

## Current Topics

### DEATH REVEALS IDENTITY.

A cablegram from London says the Countess of Stradbroke, whose death has just taken place in that country, was the peeress who was the cause of the arrest of Edmund Yates, the Anglo-American journalist who was the proprietor and editor of the London World. It was on her account that he was convicted of criminal libel and sentenced to a year's imprisonment. Yates would have escaped the penalty by giving the name of the writer of the libelous paragraph. This



COUNTRESS OF STRADBROKE.

he declined to do. The libel in question was to the effect that Lord Londdale, then, as now, a married man, had eloped from the hunting field with an unmarried girl, Lady Grace Fane, now Countess of Londosborough. It was a paragraph for which there was not a shadow of foundation and which originated in the lively imagination of the countess. The Countess was Miss Helena Fraser, daughter of General Keith Fraser of the British army, and was married to the Earl of Stradbroke in July, 1898.

### OVER THE FALLS IN A BOAT.

Mrs. Anna Edson Taylor, a dancing teacher, has demonstrated that a person may dance over the great horse-shoe fall in Niagara in a barrel and come out alive. But the proof she has given has a very limited scope. People who would not have believed that the feat she performed was possible still have reason enough to think that the chances are overwhelmingly against the barrel experts and not worth taking on the promise of dime museum profits.

While the success of the woman is not difficult to explain the possibility of following her course is quite another affair. By sheer good fortune she escaped a smashing on the rocks above the falls and was carried clear over to the very deep water underneath. The barrel, which was heavily weighted, sank where sinking meant safety and came out but slightly damaged, though there had been some leakage and the carefully protected occupant was severely hurt.

### DEAN FARRAR'S VIEWS.

The Dean of Canterbury says that the working people are leaving the Episcopal church on account of its tendency to spectacular ritualism. Dean Farrar said that the church influence over the poorer people, particularly in the slums of larger cities, will soon be lost unless the church ritual is simplified and many ceremonies abolished. Taking exactly the opposite stand, a large number of



REV. DEAN FARRAR.

American Episcopal clergymen insist that it is the dignity and grandeur of the service which influences the people of the slums.

### The Philippine Cable.

The most stupendous undertaking of modern times, the laying of the new Pacific cable, will be undertaken before the close of the present year, and within nine months this country will be in telegraphic communication with Honolulu and a year later with Manila. It will approach a globe-circling achievement, for it will be the connecting link between the existing lines that will place all parts of the world in communication with each other. And a pretty long link it will be, for the distance to be traversed by the cable will be 6,912 miles. The completion of this line will bring the aggregate telegraphic system of the world up to a total of 164,586 miles, all of which, with the exception of 16,171 owned by various governments, will be under the control of private corporations.

## News and Views

### THE MISSION OF MR. REDMOND.

John E. Redmond, member of the British Parliament, has come to the United States, it is said, in quest of funds to defray the expenses of the Irish parliamentary party, who, under the British constitution, are not paid for their services to the empire. The American people have always been in hearty sympathy with Ireland's aspirations for home rule, and, although the feeling of prejudice against Great Britain that once prevailed has abated, there is still among all Americans a kindly feeling toward the land from which we have derived so much that is most valuable in our citizenship, and which was so long the victim of rank injustice at the hands of its stronger neighbor. But the Ireland of today is not the Ireland of forty or fifty years ago; if it were Mr. Redmond would be more likely to be now occupying a cell in Kilmainham than in first class American hotels. The time has probably gone by when the Irish in America could be induced to give up their money to promote illusionary schemes of revolution. There are heavy enough drains upon their liberality without contributing to the support of professional conspirators, who exploit the trusting patriotism of their countrymen for their own emolument. It is because Mr. Redmond is not the man of that class that he will receive a hearty welcome to the United States.—Brooklyn Times.

### EDWARD'S SPECIAL GUARD.

William Melville, a member of the famous Scotland Yard police detectives, has been made a special guard for King Edward VII. He has under his supervision a squad known as the Royal Guard, all plain clothes men.



WILLIAM MELVILLE.

This guard consists of twenty-five of the best detectives in Great Britain.

### MARRIAGE AND COOKERY.

Judge Deuel of the Essex Market police court in New York is not only a wise but a closely observing magistrate. When Morris Morgenthaler, escorting Rebecca Gross, appeared before him and declared his wish to marry her because she could cook such "a lovely dinner," the judge consented promptly, and added, "Good cooking will sometimes reach a man's heart when poetry and sentiment won't. Old maids might grasp at this as a straw, but all women ought to know it." Of course they should and most of them do, though they are usually a long time finding it out. Morris and Rebecca will enter upon the holy state of matrimony not looking "through a glass darkly," but seeing each other "face to face." They have no illusions to be removed. They will begin wedded life upon a secure foundation, and so long as Rebecca's hand retains its culinary cunning Morris will be a devoted husband and she will be a happy wife. It is an ideal arrangement which old maids may well consider and which all women should know before it is too late.—New York Sun.

### Actress at 80.

Mrs. Anne Hartley Gilbert, the "grandma" of the stage, is still industriously pursuing her profession at the advanced age of 80. Mrs. Gilbert is with Annie Russell in "A Royal Family." She is frankly and delightfully old, but time has dealt gently with her and her powers of endurance are remarkable. Her debut was made with the old school of actors, when she was a mere girl, and now as an old woman she plays in a modern company. She has outlived the manager who once called her "grandma"; she has outlived the associations of youth, but Mrs. Gilbert at heart is young, and perhaps that is the secret of her success.

### Unique Banquet for Carnegie.

Next December at Hoboken, N. J., Andrew Carnegie will be given a unique banquet on the completion of the new laboratory of engineering of Stevens Institute, to which he gave \$55,000. Molds are now being made for the bread which will be used. It will be made in the shape of railroad spikes. The ice cream will be made in the shape of T rails, fried oysters will be taken from a miniature locomotive, and when the blast furnace is tapped there will issue from it punch instead of molten iron.

## FACTS AND OPINIONS

### THE CRIME OF CZOLGOZ.

Among men of some degree of education and of calm judgment there has been less than might be expected of that feeling of personal hostility towards Czolgoz which has animated the general public. These more thoughtful persons have esteemed him too insignificant a creature to be the object of personal hate. They have looked on him as an irresponsible instrument in the hands of a malevolent fate. They have had no more desire to wreak fierce personal vengeance on him than on some insect the law of whose being it is to sting—as upon a wasp or a mosquito.

From the point of view of those persons the assassin was a poor, wretched, half-educated degenerate. He had no employment and did not desire employment. He was not one of the "good working people" whose enemy he falsely says McKinley was. He was a non-moral creature with a brain half crazed by the wild theories of violent anarchism. He fancied that he could overturn the social order with a pistol shot, or that he could gain by making the attempt to do it a notoriety honest labor never could secure for him.

A piece of wood or iron or even a wretched insect might disarrange costly and delicate machinery. The whole fabric might be thrown out of gear for a time or even wrecked. It might have to be repaired at great cost, while many men were thrown out of employment. Sensible people would not spend their time in storming at the cause of the damage. They would repair the works and endeavor to devise methods for protecting the machinery from disturbance by other such insects or interferences in the future.

Czolgoz has been properly executed. No one should say his punishment was inadequate. It was the punishment impressive justice has prescribed for his offense. He was a venomous worm differing in infamy from the other anarchistic worms in that he sought notoriety by murdering a ruler while they talked of doing it. The notoriety he coveted should be denied him as far as possible.

A matter of more importance than the denunciation of Czolgoz has to be attended to. That is the devising of methods for the better protection of future Presidents from small anarchistic creatures of the Czolgoz type.—Chicago Tribune.

### LAST OF CIVIL WAR RECORD.

The one hundred and twenty-eighth and last volume of that stupendous government publication entitled "The War of the Rebellion; A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies," has gone to press and will be issued soon. On this work, which has been in progress for a third of a century, the government has spent nearly three million dollars. Quite expensive books have been printed by this and other governments though none which has cost so much as this record of the great civil war in the United States. The striking and novel feature in the case is that it should be deemed worth while to print an official record. There have been European civil wars which made some interesting military history, such as the Hungarian one in 1849, for instance. But the Austrian government did not do for the Hungarians what the United States has done for the men who fought under the Confederate flag. It must be admitted that the war between the states was a more serious matter than any which Europe has known since the days of Charles I. of England and the Long Parliament. Furthermore, in the wars of an earlier day there was no such multiplicity of reports from major and brigadier generals and colonels as there was between 1861 and 1865. Formerly generals sent home bulletins instead of detailed reports. The historian benefited thereby. He did not have to toil through a vast mass of contradictory material. The future military historian of the civil war will have to agonize over 128 volumes of official documents.—Chicago Tribune.

### SOUTH AMERICA FOR AMERICANS.

The German naval officer who would order Americans to keep hands off in America and who would build a fleet to enforce his order probably had at least one stein too much on board when he indulged his warlike humor in menacing speech. Such vapors are about as sensible as those that are used to emanate from British naval heroes up to a quarter of a century ago. They are no indication of the purposes of the German government, which will not set up German interests in the five republics of Central America with gun and sword; they excite no sympathy among German immigrants in any part of America. Wherever Germans go they become loyal citizens, just as they do in the United States, and an interesting case in point is furnished by Brazil's experience with them as it is described by Colonel Bryan, our minister to that country. Colonel Bryan estimates the German population of Brazil at a quarter of a million. Many of the immigrants, he says, have become Brazilian citizens and are taking an active part in Brazilian politics as Brazilians. They are not planning a secession of the state or states where their influence is greatest so that they may thus attach themselves once more to the German empire. They believe in Brazil for the Brazilians, in America for the Americans.—N. Y. Times.

# The STOKES-FISK TRAGEDY.

"Ed" Stokes is dying—dying of old age, and perhaps regrets. In a few days, as days go, he will cross to that unknown to which he sent "Jim" Fisk thirty years ago. There will be left then of a trio only a woman—a broken-down woman, "Josie" Mansfield. Thirty years ago, "Josie" Mansfield triumphed over the honor, the business affairs, the reputations and the eternal happiness of "Ed" Stokes and "Jim" Fisk. She plucked the affairs of the Erie railroad and Jay Gould into a whirlpool of litigation, scandal and shame that ended in murder.

Fisk is dead. Gould is at rest. Stokes is dying. The Mansfield lives abroad—in Paris.

From 1860 to 1867 she lived in Boston—in good society, she always claimed. In 1867 she secured a di-

clothes on her back, but her animal beauty remained with her.

He built her a palace at 329 West Twenty-third street, and there he and his friends revelled night after night, and there in time came Edward S. Stokes. Stokes was of good birth and breeding, a Wall street clerk of handsome personality and features, whom Fisk took a fancy to one day and made his protegee.

Fisk thought that Stokes was about to betray him. He therefore forced down the stocks in which the latter was interested. Stokes was thus almost financially ruined. It was said at the time that the woman in the case told Stokes to kill Fisk.

However this may have been, Stokes left her house the afternoon of Jan. 6, 1872. He went to the Grand Cen-

was seven steps up when he saw Stokes, his right arm resting on the standard at the head of the stairs, a pistol in his hand. Without speaking Stokes fired twice. The first bullet took effect in the abdomen, the second in the left arm. Fisk fell to the floor. Stokes walked away, but was captured before he could leave the hotel.

Fisk was carried upstairs, and Jay Gould and "Boss" Tweed came to his bedside. He died the next day, but "Josie" Mansfield was not with him. Instead came his wife and his brothers, and they remained with him to the end.

Colonel "Jim" Fisk was buried with honors such as New York bestowed upon few men. Tweed blubbered and even Gould cried. Stokes remained in prison. He hired the best counsel in



JAMES FISK JR.

EDWARD STOKES.

the land and was tried three times, the last time being convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Grover Cleveland pardoned him from prison in 1877 after he had served four years. Something of his fortune was left, and on that he has lived an earth parish ever since. He is at the home of a sister, now dying.

The Mansfield woman fled to Boston after Fisk's death. From there she removed to Paris. In 1891 she married Robert L. Reade, formerly of Minneapolis and New York. Since then she has lived in comparative obscurity. She is wealthy—most of her money came out of Fisk and Stokes.

voice from her husband, a man by the name of Lawlor, and went upon the stage. She could not act, but men could look at her and her tigress beauty. She appeared in New York, but did not succeed. She solicited an audience with "Jim" Fisk. She was penniless then and only possessed the

Hotel, where he stationed himself in the corridor of the parlor floor, carefully walking up and down, and not appearing to be interested in anything in particular. The main staircase was in front of him.

Thus stationed he saw Fisk enter and start up the stairs. The latter

### A MEMORABLE CABINET.

When the Confederate States government was organized, in February, 1861, Jefferson Davis named as his cabinet Robert Toombs, secretary of state; Charles G. Memminger, secretary of the treasury; L. Pope Walker, secretary of war; S. R. Mallory, secretary of the navy; John H. Reagan, postmaster general; and Judah P. Benjamin, attorney general. Before the year ended, R. M. T. Hunter had succeeded Toombs as secretary of state, and Judah P. Benjamin succeeded Walker as secretary of war.

In 1862 Benjamin became secretary of state, James A. Seddon secretary of war, and Thomas H. Watts became attorney general, to be succeeded in 1863 by George Davis. In 1864 George A. Trenholm succeeded Memminger as secretary of the treasury, and in January, 1865, General John C. Breckinridge became secretary of war, Seddon resigning because of criticism by the Virginia legislature.

All of these cabinet officers, except Reagan, are dead. Toombs died in 1885, Hunter in 1887, Memminger in 1888, Breckinridge in 1876. Of the cabinet officers with Mr. Davis from first to last, Mallory died in 1873, Benjamin in Paris in 1884, and Reagan, the sole survivor of them all, is reported by the daily press to be fighting his last fight against death, at the age of 83.

Benjamin was the only one of the Davis cabinet who declined to accept the situation after the war. He went abroad in 1865 and lived abroad until his death. Hunter acted with the Democratic party, and just before his death was appointed to a Federal office by President Cleveland.

Reagan was the only member of the cabinet captured by Mr. Davis, but soon after his capture he wrote an open letter to the people of Texas advocating laws which should grant negroes civil rights and political rights with an educational qualification. This letter greatly excited the Democrats of Texas, but in 1874 they elected Mr. Reagan to congress, where he became conspicuous in interstate commerce legislation. In 1887 he took his seat in the United States senate, and since that time has been one of the most

pronounced nationalists in the South. All of Mr. Lincoln's two cabinets are dead, so that Mr. Reagan is the sole survivor of all the cabinet officers of the great war period.

The distinguished Texan is a type of southern gentleman that is rapidly passing away. He was born 85 years ago in Tennessee, and drifted, when almost a boy, into this section of the country. In 1856 Texas sent him to Congress, and four years later he resigned his seat to become postmaster

in order that they may "weep and howl." Nor will any harm be done if they are reminded on Sunday mornings that the Magnificent still contains the remark about the rich having been sent empty away.

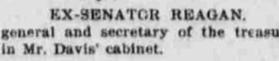
Mr. Blanchard's wishes in this matter are unexceptionable. They proceed upon the excellent principle that things temporal should be of minor importance in a religious body where the object of endeavor is to be found in things eternal. But it would seem that before this principle, excellent as it is, could be put in operation, there would have to be certain changes in the organization of a great many churches, especially in the larger cities. But what can be done about it as long as the congregation will not make up its mind to get along without the money for which it pays so heavy a price?

Women in New York. The Women's Municipal League of New York is actively engaged in raising funds to further the interests of the fusion campaign against Tammany. They are distributing pamphlets showing how vice is being protected under Tammany rule and it is for this purpose chiefly that they are raising a campaign fund.

Occupation in Norway. Sixty per cent of the population of Norway live by agriculture, 15 per cent by manufacturing and lumbering, 10 per cent by commerce and trade, 5 per cent by mining, and the remainder are in the professions and the army and navy and engaged in different employments.

Professor W. D. Gibbs of the Ohio State University has been elected professor of agriculture and director of the experiment station at the New Hampshire College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts at Durham, N. H.

A postal card sent from Paris to Paris via Moscow, Vladivostok and San Francisco, made the trip around the world in eighty days, at a cost of 2 cents.



EX-SENATOR REAGAN.

general and secretary of the treasury in Mr. Davis' cabinet.

THE RICH MAN AND THE CHURCH.

President Blanchard of Wheaton college, in an address delivered the other day at a meeting of the Congregational ministers of Chicago, was unusually severe against the tenderness and consideration with which some ministers treat their wealthy parishioners. All the sheep in the flock should be treated alike or if any distinction is to be made it should be in favor of the poor. The rich, having more of the root of evil in their hearts, are presumably more evil in their lives and should be urged as often as possible to obey the apostolic command by "going to"