VALENTINE.

NEBRASKA

To all women: There is no such thing as a bargain in cigars.

In the meantime bets are about even as to whether Li Hung Chang retains his yellow jacket or not.

Inventor Keely's air ship will fly, we feel sure, just as soon as he perfects a few trifling details in his motor.

A scientific expert says that 90 per cent. of mushrooms is water. The other 10 per cent., of course, is toadstools.

It is not true that Hannis Taylor is going to be the first president of Cuba Libre after the acknowledgment of independence.

John Daly, the ex-political Irish prisoner, has had the freedom of Boston extended to him. In his case it is more than a mere compliment.

If, as Astronomer Falt reiterates, a comet will hit the earth on Nov. 13, 1899, it will be a striking coincidence with 13 being an unlucky number.

Selling a Kentucky steed for \$60,000 might be used as evidence that if the luck in one horseshoe is doubtful, there's something in four of them.

With 153 competitors for positions in Harvard freshmen crew, the eight finally selected certainly ought to represent the athletic ability of the class.

A fast run of 102 miles in ninety-seven minutes on a Western road, is said to be a record-breaker. One of these runs will yet prove to be a neck-breaker, as well.

A man has been lynched in Texas for lying. If lynching is ever made the recognized penalty for violations of the Ten Commandments, what a hole it will make in our American population.

With one Western inventor making gold out of antimony and another making hard coal out of garbage, sawdust and soft coal, the work of improving on the products of nature seems to be running double turn.

Uncle Sam doesn't mind having young women marry veterans of the war of 1812 for love, but he objects strenuously to having young women marry them to make themselves eligible to a widow's pension.

Liquor is said to be scarce in the na tional capitol just now, the sergeantat-arms having announced a "close season," in order to freeze out certain individuals who have been accustomed to "tank up" and make too much noise.

It is said that in the late municipal elections in Georgia the negroes demanded and obtained from \$5 to \$10 apiece for votes. Why should Georgia politicians ever advocate the lynching of citizens who are worth \$10 apiece at the polls?

The esteemed New York Tribune referred to an esteemed contemporary, recently, in this delicate way: "The Evening Sun lies. So does its morning degenerate. If you see anything in either of them about anybody or anything they could have any motive for lying about, the presumption always is that they lie."

When extravagance reaches the point of having silver corn-poppers, sentiment calls a halt. Like the old oaken bucket, the wire popper has a distinct place in "fond recollection;" but while the bucket is largely a memory, the wire medium for bringing corn to its highest terms represents a condition as well as a theory. Long may it wave!

How little some people care for money! The Provident institution for savings, in Boston, advertises a list of deposits that have had no attention of any kind from depositors for twenty years, and the figures in the thousands column alone, disregarding hundreds, tens and units, foot up nearly \$100,000. Evidently the owners of the money deposited have had no use for it. How many of them have forgotten it?

By refusing to accept the plea of intoxication advanced by an illegal voter in extenuation of his offense, a Philadelphia judge has taken a stand which good citizens will generally support, and which has reason, judgment and common sense back of it. In a vigorous manner the judge charged the jury that if they found the prisoner had voted illegally, as charged, it was their duty to convict him without regard to his condition at the time. whether he was drunk or sober. The jury promptly convicted the man.

A short cut to notoriety has been effected by a woman of Paris who contributed and collected 10,000 francs toward the Guy de Maupassant monument, recently unveiled in the Parc Monceau, on the condition that her own portrait be introduced. The ludicrous result, the figure of a fashionably firessed woman reclining in a long chair at the foot of a bust of the poet, is characterized by a writer in a London newspaper as "an advertisement in marble for some leading dressmaker." Human vanity takes many forms and some persons choose to bask in the world's gaze, even at the expense of self-respect or of life itself.

The social ethics of the bull-fighting profession seem to afford interesting axpecis. Mexico has a light of the bull ring known as El Curita, who comes

before the public with the complaint that his reputation has been injured by a report that he had been beaten by a woman. He therefore submits public proof that, so far from this being true, the fact was that he knocked the woman down with a chair several times. Having been sent to jail, his eight-day sentence was commuted into the payment of a fine. He is thus restored to full standing in his profession and the public esteem, and his reputation is vindicated.

The Supreme Court of the United States has given an important decision against the Frankfort (Kentucky) lottery. It was claimed in behalf of the lottery that its charter was a contract, and that as the United States constitution forbids any State to pass a law impairing conracts, the provision of the new Kentucky constitution revoking all charters of lotteries was invalid. The Supreme Court took the ground that a lottery grant is in no sense a contract within the meaning of the constitution, but is simply a license which the State, for the protection of the public morals, may at any time revoke. This decision has a wide application, because, under the contrary view, any lottery which had once been chartered in any State would be forever secure against a withdrawal of its privileges.

Rapidly the American bison has di-

minished in numbers since white men joined with the Indians in the work of reckless destruction, yet a few of the creatures still survive, in freedom as well as in captivity, and the day of their complete extinction may not come for decades, perhaps not for a century. The wild or passenger pigeon has been less fortunate, or, rather, more unfortunate, than the buffalo. Within the memory of men still young these birds existed all over the country in literally unnumbered millions. Single flocks were seen so large that, even when moving at express train speed, they covered the whole sky for hours as with a dense cloud. Lighting in a forest, their weight often worked more havoc with the trees than the severest of winter storms, and in a day they could sweep broad fields as clean as though a prairie fire had traversed them. Yet the Smithsonian Institution announces that urgent appeals sent to many States and the active personal efforts of agents spurred to industry by the offer of a large reward have failed to bring in a single specimen of a bird, which, only a few years ago, could beand unfortunately was-killed by the wagonload with no better than sticks. This result of their efforts has convinced the Smithsonian naturalists that the pigeons have gone to join the great auk, and they mourn the carelessness that has left the United States without even the poor solace to be found in a museum case full of well assorted and arranged specimens of the departed

The latest instance of Germany's new Imperial policy is afforded by Portugal. at Lisbon has presented a peremptory demand for apologies and indemnity several of them seriously injured. A strong protest was made at Lisbon, but without satisfaction, as reported, and hence the resort to the summary methods of diplomacy which have proved to be so effective at Haiti and Kiao-Chou. Whether it be true or not that a peremptory demand has been made upon Portugal it is certain that it would admirably serve the kaiser's purpose to seize Delagoa bay, the chief port on the east coast of southern Africa. Such seizure and possession would afford Emperor William an opportunity to extend his protection to the Transvaal. but it would also almost certainly involve him in a war with England, for which, as it would have to be fought mainly upon the ocean, the German navy it not prepared. It is readily conceivable that in this vigorous foreign policy Emperor William is maneuvering for effect upon the reichstag as regards his big naval bill. Should he be as successful with Portugal as with China and Haiti it is quite likely he may carry his point. His popularity in Berlin has been greatly increased within the last few weeks, but it has been augmented by dangerous methods. If Germany, as seems to be indicated by her policy in China, is about to enter upon an imperial scheme of colonization, she will not only do well to build a big navy, but will also, in all probability, not have to wait long for nest. The pie brigade has been strong an opportunity to use it.

A Historical Desk.

Charles Loeffler, the veteran door- Civil Service Commission and the false keeper of the President's room, has a new desk. The old one has served him over twenty-eight years. It was an old desk when it was first turned over to Loeffler. It had been an intimate acquaintance of President Lincoln, and Kinley really favors the law as it in stirring times would have absorbed stands.—Louisville Dispatch. many things had it been human. At the old desk thousands of prominent men have sat to write cards to send in to the President. Cabinet members have sat at the dask and written their names for autograph seekers. Great men have congregated around it and talked over matters of the highest importance. It is an old flat-top desk. with a single row of pigeonholes, the lower part containing drawers. It is probable that the desk will be preserved. Loeffler would like to keep it for himself as a companion which has served him faithfully so many years .-Washington correspondence New York Tribune.

Gloucester Cathedrai.

Gloucester cathedral's lady chapel, one of the finest specimens of the perpendicular style of architecture in England, has been restored and opened to a regularity that cannot be depended the public, after being closed for twen- upon in any commercial or other busity-five years.



DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF.

There is truth in the assertion that house divided against itself cannot stand, and the Republican party is beginning to recognize this fact,

On many questions the g. o. p. is a louse divided against itself, but on no question is it so markedly divided as upon that of the currency. With Secretary Gage at one extreme and Senator Chandler at the other, there exists a great gulf between the two which neither can pass.

But the great mentor of the Republican party, Secretary Sherman, does not stand by the side of Secretary Gage. On the contrary, he is on record as being in sympathy with the views held by Senator Chandler. When Sherman was Secretary of the Treasury the same struggle was made by the bankers which they are now making to re-Secretary Sherman told them:

"United States notes are now, in form, security and convenience, the best circulating medium known. The by the Government, and that it is not | Post. the business of the Government to furnish paper money, but only to coin money. The answer is that the Government had to borrow money, and is still in debt. The United States note. to the extent that it is willingly taken by the people, and can, beyond question, be maintained at par in coin, is the least burdensome form of debt.

"The loss of interest in maintaining the resumption fund, and the cost of printing and engraving the present amount of United States notes, is less than one-half the interest on an equal sum of 4 per cent. bonds. The public thus saves over \$7,000,000 of annual interest, and secures a safe and conveniyond the temptation of diminution, | nal. such as always attends reserves held

by banks." Secretary Gage need not call upon Gompers to argue the question of finance with him. He can find a foeman worthy of his steel sitting close to him at the Cabinet table. The gold advocating Republicans have plenty of opposition in their own party without seeking trouble with the captains of organized labor. Let them fight it out ogether.

Take Democratic Papers. Men who desire to bring about a re

urn of prosperity to this country should act upon the advice of William J. Bryan and lend their practical as It is reported that the German envoy well as moral support to the Democratic newspapers.

No agency is more potent for good or for the ill treatment of the imperial ill than is the newspaper. Recognizgunboat Wolff, whose sailors were ing this fact, Bryan earnestly advises hooted and insulted on the Tagus, and the Democracy of the nation to subscribe for and advertise in the Democratic journals, thus giving legitimate support to the advocates of the people's cause.

During the Presidential campaign of 1896 the subsidized press of the money power wielded an immense influence, deluding the people with false promises and deceiving them by misrepresentation of the position taken by the friends of constitutional money.

Democratic newspapers have saved the people \$20,000,000 recently by exposing the Union Pacific steal and forcing the Republican administration to demand a just settlement of the account. The questions which are to be discussed for the next two years are vital. In their correct settlement lies the fate of the nation; therefore, the newspapers which befriended the peoole should receive the support of the

William J. Bryan is a great orator, but he is also a practical man, and in his suggestion that those who wish the good of the country should support Democratic newspapers he has given wise and eminently practical advice, which should be promptly followed .-Chicago Dispatch.

Raiding the Civil Service. The Republican raid on the civil serv ce in Congress has commenced in earenough to override the law in the internal revenue service at every point, notwithstanding the protestations of the pretensions of the administration. We will see when the vote is taken where the administration really stands on the question. The civil service law will

come out unscathed in Congress if Mc-

Trusts Under the Dingley Bill. The tendency of high tariffs to pro mote trusts was also faithfully pointed out at the time the Dingley bill was under discussion, but no one could have foreseen that the rush in this direction would reach such formidable proportions as it has assumed during the few months that the new law has been in operation. There has been such open and indecent haste, and the effect upon articles of necessity so obvious that the outers against the trusts has lost all semblance of partisanship.-Manchester Union.

No Pensions for Civil Employes. By no stretch of the doctrine of gratitude can it be claimed that the Government owes clerks and other civil employes anything beyond the remuneration which is paid with a certainty and ness pursuit. It is, therefore, not only old, \$1,500.

un-American in principle to establish a civil pension-and that is a logical outgrowth of the "merit system"-but it is an outrage upon the taxpayers .-St. Louis Republic.

Republican Dissensions General. From nearly every section of the country come telegraphic announcements of trouble and disagreements in the ranks of the Republican party. In Ohio the party is rent in twain over the Senatorial struggle. The same may be said of the State of Maryland. In the State of Iowa matters are but a trifle better, while in Illinois the party may be said to be split in fragments. The same might be said of half a dozen other States.-Peoria Journal.

Prosperity in New England.

Prosperity under the Dingley law has struck New England with a dull thud, and the cotton operatives who have tire the greenbacks, and this is what been hit by a reduction in wages, as prosperity fell on the robber barons, are expected to turn the other cheek on election day and vote to continue "prosperity" for robber barons, and poverty objection is made that they are issued for the rest of mankind.—Louisville

What McKinley Has Done.

Mr. McKinley goes into the new year with nothing accomplished for the country or for mankind. The nation has only the farmer and a European shortage to thank for what measure of prosperity has been restored. As to civil service reform, that is being knocked out by office brokerage.-St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Civil Service a Fixture.

Civil service reform has come to stay. The only fault we have to find with it is that it has not gone as far as it should. But it will advance, and any political party which dares to go ent medium of exchange, and has the to the country on a declaration against assurance that a sufficient reserve in | it will be beaten badly and will richly coin will be retained in the treasury be- deserve the castigation .- Atlanta Jour-

The Truthful Compositor.

A Georgia editor says: "Times are not improving very fast. We are jagging alone in the same old way." He probably wrote it "jogging," but permitted it to fall into the hands of a compositor who was determined to tell the truth, even if he lost his job. -Cleveland Leader.

On Its Last Legs.

The Republican party is flickering its last flicker. It has outlived its usefulness: Every question that made it great in Lincoln's time is settled. It is traveling on its shape, and just now there isn't much left of its shape .- To-

Economy in Legislative Vacations, The holiday vacation of the Legislature cost the people of this State only \$20,000, and it was cheap at that. It would have cost a great deal more had the Legislature been in session, in all probability.--Peoria Herald.

Know Each Other.

It is eminently proper that both parties to the Ohio Senatorial fight should have employed detectives to shadow their opponents. Everybody knows that all Republicans will stand watching.-St. Louis Republican.

Forakerism Good by Comparison. Bad as Forakerism is and has been in Ohio politics, it is saintly in its integrity compared with Hannaism.-Columbus, Ohio, Press.

Bryan's Good Advice.

our newspapers than that we assemble

It is more important that we support

at banquets.-W. J. Bryan at Jackson Day Banquet.

Their Cost Ranges from a Few Dollars tUp Into Thousands.

MENAGERIE ANIMALS.

People who see all sorts of tamed animals in their cages at city zoological gardens and circus menageries are curious to know the cost of the animals. The annual quotation of prices from the world's greatest animal mart -Hamburg, Germany-was recently received and is as follows: Female Indian elephant, 6 feet high

trained to do several tricks, carries six people to saddle, \$1,500; female elephant, 5 feet 6 inches high, no tricks, \$1,300; young, fresh imported male elephants, 4 to 5 feet high, from Burmah. \$1,000; females, \$1,100; zebras, 5 years old, per pair, \$2,000 and both broke to drive in single or double harness; 8month-old zebra, male, \$450, and female, 3 months old, \$350; Nubian wild ass, 6 months old, \$200; wild asses from the Russian steppes, per pair, \$900; double-humped camels, per pair. \$500; llamas, 4 years old, per pair, \$250; Axis deer, from India, per pair, \$200; Sika deer, from Japan, per pair, \$150; waterbuck antelopes, 2 years old (country not given), per pair, \$750; Bengal tigers, male, 6 years old, female, 3 years old, per pair, \$1,750; Bengal tigers, female, 3 years old, each, \$750; Nubian lions, 6 years old, per pair, \$1,500; Nubian lions, 21/2 years old, per pair, \$1,000, and 11/4 years old, \$600; female jaguars, 18 months old, each \$225; pumas, 3 years old, per pair, \$350; Indian leopards, male, \$175 each: striped hyenas, each, \$75; Russian wolves, each, \$100; young polar bears, per pair, \$450; polar bears, 18 months old, \$650, and fully grown, \$1,000 per pair; young Russian bears, \$150; African and Indian porcupines, each, \$40; male kangaroo, \$125; beaver rats, \$30 per pair; male ourang outang, i years

CLAIMS TO BE 140 YEARS OLD.

Georgia Negro Who Says He Remem-

bers the Revolution. Samuel Andrew Gibbons is an old negro, who, if his claims are true, is the oldest living native of Chatham County. Gibbons says that he is 140 years old and that he was 17 years

old when the revolutionary war be-

gan. A reporter met Gibbons on Bay street yesterday and had quite a little chat with him. He does not begin to look as old as he claims to be, but he gives circumstantial details which go to prove him a very old man. A peculiar feature of his story is that he says that up to a month ago, when he returned here, he had not been in Savannah for seventy years. The old man is not in his dotage by any means,

and uses pretty good English. "I was born on a Fairlawn plantation, over that way (west of the city)." he said, "and I belonged to William Gibbons. The Gibbonses owned a whole lot of property here then. I s'pose they own some of it yet. I used to run a barber-shop right over on that corner," pointing to the corner of Bay and Montgomery streets.

"I don't know the names of the streets now, 'cept one or two. They didn't have all these streets when I left here. That street they called South Broad used to be the common where the soldiers mustered. They had a market here then, but it was a wooden building. I don't know whether it was the same square the market is now on or not.

"Yes, sir, I was here when the first revolution in the United States of America took place. I was 17 years old then."

"You saw General Washington, of course?"

"Yes, sir; I saw him. All the people turn out to see him, and they fired guns."

"Did you see Lafayette?"

"Yes, sir. He was the man they put down carpets in the streets for him to walk on. They had a big gatherin' in Monument Square and a whole lot of soldiers. They don't treat Presidents now like they used to."

The old man was evidently under the impression that Lafayette was a President.

"I was sold away from here seventy years ago," he said, "and brought \$600. I have been living all about in Florida and Alabama ever since. I remember the falling stars. That was seventy years ago."

The old man was positive in all his statements, and could not admit that he might be mistaken in any of his facts.

"I left a daughter in Florida when I went to Alabama," he said. "She was just big enough to tie in a napkin. went back there the other day and found her, and her hair was whiter than mine."

This statement, if true, would appear to be pretty good evidence of very old age. If the old man was, as he says, 17 years old when the revolution began, he would be 139 years old to-day, so that his statement that he is 140 would not be much out of the way. His statement that the "falling stars" occurred seventy years ago is not far wrong. The great meteoric shower occurred in 1833; that is, sixty-four years ago. He gives a circumstantial account of this event, which is not remarkable, however, as, according to his own account, he must have been an old man then.—Savannah News.

The Mysterious Assassin.

One night, shortly after the celebrated battle of Fontenoy, its hero. Marshal De Saxe, arrived at a little village in which was an inn with a peculiar reputation. It was said that in this inn there were ghosts who stabbed or strangled all who attempted to pass the night in a certain room.

The conqueror of Fontenoy was far from being susceptible to superstitious terrors, and was ready to face an army of ghosts. He dismounted, ate his supper, and went up to the fatal room, taking with him his arms and his body servant.

His arrangements completed, the Marshal went to bed, and was soon in a profound slumber, with his sentine; ensconced in an arm chair by the fire. About 1 o'clock in the morning the watcher by the fire, wanting to get some sleep himself, approached his master to awaken him, but to his call he received no response. Thinking the Marshal soundly asleep he called again. Startled at the continued silence, the man shook him; the Marshal did not

As he lifted his hands from the form in the bed, the frightened servant saw that they were red. The Marshal was lying in a pool of blood! Drawing down the cover the soldier saw a strange thing. An enormous insect was fastened to the side of De Saxe, and was sucking at a wound from which the blood flowed freely.

The man sprang to the fireplace, grasped the tongs, and ran back to the gallons of vinegar, \$1.03; one-half ouncebed. Seizing the monster, he cast it of mace, 50 cents; three quarts of whisinto the flames, where it was instantly

Help was called, and the Marshal was soon out of danger; but the great General, who had escaped fire and steel for years, had barely escaped dying of the bite of an insect. He had found the ghost.

Ruskin on the Bicycle. John Ruskin, who is opposed to railroads because they disfigure rural scenery, and for other reasons, objects also to all forms of cycling. His language is quite radical: "To walk, to run, to leap and to dance are virtues of the human body, and neither to stride on stilts, wriggle on wheels, nor dangle on ropes, and nothing in the training of the human mind with the body will ever supersede the appointed God's ways of slow walking and hard work.

WHAT HE SAW IN HEAVEN.

Man Once Dead Describes Beauties of

Life Beyond the Grave. With dull, listless eyes that shine at intervals with strange light of expectancy, William Graham lies at his poor seaside home at Santa Monica, gasping away his life, yet anxlous to see the end that will take all care and the pain of the consumption that has been slowly killing him.

Death has no terrors for him, for Graham has already been caught in its clutches, and it brought to him such peace, a beatific happiness as comes to only those who have passed over. Dur' ing the brief period that Graham was one of death's victims he visited heaven and enjoyed such delight that he lies eager for the cold embrace of the dark angel to settle upon him and restore him once again to a happiness of which he had no conception before his first death.

"Oh, what brought me back? Why did you do it? It was all so beautiful," he faintly gasped, when he was restored to life through the embraces and exertions of his child-wife.

It was 6 o'clock Saturday evening when the watchers at the bedside of young Graham saw that the end was near. His breath came in short gasps. that grew shorter and sharper, and at last died away. They seemed to hear, too, the death rattle in his throat and see the death damp upon his brow. His wife was led shricking from the room, and the despairing father, hoping that his son still lived, felt for the heart beat, but all was still. Graham had passed to a better world.

"When I left this earth," he explained to friends afterward, "I awoke to find myself in a beautiful country, a land of rich, glorious verdure, where the air, the sky and all seemed more beautiful than I had ever imagined or heard of before. I seemed to be ctanding in a wide, smooth avenue, lined with trees, tall and straight. The foliage was of the richest and most brilliant description, and each leaf seemed to be of a soft, delicate variety such as I had never seen before. I saw others like that where I stood, and all were equally as lovely. There seemed to be the gentlest, mildest breeze, which bowed the tops of the trees slowly to and fro. Around these lovely groves of trees were fields where the grass seemed of the richest green.

"As I stood there gazing around me, my delight mingled with surprise, I seemed to know the sweetest repose that I believe could possibly come. There was an entire relief from care or pain, and it seemed as if I had never known what was meant by suffering. My sensations were such as to pass all description. I cannot convey to anyone the heavenly feeling that took possession of me while there. No wonder that I asked why they had brought me back from such a place. Then, too, I heard soft music, which appeared to come from afar and from out of ton air, music that was of wonderful sweetness and blending in such harmonies as mortal ear had never before listened to. I gazed about me, too Gelighted even to stir, and soon I saw that I was not alone in this land.

"I saw my father approaching me, and I went to meet him, and caught him by the hand. Together we walked down the avenue and talked of the glories of the new land, where we were so happy. But my father was to stay with me but a short time, for suddenly he appeared to stop and draw away from me, and gradually disappear amid the trees. He was the only one of my family that I saw. My mother, who is dead, did not come to me. I saw God." Upon this point, though, Mr. Graham ventured no description. It was beyond his powers.

"I saw other people I know in life, but my happiness was not to last for long. Faintly a voice seemed to be calling me from behind. At first I could not distinguish it, but soon it grew more distinct, and finally I recognized the voice of my wife calling me to come bock. I did not want to leave the beautiful land, but her entreatles became more earnest, and I was unable to resist them, and found myself passing along the avenue where I had walked. The trees glided past me, and soon everything disappeared, that complete repose left me and I awoke tofind myself in my earthly bed of sickness."-New York Journal.

Cost of Things in 1814. Julian Brewer, of Annapolis, as ex-

ecutor of his brother, the late ex-Senator Nicholas Brewer, has fallen intopossession of a bill from William Kilty, debtor, to William Alexander, under date of 1814.

Among the articles mentioned were nine pounds of sugar, price \$3; twopounds of Hyson tea, \$5; loaf sugar. 371/2 cents a pound; brown sugar, 28cents a pound; pepper, 75 cents a pound; currants, 371/2 cents a pound; raisins, same price; three quarts of peach brandy, \$1.17; mold candles, 371/2cents a pound; two and three-quarters ky, 81 cents; one-half ounce of nutmeg. 25 cents; one ounce of cloves, 181/4cents; flask of sweet oil, 621/2 cents. The war with England was the cause of the "war prices."-Baltimore Amer-

Wages of Columbus' Craw.

A curious discovery has been made in the archives of the Spanish navythe bills of payment of the crews who composed the caravels of Christopher Columbus. The sailors, according to their class, received from 10 to 12 francs a month, including their food. The captains of the three large caravels had each 80 francs a month. As for Columbus himself, who had the title of admiral, he was paid 1,600 francs a

Nothing takes a man down so much as to have some woman blow him up.