

"Clubbed" to Death.

It is said that several leaders in the progression of woman feel convinced that the clubbing business has been carried to an extreme. One at least has shown her colors in the following fashion, in the Manchester Union: "One passing word—good natured, not cantankerous—about clubs: 'It is borne in upon me—anxiously—that women nowadays, at least in and about the great centers, are clubbing themselves to death, and I think I have found out the heroic reason why. Suddenly—a little while ago—they discovered that there were too many in the world—ever so many to one man—and with a grand sagacity and a yet grander altruism, they set out to thin down, as rapidly and effectively as possible, their own ranks. Naturalists tell us of a wonderful little race of Alaskan rodents, which once in a certain period reaches an enormous increase, so that its numbers are beyond computation. Then, all at once, of their own accord, they set forth in steady columns, deliberately, comfortably, gayly, picking up their sufficient substance as they go, and even multiplying on the way, until their persistent march brings them to the Pacific sea, into which they calmly walk, and are drowned. Toward some such heroic, pathetic burial and end is the great woman concourse, of its own sublime will and purpose, marching to-day!"

JUDGE JAMES F. HARVEY, of the Montgomery circuit court, Crawfordsville, Ind., is about to establish a new court rule which will practically do away with the "professional jurymen," who has been such an annoying curse to all courts in Indiana from time immemorial. Judge Harvey proposes to guard against this class by ordering the jury commissioners to draw the regular panel of 12 and then either four or six additional talesmen who can be called in to take the places of those of the regular panel excused by the court. The sheriffs declare that the professional jurymen become more numerous every year, and are most annoying, rendering a sheriff's position, especially in election years, most embarrassing.

THE proverb about an ill wind had a curious illustration in the course of the long drought last summer and fall. It was thought everybody suffered from it, but it was a great thing for the owners of the coal mines in Hopkins county, Ky. Because of the drought the Ohio river became closed to navigation, and the Pennsylvania coal was shut out of Louisville and other important Kentucky markets. As a consequence there was a great demand made upon the local coal mines, and they were all run at their extreme capacity for three or four months.

A cowboy was brought into Tucson, A. T., recently from a range in the St. Simon valley, to be treated for a wounded instep, which had been shattered by a pistol bullet of big caliber. The shooting, it was explained, occurred during a round-up. There was no quarrel between the injured man and the man who shot him, "but one morning when they got out the air was pretty crispy, and they began shooting at each other to increase the circulation of the blood."

THE old house of the Aldens at Duxbury, Mass., built about 1650, is now occupied by the ninth John Alden in direct descent from the John whose pretty love story is so well known. He has a little daughter, Priscilla Mullins, too, says a writer in the Boston Transcript, but her brother, the tenth John Alden, was killed by lightning in a storm last summer; so the line of John Alden is now broken.

SEVERAL large consignments of salmon eggs have lately been sent from this country to Europe. Last week a crate of 50,000 eggs was shipped to the United States fishery at Baird, Cal., to Ireland, and another crate, containing 25,000 eggs, was shipped from the same place to Germany.

SOME of the banks in New York find it to their advantage in cashing checks drawn by and for women to pay them in clean, crisp new bills or coin. In this way they cater successfully to the instinctive feminine regard for nicety and neatness, and find their reward in feminine appreciation.

ONE of the buildings at the Tennessee centennial exposition will be erected entirely with money provided by the children of the state. Everything in it and around it will be arranged for the pleasure and profit of children. In the tower will swing a fine set of silver chimes.

Smoking Goes in That Office.

There is one postmaster in Ohio who does not fear the inspector. Recently an old maid informed the postmaster-general that there was smoking in the post office at —, O. She went straight to headquarters. The postmaster-general notified Inspector-in-Charge Salmon to investigate, and he did. He found that the post office was in a grocery store. The postmaster was the storekeeper, and, in reply to the detective, said: "Yes, I smoke, and my son smokes. And let me tell you something. Smoking is a necessity with me and the post office is not; so the sooner you take your office away the better I'll like it." The office paid about five dollars a year and nobody else would take it, so the postmaster was informed that he might smoke all he wanted to so long as he did not blow it in people's faces.

A SUDDEN and unprecedented demand for cents has lately sprung up in various parts of the country, and the Philadelphia mint has been turning out the bright copper coins at a rate unprecedented in the history of the establishment. Nine presses, with a capacity of \$500 worth of pennies an hour, have been busy for weeks filling the demands. The reason of the demand is that in Philadelphia an eight-cent exchange fare has been established by the street car railroads. In Detroit a three-cent fare has been established on the street railroads. Changes of a similar character have also been made in other large cities. Then a great many defective cents have been received for redemption lately. Bargain-counter prices, with odd cents, have something to do with the demand, too.

RHODE ISLAND will join Pennsylvania in an effort to preserve the lines at the famous camp ground of the revolution, Valley Forge. The former state has appropriated \$2,000 and provided a commission to erect a monument to the memory of John Waterman, from that state, who died at Valley Forge during the encampment and was buried within the lines. The grave is located on the Persol farm, now occupied by I. Heston Todd, about 500 yards east of Fort Huntingdon and about 100 yards south of the road leading from Valley Forge to Port Kennedy. Gov. Lippett, who is chairman of the commission, has written Gov. Hastings, of Pennsylvania, saying that the Rhode Island commission will visit this place soon and desires to cooperate with the Valley Forge commission.

THE practical purpose of our farmers' institutes is to make farming more remunerative. It is scarcely to be expected that the business will become as profitable as it was during and for some years after the war period, but Secretary Morton, in his last report, speaks encouragingly of the industry. He argues that, inasmuch as the supply of land appropriated for tillage remains practically stationary and consumption of farm products increases with the rapidly growing population, the value of farm lands must soon advance. This view is also entertained by others. M. C. Wood Davis, in a series of articles in one of our leading reviews, predicted a rise in the not distant future. The drop in land values is not confined to this country; it has also occurred in many parts of the world.

THE tables were turned in a surprising manner on an exultant crook by a smart Yankee deputy sheriff in York county, Me., the other day. The deputy was after the crook, and came up with him just across the border in New Hampshire. The crook was safe from the deputy's warrant there, but in order to be safer he boarded a train for the interior of the state. That was his mistake. The deputy boarded the same train, and took a seat near the crook. At a point a few miles ahead the railway track ran across a corner of York county, Me. The deputy knew this, but the crook didn't. When the line was crossed the deputy pulled the bell rope, stopped the train, dragged the crook out of his seat, put him off the train, and arrested him.

A JOPLIN (Mo.) man bought ten dozen cloaks at a St. Louis sale, and he has given them out to little girls in Joplin whose parents were unable to buy them warm garments to wear to school. There's a little practical philanthropy that is worthy of emulation.

THE latest faith cure reported in Maine is that of a lady who applied a clothes cleaning preparation to her face, thinking it was a liniment, and who said it relieved her neuralgia greatly.

THE persons of African descent in the United States are classified according to degrees of colored blood into 6,337,980 blacks, 956,989 mulattoes, 105,135 quadroons and 69,936 octoroons.

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