

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

Accorded the Palm.

The New York Herald records to the new Lafayette dollar the palm as a unit of elastic currency.

Handwriting Changes.

A man's handwriting changes with his character, and character changes with age. This fact induces some banks to require depositors to sign their names every time their pass books are balanced.

A Fortune to His Tenant.

Something of a sensation was created at Eldorado, Ind., by the will left by Edward Bunch, a wealthy young man. His will bequeaths to Adam Papaw, his tenant, land and chattels worth \$15,000.

Indiana's Splendid Showing.

Gov. Mount, of Indiana, is personally supervising an elaborate exhibit for his state at the Paris exposition. One of the features of this will be a series of large photographs to show the progress of the "good roads" movement in Indiana, where there are now 50,000 miles of graded and graveled highway.

A White House Crazy Quilt.

A raffle for a white house crazy quilt has just taken place at 50 cents a "throw." The pieces in the quilt are from the tapestry and other furnishings of the mansion, dating back to the time of Mrs. Cleveland and representing four administrations. The quilt is exquisitely arranged, and the valuation is put down at \$150.

Curious Street Pavement.

The most curious street pavement in the world is that which has recently been put down in Lyons, France. It is of glass, the blocks being about eight inches square, each made up of sixteen smaller blocks. The glass blocks are so tightly fitted together that water cannot pass between them. As a pavement glass, it is said to have greater resistance than stone.

Ancestors Got the Glory.

In China when an honor is conferred on a family, it is the ancestors and not the descendants who share the glory. If a Chinaman, for his merits, receives a title of nobility his son can never inherit it or have the right to use any but an inferior title. Thus the nobility in the family goes on diminishing from generation to generation till it finally becomes extinct.

Missionaries in India.

The number of Baptist missionaries in India is 436, a decrease in the last year of 17; Congregationalists, 159, an increase of 8; Church of England, 528, an increase of 38; Presbyterian, 467, a decrease of 2; Methodists, 298, an increase of 23; Lutherans, 253, an increase of 68. These, together with a number of smaller bodies, make a total of 2,797, being an increase of 329.

Not a Saloon in This County.

Stauben county, Ind., now enjoys the distinction of being the only county in the state without a saloon within her borders, a recent session of the board of county commissioners having ridden the county of the last wet goods place by refusing a reissuance of license. The agitation to make Stauben a dry county began several years ago, and the crusade continued without interruption until the last saloon was closed.

Speaker Henderson's Gavel.

Speaker Henderson's gavel is quite a curiosity. The head is of rosewood from Montego's flagship, and the handle of native osage grown in Polk county, Ia. It is decorated by an eagle's beak bearing a scroll inscribed "E Pluribus Unum." On the upper ferrule are doves and a garland, on the lower pictures of the United States ships Iowa and Des Moines. The Iowa arms and Mr. Henderson's monogram are on the side of the head.

Will Accept No Salary.

Rev. C. D. Roynce, one of the best-known divines in the Northwestern Indiana M. E. conference, has notified his congregation that he has repudiated the scripture text which says the laborer is worthy of his hire, and absolved his membership from salary obligations. Hereafter he will accept whatever charity inclined members of his flock are disposed to give. Rev. Mr. Roynce is the third minister in the conference to take this radical departure.

Education in Hawaii.

William T. Harris, commissioner of education, speaks highly of the educational system of the Hawaiian islands, which, he contends, all that can be desired. Of a total population of 109,920 in those islands in 1896 the number of pupils enrolled in the schools was 14,522, and nearly 27 per cent. of these were native Hawaiians. Mr. Harris says that in the public schools of the Spanish colonies and protectorates it would be unwise to try to substitute new schools in place of the old ones.

EARTHQUAKE KILLS SEVERAL.

San Jacinto and Adjacent Places in California Receive a Severe Shock—Many Two-story Buildings Wrecked.

San Jacinto, Cal., Dec. 26.—A disastrous earthquake occurred at 4:25 yesterday morning. Nearly every two-story building was wrecked, and it is estimated that the damage will aggregate over \$50,000. The main shock was preceded by a loud, roaring sound and awakened many just in time to escape from the doomed buildings. The business street was such a wreck that tons of debris had to be removed before buildings could be entered. At Saboba Indian reservation six squaws were killed by falling walls, two fatally injured and many seriously injured. The shock caused dry artesian wells to flow larger streams than ever before. Considerable damage was reported in nearby villages.

Appeared in Their Night Clothes.

Santa Ana, Cal., Dec. 26.—The severest earthquake in years visited this section yesterday morning at 4:25. Third-story hotel guests were almost rolled out of bed. Clocks were stopped all over the city and the walls of several brick buildings were badly cracked. Hundreds of people were on the streets a few seconds after the shock, some appearing in night clothes and remaining up until daylight.

Lodging Houses Emptied at Anaheim.

Anaheim, Cal., Dec. 26.—The heaviest earthquake shock ever known here occurred at 4:25 yesterday morning. It lasted fully ten seconds and was violent from the beginning. Lodging houses were emptied and the streets were filled with shivering people. A number of buildings were cracked but no serious damage was done.

Clocks Stopped at Ventura.

Ventura, Cal., Dec. 26.—A heavy prolonged earthquake shock was felt here this morning at 4:24. Houses were badly shaken and clocks stopped but no damage resulted. The vibrations were followed by high wind and a heavy sea.

Given a Thorough Shaking Up.

Needles, Cal., Dec. 26.—A terrific shock of earthquake was experienced here at 4:25 yesterday morning, stopping clocks, rattling windows, breaking glass and giving the town a thorough shaking up.

EARLY AFTER PENSIONS.

One Soldier Out of Every Twelve of the Spanish-American War Wants Pay from Uncle Sam.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The business zeal of the pension attorneys threatens to bring the pension list of the Spanish-American and Philippine wars up to startling proportions. Already 25,000 applications for pensions growing out of these wars have been filed with the pension bureau. The fact that from the Ninth Massachusetts regiment alone 650 applications have been filed is evidence of the pension attorney's activity.

The total number of enlistments for the Spanish-American war and the Philippine war was about 342,000, but nearly 40,000 of these were re-enlistments. It is estimated, therefore, that the total number of individuals enlisted for the two wars is approximately 300,000. As there have, up to the present time, been 25,000 applications for pensions growing out of these wars, it will be seen that one soldier in every twelve of those who served is a pension-seeker. And this startling proportion is attained in less than two years from the date upon which the war with Spain was declared, and in the face of the fact that the American losses in battle upon sea and upon land were, proportionately to the forces engaged, the smallest sustained in any American war.

Over a Thousand Military Bills.

Washington, Dec. 26.—There are 1,296 bills before the house committee on military affairs to correct records, restore names to the rolls, remove charges of desertion and perform similar acts of beneficence toward the old soldiers who find trouble in getting a pension. Chairman Hull will assign these bills numerically to the members of the committee, and each member will have 71 bills to work on. Not over five per cent. of this great mass of bills will pass.

Minors Can Enlist in the Navy.

San Francisco, Dec. 26.—Judge De Haven, in the United States district court, has decided that minors over 18 do not require the consent of their parents to enlist in the navy and when once enlisted they must serve their term. The decision was made in the case of Edward L. Norton, aged 18. His mother sought his release on a writ of habeas corpus, which was denied.

He May Quit the Cabinet.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Secretary Gage's presence in New York and the fact that he was in consultation with the financiers who constitute the directory of the National City bank revived the rumor that the secretary will shortly tender his resignation to President McKinley to become president of a New York bank.

AWFUL MINE DISASTER.

Probably Fifty Men Were Killed by an Explosion in the Brazell Mine Near Brownsville, Pa.

Brownsville, Pa., Dec. 26.—The horror of the Brazell mine disaster of Saturday grows in intensity with every hour. The number of the dead is now estimated at 40, and may pass that figure. At the same time there is a strong presumption that the laws regulating mining were carelessly and probably criminally disregarded. Yesterday the first bodies of the victims were brought out of the mine and never in the history of mine disasters were human beings so horribly mutilated.

The estimates of the number of the dead are conflicting. A. B. Brazell, president of the Stockdale Coal company, yesterday afternoon said he believed that but 20 to 25 men had been killed. Men who were working around the mine yesterday morning give different figures. They say 35 to 40 men went down the mine shaft in the cages, while about 20 climbed down the steps in the elevator shaft. From 55 to 60 men were in the mine, and of this number 12 have been recovered alive. All the rest, whatever the number, are dead.

"It was awful," said the fire boss. "The men were trapped there like rats and there is no hope that a single man is alive. The two shafts were both disabled and there was no other exit. I have never seen a more terrific mine explosion. Stone stoppings two feet thick and cemented together were utterly destroyed. Not even particles of rock remained. The stone was blown into dust."

A GALLANT IRISHMAN.

Capt. O'Neill Murphy Calls Out a French Editor for His Insulting Attacks on Queen Victoria.

Paris, Dec. 26.—Capt. O'Neill Murphy, brother of the late Daniel Murphy, the San Francisco millionaire, and uncle of Lady Wolseley, wife of Sir Charles Michael Wolseley, Bart.—no relation to Lord Wolseley—has shot in a duel and perhaps killed M. Marcel, editor in chief of La Caricature.

It was some of La Caricature's cartoons insulting Queen Victoria that roused the ire of the Irish captain, who served for many years in the horse artillery, and is a crack shot.

When the gallant captain saw his queen attacked he wrote to the offending editor and called him a dog and a coward.

The combat was of the briefest duration, for Marcel was put hors de combat at once. As he fell his revolver went off and a bullet grazed Murphy's arm. The editor lies in a precarious condition in Switzerland, while the Irishman is out skating in the Bois.

TWENTY-ONE DROWNED.

British Steamer Stranded Off Cape Hatteras and Only Eight of Her Crew Got to the Shore.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 26.—The British steamship Ariosto, Capt. Baines, bound from Galveston to Hamburg, was wrecked at four o'clock this morning six miles south of Hatteras, N. C., and 21 of the crew were drowned. Capt. Baines and eight of the crew were saved by the heroic efforts of the Ocracoke life saving crew under Capt. James Howard. Those who lost their lives attempted to reach the shore in a small boat, which was swamped shortly after it put off from the ship. Capt. Baines and the eight men remained aboard and were landed by the life savers in a breeches buoy, but not until after a struggle which lasted all day.

Not to Mention Free Silver.

New York, Dec. 26.—Representative William D. Daly, who returned from Washington to-day said: "Col. Bryan has arranged to meet the democratic leaders in Washington next month and the itinerary will be mapped out. I have agreed to accompany Mr. Bryan on his trip through New Jersey. I understand his topic will be imperialism and trusts, and that he is to speak in Camden, Trenton and Jersey City before going to New York. He will reach New Jersey probably before February. Nothing is to be said about 16 to 1 so far as I can learn."

Big Fire at Hastings, Neb.

Hastings, Minn., Dec. 26.—Nearly three blocks of buildings in the business portion of this town, principally fronting on Vermillion street, were burned early yesterday with a loss of about \$200,000. The fire broke out in R. C. Libby & Co.'s sawmill, evidently the work of an incendiary, and the entire plant, with planing mill, store houses, lumber offices, sheds, etc., were consumed. One million and a half feet of upper grade lumber were also burned.

Will Appoint Mrs. Palmer.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Mrs. Louisa L. Mann, secretary of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Blue and Gray legion, has received a letter from President McKinley saying that Mrs. Potter Palmer will be appointed director of the American woman's department at the Paris exposition.

HER ASPIRATIONS.

A Kansas Girl Who Took a Practical View of Educational Advantages.

There was little of the idealistic about the essay of a Kansas girl at her recent graduation. Her teacher had given her for a theme the phrase: "Beyond the Alps Lies Italy." She astonished her preceptors and schoolmates by these emphatic words:

"I do not care a cent whether Italy lies beyond the Alps or even in Missouri. I do not expect to set the river on fire with my future career. I am glad I have a good, very good education, but I am not going to misuse it by writing poetry or essays about the grammar of any lover I may have, should he speak of 'dorgs' in my presence, or say he went somewhere. It will also come handy when I want to figure out how many pounds of soap a woman can get for three dozen eggs at the grocery. So I do not begrudge the time I have spent in acquiring it. But my ambitions do not fly so high. I just want to marry a man who can lick anybody of his weight in the township, who can run an 80-acre farm and who has no female relatives to come around and try to boss the ranch. And I will agree to cook good dinners for him that won't send him to an early grave and lavish upon him a whole lot of wholesome affection and see that his razor hasn't been used to cut broom wire when he wants to shave. In view of all this I don't care if I do get a little rusty on the rule of three and kindred things as the years go by."—Chicago Chronicle.

His Card.

A commercial traveler on his trip called upon a well-known chemist. He was nervous as he put his hand in his pocket and handed out a card.

"I represent that concern," said the young man. "You are fortunate," replied the chemist. The commercial traveler was encouraged and said: "I think so, sir, and the chemist who trades with us is even more so. My firm has the finest line of cosmetics in the country." "I shouldn't have thought it," slowly responded the man of medicine. "Her complexion looks natural." "And he looked back the photograph which the young man had given him by mistake. He took it and left without waiting to make any farewell remarks.—London Tit-Bits.

An Extinguisher.

Thump, thump! Rattle, rattle, crash! Young Percy Stonebrooke rolled down the steps of the palatial residence of Mr. Goldbonds. Mr. Goldbonds returned to the house, rolling down his sleeves. "Papa, O, papa, what have you been doing?" This question came in anguished tones from the ruby lips of Arabella Goldbonds. "Putting out the light of your life," answered papa, who had done a little eavesdropping in the hall the night before.—Baltimore American.

\$20 Per Week.

We pay \$20 per week and expenses for man with rig to introduce our Poultry Mixture. Send stamp for terms. Excelsior Mfg. Co., Parsons, Kans.

Corn—"Do you like to hear a girl whistle?" Merritt—"No, but I like the way her mouth looks when she gets ready to try."—Town Topics.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take Luxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. 25c.

After all, the question which disturbs men most, is how to earn more and work less.—Acheson Globe.

Piso's Cure is the medicine to break up children's Coughs and Colds.—Mrs. M. G. Blunt, Sprague, Wash., March 8, '94.

Self-respect is the corner stone of all virtue.—Sir John Herschel.

Actors, Vocalists, Public Speakers praise Hale's Honey of Borehound and Tar. Pike's Toothache Drops Cure in one minute.

Childhood may do without a grand purpose, but manhood cannot.—Holland.

Prosperity for 1900.

Indications everywhere point to great prosperity for the coming year. This is an invariable sign of a healthy nature. The success of a country, as well as the success of an individual, depends upon health. There can be no health if the stomach is weak. If you have any stomach trouble try Hostetter's Stomach Bitters which cures dyspepsia, indigestion and biliousness. It makes strong, vigorous men and women.

The Farmer Scored.

A farmer drifted into a hardware store at Mulhall and was asked by the manager: "Don't you want to buy a bicycle to ride around your farm on? They're cheap now. Can give you one for \$35." "I'd sooner put the \$35 into a cow," said the farmer. "But think," said the manager, "how foolish you would look riding around town on a cow." "Oh, I don't know," said the farmer: "no more foolish, perhaps, than I would milking a bicycle."—Kansas City Journal.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. Cheney & Co., Props., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm. West & Traux, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Walling, Kinnan & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Testimonials free. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Knew It Was in Lehigh.

A certain Pennsylvania Sunday school teacher was questioning her class: "Where was Christ born?" she asked of Willie. Willie pondered awhile and finally announced: "Mauch Chunk." "Mauch Chunk!" screamed the teacher. "You ought to know better than that. Why, little Georgio knows where Christ was born. Where was Christ born, Georgio?" And the trouble of the four-year-old answered: "Bethlehem." "That's right," said the teacher. "Well," said Willie, pointing: "I knew 'twas somewhere on the Lehigh Valley railway."—Chicago Chronicle.

Try Grain-O! Try Grain-O!

Ask your grocer to-day to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food drink that takes the place of coffee. The children may drink it without injury as well as the adult. All who try it like it. GRAIN-O has that rich seal brown of Mocha or Java, but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomachs receive it without distress. 14 the price of coffee. 15c and 25c, per package. Sold by all grocers.

Her Modest Hint.

He—Were you ever caught beneath the mistletoe? She—Perhaps you had better come around on Christmas and see if I act like one who has had experience.—Chicago Times Herald.

The Florida Air Line.

Through Sleeping Car line St. Louis to Jacksonville, Fla. Double daily service via Louisville, Lexington, Chattanooga, Atlanta & Macon. Most attractive route. For information address R. A. Campbell, G. P. A., St. Louis, Mo.

It is only when she is poor and homely that a girl can be sure the man who woos her is really in love.—Chicago Dispatch.

The Best Prescription for Chills and Fever is a bottle of Grove's Tasterless Chill-Foxe. It is a simply iron and quinine in tasteless form. No cure, no pay. Price, 50c.

Be your character what it will, it will be known; and nobody will take it upon your word.—Chesterfield.

Each package of PUTNAM FADELESS DYES colors either Silk, Wool or Cotton perfectly. Sold by all druggists.

Trust that man in nothing who has not a conscience in everything.—Sterne.



DEWEY'S FLAG SHIP OLYMPIA—CAPTAIN GRIDLEY, COMMANDER. Mrs. Gridley, mother of Captain Gridley, who was in command of Dewey's flag ship, at the destruction of the Spanish fleet at Manila, says of our remedy, Peruna: "At the solicitation of a friend I used Peruna, and can truthfully say it is a grand tonic and is a woman's friend, and should be used in every household. After using it for a short period I feel like a new person." Ann E. Gridley.

Nearly all our ills are due to catarrh. We are liable to have catarrh of the head, catarrh of the throat, catarrh of the lungs, stomach, kidneys, bladder and pelvic organs. Peruna cures catarrh wherever located. Address Dr. Hartman, Columbus, Ohio, for free book.

Advertisement for DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY and PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION. Includes text: 'DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY: gives quick relief and cures worst cases. Book of testimonials and 10 days' treatment free. Dr. H. H. GREEN'S SOSS, Box D, Atlanta, Ga.'

Advertisement for CARTER'S INK PATENTS. Includes text: 'CARTER'S INK. Grow up with it. Send for "Inventor's Primer" and protect Your Ideas. Free. At the U. S. Stevens & Co., Washington, D. C. Established 1864. Branches: Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit. Consultation free.'