A STATE BANQUET.

ABOUT FORMAL WHITE HOUSE DIN-NERS, PAST AND PRESENT.

The Highest Social Event in Washington Life-The Invitations and the Guests. Flowers, Scalpture, Wines and the Most Exquisite Cookery.

The president gave his first state dinner not a great while ago. It was to the cabinet, and each guest received a heavily engraved invitation inclosed in an envelope, which been the actional coat of arms. The White House paper and eards haven gigantic eagle printed in gold upon them. It bears a gold shield on its break, and its beak holds the words "E Plur bus Uman." The card of invitation to a state dinner is almost as big nera enbinet photograph. It is engraved in black, and it beans the words; "The President and Mrs. Cleveland request the pleasure of the conquiry of — at dinner on — evening, at — o'clock, 1888,"

These dinners has several hours, and the guests first assemble in the East room, and it is here that the president and Mrs. Clevelanreceive them. They go to the table at once, and there they eat often as high as twenty courses. The dinner just mentioned was one of thirty covers, and the state diving table was set in its ordinary form. There are three ways in which the table may be arranged, according to the number of guests who are to be sented, and the table, as it usually stands, is fit of to reat thirty-six. It is a long oval, and it must be full height of the state dining room. When more than thirty-six set down it is changed by adding to each end, making in one chape a giganti letter "I," and in another, by hollowing out the sides, a figure like the stand of an anvil. The dining room is governous during a state dinner. It is a great cidong parlor, as large as the ground floor of a home thirty feet wide and forty feet deep, and its ceiling is so high that it would reach to the base of the windows of the second story of a city house. It has at the left of the great promenade corridor, and its windows took out on the Poto-

grand conservatory of the White House. The flow rat of a state dinner table are beyour description, and the dorist pats his best efforts on the gold lake which lies in the center of the table. This lake runs nearly the whole length of the table, and it is a mirror with a gold rim about three inches high, and this, during a great state diener, is framed with the choicest of flowers and greens. A thousand roses are often used at state dinners, and about the same number of carnation pinks. During a single season the state dinners have consumed 6,000 sprays of lilies of the valley, 400 strings of similar and thousands of other flowers, such as camellins and calla lilies. At times cances are made, and ships of flowers in full sail are scated upon the table. At others there may be bridges and eastles, and once there was a design which represented the Hanging Gardens of Semiramis. To these flowers is added the brilliance of the state china, and the wine sparkles in cut glass.

mine and the monument. In adjoins the Red

parlor on the east, and it has windows on the

opposite alde of the room which look into the

It goes without eaying that guests at state dinners always appear in full dress. The men wear boiled shirts and the decoilete dress | yune. prevails, as a rule, with the ladies. At the dinner referred to Mrs. Fairchild's dress wa decollete and Mrs. Endicott's dress was well filled in with lare at the front, Mrs. Gen. Jee Hawley were a bine satin train of silver brocade and her coverge was low, and Mrs. J. V. L. Prnyn were a ruby veivet, with a low needed waist. Tim. Whitney appeared in pearl gray satin, and Mrs. Ingalis looked regal in a trained role of black velvet.

The men looked well, too, and Bayard walked out with Mrs. Cleveland, while the president sat with Miss Bayard on lds right. Speaker Carlisle looks like a statesman in a swallow tail cont, and Schater Hearst was straighter than ever in his claw hammer garment. Severant Leman appeared almost judicial, with his long hair hanging down over his collar, and Admiral Porter and Gen. Sheridan were as courtly as usual. Put thirty such guests around this big table, let the light glazer, make the wine flow and add the governous table dependions and you have some idea of the seems. Bring on waiters in full dress suits and have the darkeyed stewned presiding over the whole, and you may be in to appreciate a state dinner. To this, however, must be added the food,

and it comes on in simples that please your eye while at the same time it tickles your storage. The cook of the White House gets a bester salary then a New York bookkeeper, and he is as much of an artist as some of the big chefs of Europe. He builds his dishes with the care of the painter or the sculptor, and eastles and boats and nearly every object in nature is represented by him in the form that the dishes assume on the state disner table. At the recent dianer there was a enricus stand for the pates, and there was a sugared building covered with conserves and candied frams. He had near these tall and low emidelabra, and the tapers were tipped with white, plain and ruly shades.

The cooking in the White House is done in the hitchens below stairs, and the chief room is directly below the dining room. The White House kitchen consists of two large rooms, hang with cooling utensils of every character and color. Ranges big enough to roast an ex are set into the walls, and on there manuscib ketiles and beliers smoke with an experiment flavor. A big zine table stands in the center of the room and the cock has a number of assistants. He wears a white cap and an apron, and he takes pride

The ices for state dinners usually come on the table in forms as widely different as the flowers, and an old French woman here has made a fortune in faraishing fees to noted dinner tables. She has supplied the presidents with their ice cream since the days of Buchanan, and she is almost as much of an artist as the chef.-Frank G. Carpenter in New York World.

A Novel Pencil.

The perfume penell is a novelty in theory, if not in practice. You never heard of it! Neither did maybody until after the device had been shown by a dapper peddler, possibly the inventor, for they are not known to the stores. The black lend was combined with strong scents, so that when he wrote on a card a delicate and pleasant odor was given out. There isn't much use in any manufacturer catching up the idea and stocking the market, for the disclosure of the trick destrovs its value.

"If you write with it," explained the seller, illustrating it on the spot, "especially if you do it reasonably close to the nose of an uninformed person, he or she is delightfully and mysteriously assailed with a faint perfume."-New York Sun.

Had Had Experience. Employment Agent-That family pays

good wages and you better try it. Lazy Domestic-Is the man of the house very particular about things? "No, but his wife is."

"Oh, it don't matter about her; I'll go."-Omalia World.

Mr. Depew's After Dinner Speech. It is 9 o'clock pow. We are in Delmonico's, and Mr. Depew is at the center of a long table on the raised dais at the

end of the room. Suppose we remain and see how the speech is prepared that we shall read tomorrow in all the morning papers, and which will convulse with laughter this evening a roomful of lucky guests. The half hour's play has done more to dissipate the fatigue of the day than any tonic that was ever brewed. Now that everything is quiet the preparation is begun. The subject of the speech is carefully considered and the points which are to be made are fixed in logical order in the

speaker's mind. "Are no notes to be made?" you ask. No. In after dinner speeches Mr. Depew has long since given up that practice as a rule. "He trusts to his feet for the language," and with feet so well trained by years of practice behind dinner tables he seldom trusts in vain. He smiles as something occurs to him. We brilliant idea clothed in words. "All my speeches are not prepared so hastily." explains the orator. "When I have a set oration to deliver, as I do have three or four times a year, I carefully write down my exact language. No, I don't dictate it, for the choicest expressions can never be formed except at the point of your own pen. On those occasions I read up on the subject with great thoroughness. digest the mass of matter with great care, and then I generally write the speech at two sittings. In such efforts I find that pat expressions come to me in church sometimes, sometimes in my bed chamber, at the office or in talking with a friend. A speech of that sort is not the work of half an hour, but of weeks or even months."-Benjamin Northrop.

"Ravageurs" of the Seine.

The river Seine, as well as the streets of Paris, has its chiffonnieres, only those who make their living by gathering whatever they find floating in the stream are known as "ravageurs" instead of rag pickers. They ply their business in skiffs and flatboats, with the aid of short harpoons, and nothing from a dead cat to an old cork comes amiss to them. Bodies of dead animals form the most important part of their river gleanings. All kinds of dead things are to be met with in the Seine during its progress through the city. even snakes and seals being included in the list. These bodies have a money value to the "ravageur;" a medium sized dog, for example, is worth at least sixteen cents, provided the skin is in reasonably good condition to be made up into leather. The body is sold to an establishment that makes a specialty of extracting the fat for candle and soap manufacture. If the body is too decomcomposed to be disposed of in this way, the "ravageur" buries it, and as long as any flesh remains on the bones, finds a ready sale for the maggets among the fishermen who angle along the river bank.-Paris Cor. New Orleans Pica-

Skill of Ancient Builders.

A personal inspection of the pyramids of Egypt, made by a quarry owner who spent some time recently on the Nile, has led him to the conclusion that the old Egyptians were better builders than those of the present day. He states that there are blocks of stone in the pyramids which weigh three or four times as much as the obelisk on the erabankment. He saw a a stone whose estimated weight was 880 tons. But then the builders of the pyramids counted human labor lightly. They had great masses of subjects upon whom to draw, and most of their work was done by sheer manual labor and force. There are stones in the pyramids thirty feet in length which fit so closely together that a penknife may be run over the surface without discovering the break between them. They are not laid with mortar, either. There is no machinery so perfect that it will make two surfaces thirty feet in length which will meet together in unison as these stenes in the pyramids meet. It is supposed that they were rubbed backward and forward upon each other until the surfaces were assimilated.—London Iron.

An Excess of Modesty.

Modesty born of true humility is is not obtrusive, and when it affects one | they have to pay handsomely for it. As man's relations to another it does so in | far as tatooing is concerned, it is growthe right way, the inferior yielding to the | ing more popular in this country every superior. It is possible, perhaps, for the naturally modest man to wholly resist his inclination to yield to others and keep in the background, and yet he should try to do so whenever an excess of modesty threatens to handicap him in the race of life. Neither employers nor the critics and censors of the world at large have time to go into nice analyses of individual character, capabilities and merits. The modest man, however capable, who does his work quietly without ostentation, and shrinks from the observance of others, must be much more gifted than his fellows if he is to be found out and advanced by them as against his companion worker, also capable and faithful, who lets his light shine before the world and provides it with reflectors to increase its effect.—Baltimore Sun.

Progress in Dentistry.

"But speaking about false teeth," said the dentist, "the next thing we are going to make is teeth that will look so much like natural teeth that the closest inspection will not be able to tell the difference. Here is a set I made as an experiment for an old lady. You see that all the teeth are discolored, and most of them are irregular. Here's one that looks as though it had been broken off a little. Here's another little point—that gold filling in there. That would deceive anybody. With the perfect arrangement we have now for holding the plate in place, there is no danger that anybody can detect those teeth from the genuine ivory. A set of teeth like that is a work of art, isn't it? Ars celare artem, eh?"-New York Commercial Advertiser.

Useful in Diphtheria. A commission of the Paris Academy of Medicines finds that hydroflurce acid, which is highly antiseptic, has a theurapeutic action when inhaled. It dissents, however, from the opinion of glass workers that the inhalations cure consumption, but considers that they may be useful in | in the places and under the circumstances diphtheria.-Arkansaw Traveler.

A TATTOOING CRAZE.

A Fad That Is Growing Among Feople

Who Ought to Know Better. Professor S. O'Reilly just now is illustrating the art of tattooing in a Bowery museum. His subject is a young woman who is ambitions of posing as a museum "freak," and to that end lays aside modsty and endures the pain incident to the pricking of a sheaf of tifty needles, with which the professor indelibly delineates birds, beasts, repailes, heraldic devices and human figures in her sensitive skin. The "professor" is a historian as far as his calling is concerned, and likes to talk about it.

"Of course it's popular," he said. "The art was never so generally practiced since it was used to mark slaves. You'd be surprised at the number of people of tone and position in society who come to me to be marked with designs and colors that will never be obliterated while they live. It used to be that sailers were the only people who will smile to-night when we hear that coveted such branding. There was some reason and utility in it for them, as it often served to identify them when they perished in their perilous calling. Recently, however, they form but a small proportion of those who wish to come under the needle.

men and women can thus qualify them- arm. The selection of the fittest has selves to earn a very substantial and easy | taken another direction in the last few livelihood in the museums. I have tatcoed twelve persons from head to foot, five of whom were females who are now exhibiting themselves at good salaries. with the very existence of the child and exhibiting themselves at good salaries. The most successful of these is hirs. De quiet, monotonous life of the country, Burgh, who is now exhibiting in London. I the town child live samid percetual ex-She has a large picture on her back, done | citement." in colors, representing the 'Lord's Sup- | which, to the average parent, seems to | per.' Her body is completely covered full of promise: "The physiologist looks with 1,800 different designs. Her has on it with anspiron, and the family band, also, is covered from head to foot, medical attendant knows that such a and is as picturesque as Capt, Constan- | child is liable to tubercular meningitis tine, the tatooed Greek, who died a few (water on the brain), and can estimate years ago. The work, in his case, began the risks it runs in the ordinary maladies when he was a British soldier in Burmah, | of childhood." and was in progress for years. He met his wife while the last touches were general opicion concerning food. He being added to his picture gallery, and | says the premature development of the she was squirming under the first thrusts of the needles.

"Another distinguished example is a noted Canadian athlete. Nearly all his work was done at one session, lasting work was done at one session, lasting ment, ash and bread, which he can dispersion hours. I used fifty needles in gost. He says: was simply a vagary on his part, as he cance by precocky has storved the diges-

hamamelis and cocaine to moisten the long series of morbid sequences. to his subjects from using saliva with are not attogether hopeless; which to moisten the ink. Persons tattooed by sailors have contracted diseases has certain advantages, it also has sundry communicated by the use of saliva as an | drawbacks. The perfect development of

ink moistener. "The majority of the tattooing of the present day is probably done in Africa, edge most precede conduce. The realizawhere different tribes have distinguish- tion of the fact that the directive difficuling marks pricked in their black skins. these of town dwellers lead them to adopt These bodges are generally put on the a dietary which is injurious in its after face, neck or breast. A fish bone is used | results, will cause them to correct it. for a needle. The South Sea Islanders | Already, indeed, we see many blindly are almost universally tattooed.

practiced now than there is any popular.

to me are of the middle class, though stinctive impulse. Modifications in our very often I receive orders to go to food customs are required for town dwellprivate residences up town to do mark- ers. They should have food which will ing, especially on children. On one oc- naurish them and sustain them, without casion I received an order to come to one | any bad after effects, and which they can of the big houses on Fifth avenue, and digest. Possibly, too, before long it will when I got there I had to put dis- be found that some modification of the tinguished marks on a set of triplets, all existing scheme of education is desirable of whom were about a month old. There | in the interest of the weaker children, was also a young miss of about 18 years, who, after watching me at work, came to me privately and requested me to country, and can lead a more natural life prick fancy garters on her legs. I did | than that to which, at present, they are so, and she was very proud of them. condemned by the growth of large towns. After that I received several orders of | which exercise such a mallen influence the same kind from young ladies. The upon those who dwell therein, and esupper class are as a rule very good | pecially those who are born and reared in patrons of tattooing artists. It has grown | such towns."-Consider-Journal. to be the latest fad in dudedom. The favorite designs for them are their fair scarcely ever recognized as such, for it one's pictures, and you can rely upon it day."-New York Graphic.

Death Rate in Russia.

In the thirteen central provinces, the "I tried to explain to him." said the hou heart of Russia, the rate of mortality is lishman, "that that was quite out of the as high as 62 in 1,000 per year. Accord- question. My wife would be in a great ing to the last report of the director of | rage if I took a second wife, and my govthe medical department—that issued in comment would punish me severely. October, 1887—it appears that in some parts of the empire mortality reaches the | but after a pause he said: "You Europeans high rate of 60 to 80 deaths per 1,000 in- have so much more intercourse with habitants. The death rate among children is still more frightful, being 50 per cent., and in some districts even 79 per as we do." In this spirit the Chirase cent., of the whole mortality. According diplomatist started for Europe, and in to the same unbiased authority, of the this spirit he will probably return. - Et, 2.800,000 persons who die yearly in Rus- James Gazette. sia, 1,000,000 are the victims of "sanitary conditions," which means hunger and want, because the sanitary conditions of our people have always been what they early stages. Once they get a grip, are now, that is to say, very bad.

Notwithstanding the high birth rate, which is 45 per 1,000, due to very early marriages, the population of Russia increases but slowly, and in many places it even decreases. The people are dying out. If this does not prove misery what does it prove?-Stepniak in New York Mail and Express.

cases have come under his personal ob- crat. servation in which brown skinned natives in very different parts of the world blacken their faces to protect them from intense light and heat. The examples he gives are those of the inhabitants of Morocco, as well as of others along the north of Africa, who blacken themselves around the eyes for the purpose of averting ophthalmia from the glare of hot sand. The natives of Fiji pursee the same method, as do also the natives of the Sikhim Hills, and it is only reasonable to suppose that a practice of such wide diffusion and such striking similarity is found really useful, that is, protective, contemplated. - New York Tribune.

TOWN LUTE FOR CHILLIR'S

What a London Physician day on Subject-" of a Saburul L Physician and moraling at that have like is unleading. and that but for the fact that the is made good by the regular in lo-

healthy country blood, the ren ...

in the cities, would rapidly det-Dr. Fothergill, of Lindon, haves prepared a paper in which he have to reffects of town life on the later body," and he opens it with them and a that the subject in fractions calculated to flatter our national vanuy. His me-

counts for the degeneracy of the race after this manner.

"Prowess in knight and peasant alike was the one thing to be desired. But with the development of commerce and the march of civilization, a change came over the spirit which moves men. The active brain was seen to be even more valuable than physical prowess. The invention of gunpowder left the stalwart warrior shorn of much of his advantage on the battlefield. Then the discovery of steam completed his discomfiture. The day of the big man has passed away, and given place to the smaller, active brain toiler. In these days of steam power, an acate brain and a Essome hand are "When the work is artistically done | much more desirable than a brawny

The injury, this writer asserts, begins

Dr. Fothergill runs counter to the nervous system tells upon the assimilative organs of the town child; in con-"Another distinguished example is a sequence he can not digest pattries,

had no purpose of exhibiting himself for | tive organs. Indignation has started an undesirable dietary; and excess of nitro-"There is no danger in the operation if greated waste has led to the reversion of properly done, and the pain may be the liver to the early primitive urle acid greatly diminished. I use a mixture of formation. This, in its turn, entails a

ink and take sensation out of the parts I Here is a nuclaucholy condition, truly. am operating upon. There is no sore. What we ought to cut we cannot direct; ness, and very little pain. It is not what we digest simply entails a long always safe, though. One operator in series of morbid sequences." We cannot West Virginia was sentenced to two follow the whole argument of the writer. years' imprisonment for injuries resulting but we present his conclusions, which

"Town life is not a natural life. If it the digestive organs has far reaching constarting out on a new track in the spread "Tattooing merely for purposes of of vegetarianism, along with the Ithua identification is much more extensively kilbbon. In this action they have not waited for physiology to pronounce an authoritative opinion; but have acted on "The majority of the people who comes their own account, guided by some in-

Not Sufficiently Civilized.

The Chinese minister Intely accredited to a leading European court was taking leave of a very eminent Englishman, and, playing him that his wife had gone to England for the education of their children, said: "Yeu must be very lonely. But of course you have a number two. The Chinese diplomentist was astenished,

Treatment of Colds.

Colds are usually neglected in their eradication is difficult. Take herely doses of quinine when congestion begins and sneezing manifests itself. This is at near a specific as the world contains. Avoid colds by feeding the fest and hands were and dry. Breathe through the nose and not through the mouth. The mouth breather it nearly always the victim of catarrh. An Indian once said that he could whip in a personal centest A writer in Nature states that three Lis mouth.—New Orleans Times-Demo-

"Best Three Books,"

Edmund Gosse has selected as the best three books for young men." according to his view of the matter, Shakepeare. Boswell and Maszulay's "Essaya." Archebacon Farrar has taken a hand in the controversy and selected as the best three Dante, Shakespeare and Milton, and as the second best three Epictetus, Marcus Aurelius and the "Imitario Christi," the one list being entirely poetical and the other entirely religious.-Public Opinion.

The population of Paris is said to be decreasing quite rapidly.

The Plattemouth Herald

Is enjoying a Boom in both its

DAILYANDWEEKLY EDITIONS.

Year 1888

Will be one during which the subjects of national interest and importance will be strongly agitated and the election of a President will take place. The people of Cass County who would like to learn of

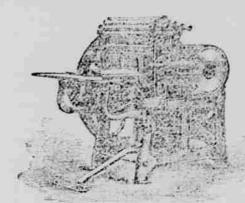
Political, Commercial and Social Transactions

of this year and would keep apace with the times should

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Weekly Herald.

Now while we have the subject before the people we will venture to speak of our



Which is first-class in all respects and from which our job printers are turning out much satisfactory work.

NEBRASKA.