

News in Brief

Out of every 1,000 of the world's population 264 own King Edward as their sovereign.

It will take five years to rebuild the Campalle of Venice. The new tower will probably have an elevator.

The Astors are gradually disposing of their real estate holdings in the tenement district of New York.

Lieutenant Governor Guild of Massachusetts has added a full set of Filipino daggers of quaint design to his collection of weapons.

Municipal corporations in England own gas works, water works, street railways, rocks, baths, markets, dwellings, race courses, dairies, and hotels.

It is estimated that nearly all the pine timber now growing in Minnesota (about thirty million feet) will be cut and marketed within the next fifteen years.

Dr. Arthur McDonald, the criminologist in Washington, now says that unless a person wants to become a criminal he should never eat meat or potatoes.

W. C. Hodge died at Bloomington, Ill., aged 72. He was one of the organizers of the republican party and a member of the first republican convention in California.

A special to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch from Virden, Ill., says: The Chicago-Virden coal company's shaft at Chatham, Ill., was totally burned. The loss may reach \$100,000.

At Los Angeles, Cal., in a duel with three detectives, Joseph Choiser, aged 50, and Louis Chosser, aged 25, father and son, were shot and instantly killed in a lodging house.

Mayor Weaver returned to Philadelphia city council the loan bill appropriating \$16,000,000 for municipal improvements and the council immediately passed the bill over the veto.

The Cleveland Trust company has purchased the business and good will of the Central Trust company. The Cleveland Trust company now has 34,000 depositors and \$18,000,000 in deposits.

General Delaroy made a speech to the Boer prisoners at Admadnagar and succeeded in persuading all but ten of them to sign the oath of allegiance to Great Britain. General Delaroy spoke for five hours.

Rufus H. Connella, president of the defunct banks at Indianapolis, Sterling and Olusta, Oklahoma, small concerns, was found guilty of forgery in the district court at Guthrie. He will be sentenced later.

It was learned at Trenton, N. J., that the Pottery Selling company, just incorporated, has been formed as the result of an agreement among practically all of the sanitary potteries of the United States to control prices and regulate the output of each pottery.

In a fire in the Chinese district at Portland, Oregon, that caused \$70,000 damage, three Chinese lost their lives. Several Chinese opium smokers fought the firemen who were endeavoring to rescue them, not realizing their intent. The firemen carried fifty inmates from the building.

It is announced that General Francis V. Greene will become a resident of Buffalo when he retires as New York's police commissioner on January 1. He has accepted an offer to take charge of the Ontario Power company, now being built in Canada opposite Niagara Falls.

The Paris Journal hears from Berlin that the Princess Charlotte of Saxe-Meiningen, a sister of Emperor William, who has been ill for some time, is suffering from cancer and that the verdict of the physicians created consternation in the German court and had a bad effect on the recovery of the emperor.

The house passed, without division, the pension appropriation bill carrying \$123,150,100. While the bill was under consideration there was a general discussion on Panama, rural free delivery, tariff and pensions, speeches being made by Messrs. Scott (rep., Kas.), Miers (dem., Ind.), Sims (dem., Tenn.) and Burgess (dem., Texas).

The Shanghai correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph says that, according to the mandarins, the Peking government has again warned the provincial authorities to prepare for immediate hostilities, owing to the offensive action taken by Russia and her allies regarding far eastern affairs.

Mrs. H. H. McKay Wilson, whose residence, 4298 Westminister Place, is in the heart of the fashionable section of St. Louis, was painfully and dangerously burned about the hands while trying to rescue her servant, Annie Crete, who died in terrible agony from the effects of fire that ignited her clothing.

At Lamont, Fla., Constable Jerry Poppell was shot and killed by Chas. Miller, a turpentine hand, whom he was trying to arrest. Miller tried to escape, but was shot by Woods, a rider attached to the camp, and was taken to Monticello for safe keeping.

Word has been received at the navy department of the arrival at Honolulu of the battleships Kentucky, Wisconsin, and Oregon, and the cruisers New Orleans, Albany, Cincinnati, Raleigh, Yanshan and Pompey. It is not known how long the fleet will remain at Honolulu.

THE GIRL AT THE HALFWAY HOUSE

A STORY OF THE PLAINS
BY E. HOUGH, AUTHOR OF THE STORY OF THE COWBOY
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CHAPTER IX.—Continued.

"Well, you see another town goin' up below here about twenty mile—old man Plum's town, Plum Centre. I run the mail an' carry folk across from Ellsville to that place. This here is just about half way across. Ellsville's about twenty or twenty-five mile north of here."

The tall man on the wagon seat turned his face slowly back toward the interior of the wagon.

"What do you think, Lizzie?" he asked.

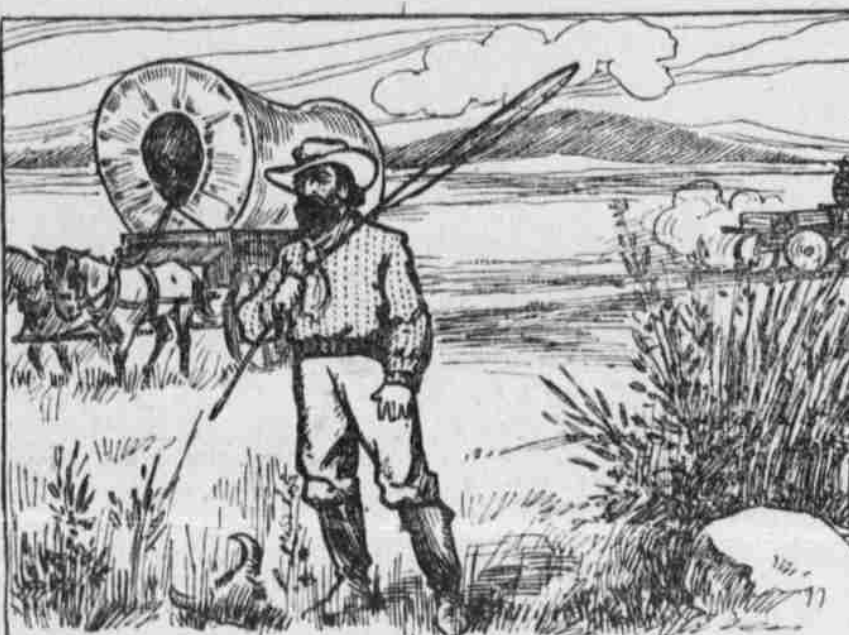
"Dear me, William," came reply from the darkness in a somewhat complaining voice, "how can I tell? It all seems alike to me. You can judge better than I."

"What do you say, niece?"

The person last addressed rested a hand upon the questioner's shoulder and lightly climbed out upon the seat by his side, stooping as she passed under the low bow of the cover frame. Her presence caused Sam to instinctively straighten up and tug at his open coat. He took off his hat with a memory of other days, and said his "Good mornin'" as the schoolboy does to his teacher—superior, revered and awesome.

Yet this new character upon this bare little scene was not of a sort to terrify. Tall she was and shapely, comely with all the grace of youth and health, not yet tanned too brown by the searing prairie winds and showing still the faint purity of the complexion of the South. To Sam it was instantaneously evident that here was a new species of being, one of which he had but the vaguest notions through any experiences of his own. His chief impression was that he was at once grown small, dusty and much unshaven. He flushed as he shifted and twisted on the buckboard seat.

The girl looked about her for a mo-



He kicked aside a bleached buffalo skull.

ment in silence, shading her eyes still with her curved hand.

"It is much alike, all this country, I should think—"

But what she would have thought was broken into by a sudden exclamation from farther back in the wagon. A large black face appeared at the aperture under the front wagon bow, and the owner of it spoke with a certain oracular vigor.

"Fo' Gawd, Mass' William, less Jess stop right yer! I 'clare, I 'ae Jess wore to a plum frazzle, a-travellin' an' a-travellin'! Ef we gwine settle, why, less settle, thass all I say!"

The driver of the wagon sat silent for a moment. Then quietly, and with no comment, he unbuckled the reins and threw them out and down upon the ground on either side of the wagon.

"Whoa, boys," he called to the horses, which were too weary to note that they were no longer asked to go farther on. Then the driver got deliberately down.

"We'll turn out here," he said, striking his heel upon the ground with significant gesture, as was an unconscious custom among the men who chose out land for themselves in a new region. "We'll stop here for a bite to eat, and I reckon we won't go any farther west. How is this country around here for water?"

"Oh, that?" said Sam. "Why, say, you couldn't very well hit it much better. Less'n a mile farther down this trail to the south you come to the Sinks of the White Woman Creek. They's most always some water in that creek, and you can git it there any place by diggin' ten or twenty feet."

"That's good," said the stranger. "That's mighty good." He turned to the wagon side and called out to his wife. "Come, Lizzie," he said, "get out, dear, and take a rest. We'll have a bite to eat and then we'll talk this out over."

The woman to whom he spoke next appeared at the wagon front and was aided to the ground. Tall, slender, black clad, with thin, pale face, she seemed even more unsuited than her husband to the prospect which lay before them. Immediately behind her there clambered down from the wagon, with many groanings and complaints, the goodly bulk of the black woman who had earlier given her advice. "Set down yer, Miss' Lizzie, in the shade," she said, spreading a rug upon the ground upon the side of the wagon farthest from the sun. "Set down an' git a ress. Gawd knows we all needs it—this yer fo'aken ken-

try. 'Tain' good as Mizzoury, let 'one Kaintucky or Ole Vehnny—no, mam!"

There was thus now established, by the chance of small things, the location of a home. It was done. It was decided. There was a relief at once upon every countenance. Now these persons were become citizens of this land. Unwittingly, or at least tacitly, this was admitted when the leader of this little party advanced to the side of the buckboard and offered his hand.

"My name is Buford," he said slowly and with grave courtesy. "This is my wife; my niece, Miss Beauchamp. Your name, sir, I don't know, but we are very glad to meet you."

"My name's Poston," said Sam, as he also now climbed down from his seat, seeing that the matter was clinched and that he had gained a family for his county—"Sam Poston. I run the livery barn. Do you allow you'll move up to Ellsville and live there?"

"Well, I've started out to get some land," said Buford, "and I presume that the first thing is to find that and get the entry made. Then we'll have to live on it till we can commute it. I don't know that it would suit us at Ellsville just yet. It must be a rather hard town, from all I can learn, and hardly fit for ladies."

"That's so," said Sam. "It ain't just the quietest place in the world for women-folks. Still," he added apologetically, "folks soon gets used to the noise. I don't mind it no more at all."

Buford smiled as he glanced quizzically at the faces of his "women-folks." At this moment Sam spoke out with a loud exclamation.

"Now, you listen to me, please, all you what! You see, this here place where we are now is just about a mile from the White Woman Sinks, and

must come up to Ellis soon as you git straightened out. Say," and he drew Buford to one side as he whispered to him—"say, they's a mighty fine girl—works in the depot hotel—Nory's her name—you'll see her if you ever come up to town. I'm awful gone on that girl, and if you git any chance, if you happen to be up there, you just put in a good word for me, won't you? I'd do as much for you."

Buford listened with grave politeness, though with a twinkle in his eye, and promised to do what he could. Encouraged at this, Sam stepped up and shook hands with Mrs. Buford, and with the girl, not forgetting Aunt Lucy, an act which singularly impressed that late inhabitant of a different land, and made him her fast friend for life.

"Well, so long," he said to them all in general as he turned away, "and good luck to you. You ain't makin' no mistake in settlin' here. Good-bye till I see you all again."

He stepped into the buckboard and creaked to his little team, the dust again rising from under the wheels. The eyes of those remaining followed him already yearningly. As Buford turned he stumbled and kicked aside a bleached buffalo skull, which lay half hidden in the red grass at his feet.

CHAPTER X.

The Chase.

The summer flamed up into sudden heat, and scorched all the grasses, and cut down the timid flowers. Then gradually there came the time of shorter days and cooler nights. Obviously all the earth was preparing for the winter time.

It became not less needful for mankind to take thought for the morrow. Winter on the plains was a season of severity for the early settlers, whose resources alike in fuel and food were not too extensive. Franklin's forethought had provided the houses of himself and Battersleigh with proper fuel, and he was quite ready to listen to Curly when the latter suggested that it might be a good thing for them to follow the usual custom and go out on a hunt for the buffalo herd, in order to supply themselves with their winter's meat.

Franklin, Battersleigh and Curly set out. These three had a wagon and riding horses, and they were accompanied by a second wagon, owned by Sam, the liveryman, who took with him Curly's mule, the giant Mexican, Juan. The latter drove the team, a task which Curly scornfully refused when it was offered him, his cowboy creed rating any conveyance other than the saddle as far beneath his station.

At night they slept beneath the stars, uncovered by any tent, and saluted constantly by the whining coyotes, whose vocalization was sometimes broken by the hoarse, roaring note of the great gray buffalo wolf. At dawn they awoke to an air surcharged with some keen elixir which gave delight in sense of living. All around lay a new world, a wild world, a virgin sphere not yet acquainted with man.

Early on the morning of the fourth day of their journey the travelers noted that the plain began to rise and sink in longer waves. Presently they found themselves approaching a series of rude and wild-looking hills of sand. For many miles they traveled through this difficult and cheerless region, the horses soon showing signs of distress and all the party feeling need of water, of which the supply had been exhausted. They pushed on in silence, intent upon what might be ahead, so that when there came an exclamation from the half-witted Mexican, whose stolid silence under most circumstances had become a proverb among them, each face was at once turned toward him.

"Eh, what's that, Juan?" said Curly. "Say, boys, he says we're about out of the sand hills. Prairie pretty soon now, he says."

(To be continued.)

THE "LITTLE FATHER'S" WORK.

Youngster's Tender Solicitude for His Baby Brother.

"You see and hear a lot about 'child mothers' in the tenement house districts," said a gas collector yesterday, "but nobody seems to notice the 'child fathers.' There may not be so many of them, but there are some, and they should get due credit.

"I saw one coming down town in a Sixth avenue 'L' car the other day. There was a woman, a foreigner I suppose, for she wore no hat—one of those pale, half-fed looking women—who had with her a fat babe-in-arms and this boy, this 'child father.' He was a black-eyed little chap of nine or ten years, and the interest he took in everything around him was in strong contrast to the lifeless look and manner of the woman. Every once in a while he would look to see how the baby was getting along. It was sleeping, and he seemed satisfied. The woman appeared anxious about her station, and with a few words the boy calmed her. Then, before the train got to Bleeker street, it stopped, and she, apparently thinking it was at the station, started to leave her seat. The boy laid his hand on her arm and she sank back. Then, when they came to the station, he spoke to her and they left the car, he seeing that she got out without being jostled. On the platform he put up his hands, took the baby and started away, the pale woman following.

"If you ever saw any 'child mother' more solicitous for a baby and a woman than that boy was, I'd like to know it.—New York Press.

It's as difficult to convince a stubborn man as it is to fatten a windmill by running corn through it.

REVENUE LAW VALID.

Supreme Court Upholds New Act in an Unanimous Opinion.

LINCOLN.—The supreme court on Wednesday, in an opinion written by Chief Justice Sullivan and concurred in by Judges Holcomb and Sedgwick, declared the revenue law enacted by the late legislature to be constitutional. A second opinion, written by Commissioner Duffie and concurred in by Commissioners Letton and Kirkpatrick, was allowed to be filed through the courtesy of the court, and this also upheld the law, Commissioners Duffie and Letton having receded from their former position that the insurance sections were bad. Both opinions were the unanimous decision of the court and the commissioners, the second having no voice on the final ruling in the case. The result is that H. E. Palmer and Ralph Breckinridge do not get their writ to compel the city tax commissioner of Omaha to enforce the old revenue law.

While upholding the law as a whole, the court refused to pass upon any section against which a specific action had not been brought and stated that it was out of its province to say what sections were bad unless the matter came before it in a specific action.

INSIST ON AN EARLY TRIAL.

Senator Dietrich and General Cowin Demand Hearing in Court.

OMAHA.—United States Senator Charles H. Dietrich of Hastings, with his attorney, General John C. Cowin, appeared before W. H. Munger Friday afternoon for the purpose of arranging for the early appearance of Senator Dietrich for trial in the recent indictments found against him by the federal grand jury in the Hastings postoffice cases. Senator Dietrich was not required to give any bond. In the absence of District Attorney Summers at Lincoln Friday evening Assistant District Attorney Rush was present at the conference.

Both Senator Dietrich and General Cowin insisted on the hearing being fixed for the earliest practical date, preferably at the beginning of special session of the United States district court, fixed for December 28. Assistant District Attorney Rush was averse to assuming the responsibility of fixing the date in the absence of Summers. The matter was deferred therefore until Summers arrives.

WANTS SAN DOMINGO.

Senator Heyburn Introduces Resolution to Annex Republic.

WASHINGTON.—Senator Heyburn of Idaho introduced a joint resolution requesting the president to acquire by annexation the portion of San Domingo comprising the dependencies of San Domingo and Hayti.

Mr. Simpson, the United States consul at Puerto Plata, San Domingo, has cabled the state department that a revolution has broken out at Santiago and that the movement is extensive and serious.

This is supposed to be the result of the failure of the provisional government to secure recognition at the hand of United States Minister Powell, which fact prevented that government from obtaining money necessary to maintain itself through a foreign loan.

Nothing is known officially of the reported plots against the life of United States Minister Powell, but the navy will take all necessary precautions to protect the American legation in San Domingo.

CONDITIONS ARE COMPLICATED.

Navy Department is Not Giving Out Information.

WASHINGTON.—After a conference between Secretary Moody, Rear Admiral Taylor, chief of the bureau of navigation, and Brigadier General George Elliott, commander of the marine corps, it was decided that if present conditions on the isthmus of Panama continue, General Elliott will sail for Colon on the Dixie from Philadelphia when that vessel goes south with the new battalion of marines, which has been ordered assembled at Philadelphia for dispatch to the isthmus. The Dixie is now on her way north for this purpose.

General Elliott has been anxious for some days to be given a field command and it is the present intention of the officials to grant his request.

Bills Introduced in the House.

WASHINGTON.—A bill was introduced in the house Friday by Mr. Vreeland (N. Y.) to provide for the allotment of lands in severalty to the Indians in the state of New York and to extend the protection of the laws of the United States over such Indians.

Mr. Hearst (N. Y.) introduced a bill to establish a parcels post. It provides for a classification of mail matter, defining the kind that shall be carried in the different classes.

Mr. Gardner (Mass.) introduced a bill to create a committee to recommend legislation for the development of the merchant marine.

Revising the Land Laws.

WASHINGTON.—The commission on public lands, recently appointed by President Roosevelt to report on the condition, operation and effect of the present land laws, and of the use, disposal and settlement of the public lands, held its first meeting Thursday. This body is composed of Commissioner W. A. Richards of the general land office; Gifford Pinchot, chief of the bureau of forestry, and F. H. Newell, chief hydrographer of the geological survey.

The Merely Feigned Insanity.

"I feigned insanity to test the love of my people for me, and in an effort to get money which my husband left for my little 10-year-old daughter. I am not insane and I never was. I acted all the time, and now, a jury having found me insane, I've got to go to the asylum. I won't stay there, for the doctors won't keep a sane person in a madhouse." Such was the statement of Mrs. Edna Belle of Atlanta, Ga., made in a seemingly rational manner, while preparing to be taken to the state asylum for the insane at Mill-edgeville, where she was ordered sent by Judge Wilkinson in the court of ordinary.

Deafness Cannot be Cured.

By local applications as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed, you have a running ear, which is not perfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and the tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. Nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give one hundred dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by Druggists Everywhere.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

As the kleptomaniac thought in the candy store, "Stolen kisses are sweetest."

Are prisoners on a ship put in the "hold?"

It never pays to warp the character to reach money.

Mrs. Whitlow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

There are always lots of theatrical stars left over.

All is not gold that glitters, but lots of people don't know the difference.

In a street car a man's selfishness is often deep-seated.

Pico's Cure cannot be too highly spoken of as a cough cure.—J. W. O'Brien, 322 Third Ave., N. Y., Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 6, 1900.

As the surveyor said: "I have to draw the line somewhere."

No, "blood money" is not necessarily composed of red cents.

Defiance Starch is put up 15 ounces in a package, 10 cents. One-third more starch for the same money.

Girls kiss each other in the most loving way when there are men around.

Some women are attractive only when they are laughing.

ARE YOUR CLOTHES FADED?

See Red Cross Dye Blue and make them white again. Large 25c packages, 5 cents.

Sometimes the cobler can't tap so well as the doctor.

Talking in a whisper is a bad habit.

No man is honest who pilfers from a good name.

The acrobat doesn't understand his business until he tumbles.

If "Defiance Starch" does not please you, return it to your dealer. If it does you get one-third more for the same money. It will give you satisfaction, and will not stick to the iron.

Chicago's Murderous Cars.

An appalling list of dead and injured from the operation of the antiquated street car systems of Chicago exists in the police and coroner's records for the month of October. Twelve persons appear as having been killed by cable cars or trolley cars, and 155 were reported injured from the same cause. Many cases of slight injury, it is said, are never reported. Defective equipment seems to have been the cause of many of the accidents; carelessness by motormen or gripmen apparently was another prolific cause. The killed average nearly one every two days, and the injured more than five per day.

The Cook and the Pope.

Bishop Potter is telling a story for after dinner purposes on an Irish cook who once served in his family. "One day I heard the cook swearing at a great rate at an Italian gardener who had and I rebuked him for it. 'But, yer riverence,' she said, 'he is nothin' but an ole dago anyway.' You should not speak that way of an Italian,' I protested. 'You know that your pope is a dago, as you call them, and you consider him infallible.' 'Yes, I know that,' she answered. 'And as a dago he is infallible, but if he was an Irishman he would be twice as infallible.'"

There are men who insist upon being looked upon as born to ill luck.

A Western Woolgrower.

Newcastle, Wyo., Dec. 21.—There is a man in this place who claims that no one need suffer with backache, as he has proven in his own case that it can be completely and permanently cured. His name is S. C. Holst, and he is a stock raiser and woolgrower.

"I was shearing sheep at the time the first pain came on," says Mr. Holst. "I was so bad for two years afterwards that I could hardly sit down, and when once down it was almost impossible for me to get up again.

"I tried all the medicine I could hear of and several doctors without help, not even for a moment. I used Dodd's Kidney Pills and they made a new man out of me. I felt as if there was new blood in my veins. I am as stout in the back as a mule and can lift and work as hard as I please without an ache or pain in any part of my body.

"It is now over a year since they cured me and I can say there is not a healthier man in Wyoming than I am, and before using Dodd's Kidney Pills there was not a more complete physical wreck in the whole country than I was."

A man rarely regards a woman as strong enough to be left entirely on her own resources.