her, anyway," said Hiram, as he drove away.

It was nearly dark when Hiram reappeared, far less buoyant than when he went away. His neighbor was on the lookout, and hailing the old man, he said:

"Well, Uncle Hiram, did the Widow Breese refuse you?"

"Not much she didn't!" retorted Hiram, spiritedly. "I refused her!"

"You refused her? Why, what do you mean, Uncle Hiram?"

"Mean jess what I say. I refused the old—old—cattymount!"

"Why, Uncle Hiram, is that a respectful way to speak about a lady?"

"A lady? Humph! Great lady old Jane Breese is! You call a woman a 'lady' who sails into a feller with a broomstick an' calls 'im 'an ole fool' an' sich like names?"

"Did Mrs. Breese do that?"

"She jest did! I gess she'd got wind that I was comin', for I'd hardly interdoosed myself an' began to state my bizness when she flew at me with a broomstick an' drenched me with hot water, an' sicked her dawg on me an' jawed the worst I ever heerd. I jess waited till she got through, an' then I up an' told her p'int blank that I wouldn't have her if she was the last woman on top of the earth. Yes, sir! I refused her jest that p'int blank!"

Relieves Him of Monotony.

She stood at the window of the Illinois Central ticket office and compared her time with that of the depot clock.

"You're too fast," she said to the ticket agent. "According to that clock my train would be gone ten minutes."

"Which is your train?" asked the man.

"The 10:15."

"Yes, it's gone. It is now 10:25."

"You mean that your time is 10:25. Now my watch never was wrong since I owned it, and it is just 10:15. I have lost a minute looking for the train. It's too bad that things should be run that way."

"We run all trains on schedule time," said the ticket agent.

"I should think there would be collisions and all sorts of happenings with such time as that. You might set your clock by my watch if you like and start your next train on the right time."

The man smiled good-naturedly and then, as a sudden thought struck him, asked:

"Is your watch going?"

"Sir, you don't think I carry a dumb watch, do you?"

"Sometimes ladies' watches run down."

"She put the watch to her ear and looked very grave. Then she tried the other ear.

"I believe my cold has made me deaf. But you can hear for yourself."

He listened and shook his head. Then he handed it back to her.

"It's as dead as a door nail. You must have forgotten to wind it last night."

"You must be a mind reader," said the woman, holding the delinquent timepiece to her ear as if the charge against it had not been fully proven.

"I took that watch off to wind it last night when the fire engines went past our house, and I forgot all about it. I shouldn't wonder if your time is all right, after all." And she walked cheerfully away, while the ticket man said to a waiting customer that life would be a dull, dreary Sahara of commerce if such little diversions didn't happen frequently.—Chicago Tribune.

Not a Matter of Health.

They were discussing the construction of a new gown.

"From a hygienic point of view, and merely as a matter of health," suggested the dressmaker, "I think it should be made—"

The haughty beauty stopped her by a gesture.

"Hygienic point of view?" she exclaimed. "Matter of health! What has that to do with it? When I want health I will go to a doctor. When I want style I come to you. We will now eliminate all absurdities and discuss this purely from a common sense standpoint. Will it be fashionable and becoming?"—Chicago Post.

First E Pluribus Unum Money.

The "Brasher \$16 gold piece," which was struck at Newburg, N. Y., in 1786, was the first upon which "E Pluribus Unum" appeared.



The Protection Umbrella.

The opposition of the protected interests of Massachusetts to a duty on hides looks like an abandonment of the favorite protectionist theory that "the foreigner pays the tax."

Indolence is the sleep of the mind.