

SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS=HERALD.

THE NEWS, Established Nov. 4, 1891. THE HERALD, Established April 10, 1864. Consolidated Jan. 1, 1905.

PLATTSMOUTH, NEB., JANUARY 2, 1897.

VOL. V. NO. 32.

GRAVITATION AND THE BLOOD.

We ordinarily think of the attraction of gravitation only as producing what we call weight, and as governing the motion of the earth and other planets in their orbits. But gravitation acts in a very important manner upon the circulation of the blood in our veins and arteries. An elaborate series of experiments has recently been carried out in England to determine just what effect gravitation exercises in this respect, and how its disturbing influence is compensated in the bodily mechanism.

It has been found that man probably possesses a more complete compensation of this kind than any other animal, and that the monkey stands in this respect next to man.

Injuries to the spinal cord, apoplexy, and poisoning by chloroform or curare paralyze, more or less completely, the power of compensation, and then the influence of gravitation on the circulation of the blood may become a serious danger.

In such a case death is more likely to result, according to the conclusions of Professor Leonard Hill, if the body is placed in such a position that the abdomen is at a lower level than the heart.

But the danger may be diminished or removed either by elevating the abdomen or by compressing it so as to drive the blood up to the heart. When the heart itself, however, has been injured, as by chloroform, there is danger in forcing the blood too rapidly into it.

Professor Hill finds that, generally speaking, the best position for the body, when the power of compensation for the effects of gravitation has been arrested, is with the feet up instead of with the feet down.—Youth's Companion.

The Hamadryad.

The keeper at the zoo, describing to me the hamadryad's appearance when it raised itself to strike, said it was "proud" and "bold looking." Its action was as swift as thought and looked almost like a spring from the ground. How high when irritated the terrific thing can strike is not known, but no other instance is authenticated of a snake making good a blow so high as four feet from the ground, while marks on the glass of its cage show that the reptile has, in its endeavors to escape from confinement, reached up to the height of nine feet.

Supposing, then, that we were inclined to believe all that the natives of India say about it—that it is so fierce as to attack man at sight, so vindictive as to follow him with dogged resolution and add to it all we actually know about the reptile, that it can climb trees like an anaconda, swim like a hydra, get over a 9 foot wall and squeeze through a 6 inch hole, and that its bite is death, it would have to be confessed that the snake eating snake is the most terrible creature in nature.—Good Words.

An Ivory Mat.

Many people have never even heard of such a thing, and it is not to be wondered at, for these mats are exceedingly rare, and it is said by those who know that only three of these beautiful curiosities exist in the whole world. One we now write about is the largest one. It measures 5 by 4 feet, and though made of a small hill state in the north of India has an almost Greek design for its border. It was only used on state occasions, when the rajah sat on it to sign important documents. The original cost of the mat is fabulous, for 6,400 pounds of ivory were used in its manufacture. The finest strips of ivory must have been taken off the tusks, as the mat is as flexible as a woven stuff and beautifully fine.—Ladies' Pictorial.

Versatility.

Jess—Well, I must go and take off my bicycle bloomers.
Boss—What for?
Jess—I've got to attend a meeting of the Society for the Introduction of Dress Skirts Among Turkish Women.—New Orleans Times Democrat.

HIS NOVEL THEORY OF TIDES.

Uncle Alvah Dunning thinks the Old World "sloshes" around. Uncle Alvah Dunning, the hermit of the Adirondacks, maintains that the earth is not round like a ball, but as flat as a pancake, or, he has a still simpler simile, a milk pan, with enough of an edge to it to keep the water from running away.

A number of guests at Charlie Bennett's "Antlers," on Raquette lake, were discussing the theory with Uncle Alvah one day during the hunting season. One of them undertook the altogether hopeless task of convincing the old man of the error of his belief. Among other things he called attention to the tides.

"Uncle Alvah," he said, "you've heard of tides, haven't you? How do you account for them if the world isn't round?"

The old man remained silent for awhile and then drew forth, "Waal, I hev some idee as to 'em."

"What is it, then?" asked the questioner, while all the sportsmen drew near to await the answer. Uncle Alvah was not to be hurried, and after another pause he remarked:

"Did ye ever turn over in bed? I think's more than likely."

"Yes, I've turned over in bed."

"Do ye sleep 'tween sheets?"

"Always," replied the questioner laughing. "What's that got to do with it?"

"It's got all to do with it, in my opinion. When you went over, didn't the bedclothes kind of slip round an' slosh round an' didn't get there same time as you did?"

"Yes."

"Waal, that's my idee of the tides. The old earth sort o' slips round under the water like a man under the bedclothes, or it teeters a bit, like when you tip a milkpan. The water don't get there quite as fast as the land, an' that's what makes the tides."—New York Herald.

CHRIST AND THE SOUL.

When thou turn'st away from ill, Christ is on this side of thy bill.
When thou turnest toward good, Christ is walking in thy wood.
When thy heart says, "Father, pardon!" Then the Lord is in thy garden.
When stern duty wakes to watch, Then his hand is on the latch.
But when Hope thy song doth raise, Then the Lord is in the house.
When to love is all thy wit, Christ doth at thy table sit.
When God's will is thy heart's pole, Then is Christ thy very soul.
—George Macdonald in London Spectator.

The Poison of the Cobra.

The bite of the terrible cobra of India is looked upon as meaning certain death. It is not surprising that experiments to determine the nature of this awful poison should attract wide attention when they are made in a scientific manner entitling their results to be accepted with confidence. Such experiments have recently been conducted by Mr. A. A. Kanchack. The venom was obtained by pressing the heads of living cobras, by which nerve trying operation the deadly fluid was squeezed out of the fangs.

The fluid dries very quickly and leaves a yellow substance resembling gum arabic or the dried albumen of egg, which is easily pulverized. The activity of the poison is destroyed by prolonged boiling, a concentrated solution of it withstanding the effects of boiling for an hour or two before entirely losing its poisonous action. A weak solution could be rendered innocuous by being boiled from 30 minutes to half an hour.

But of course this can give no comfort to any victim of a cobra bite, since the venom, once injected into his blood, could by no possibility be subjected to such a process of boiling.

Ammonia and chlorine water also proved capable of destroying the poison if applied to it for a considerable time in strong solutions, and carbolic acid considerably delayed its poisonous action.

Some hope had been raised that doses of strychnia might prove a means of cure, but the experiments showed that there was no foundation for this hope. So far, then, a cure for the bite of the cobra remains to be discovered.—Youth's Companion.

SMALL SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

The earnings of the Rock Island system for March show a decrease of \$17,300. Three safes were blown open at Thornton, Ia., Tuesday night.

Archbishop Ireland of St. Paul addressed the New York Loyal Legion on Patriotism.

Willie Walker, aged 10 years, was run over and killed by a fire engine at Springfield, Ill.

Harry Manning accidentally shot Bert Maxfield while hunting near Lyndon, Ia. United States Marshal Desmond has appointed M. L. Healey his deputy in the Cedar Rapids, Ia., district.

John Halstead, 80 years old, who had been missing for some time at Roscoe, Wis., was found dead under a fallen tree on his farm.

The final trial and inspection of the coast defense vessel Monterey have been ordered.

Sheriff Foster of Monroe county, Ala., was killed by a negro desperado, who will probably be lynched.

Representative Dulliver of Iowa addressed a convention of Republican college clubs at Syracuse.

General Nelson A. Mills has arrived at Los Angeles with his family. The party will travel through southern California to San Francisco and will soon return east.

The Masons of Canton, Ill., formally opened their new lodge rooms which were built to replace those burned last September.

The 40th anniversary of the founding of Grinnell, Ia., was celebrated with patriotic exercises and a banquet by its citizens.

As a result of the Kansas City A. P. A. Catholic election riot, eight men are under arrest, charged with murder in the first degree.

W. B. Price and J. J. Cook, farmers residing near Thackerville, Tex., were arrested and confessed to having attempted to wreck a Santa Fe passenger express train three weeks ago.

A mass meeting was held at Mount Vernon, Ia., for the purpose of waging a war on the "bootleggers," who have been carrying on an extensive business for some time.

A Hint to Smokers. Many tobacco smokers consider that little light specks on the wrapper of a cigar indicate a good article. Very few know how those specks get there.

If on a hot day, when the sun has been beating down on the tobacco plants, a sudden thunder shower should come up and sprinkle the leaves with the immense drops of rain so common in Cuba, and it should then suddenly clear up, the sun coming out brightly again, the drops of water on the leaves will act as lenses and concentrate the sun's rays, which burn the little specks upon the tobacco.

The tobacco must be ripe in order that the sun may give this effect. On account of the great selling capacity of this sort of wrapper, these spots are made on the cheaper brands by chemical means.—London Standard.

Nothing is such an obstacle to production of excellence as the power of producing what is good with ease and rapidity.—Aikin.

When reading, a man usually gets through 400 words a minute.

Missouri ranks first in mules, having in the last census year 251,714; the next being Texas, with 227,432, and the third Tennessee, with 203,539.

Better. "I should have you know, sir, that I am a Londoner as I was born in London."

"But I, sir, was born in Cork, and I am a Corker!"—Boston Globe.

The first stereotyping was done in 1818 in New York.

THERE IS NO NATIONAL HOLIDAY.

Not Even the Labor Day Act Creates One, Say the Lawyers.

There would seem to be no such thing in this country as a national holiday. Lawyers assert that even Labor Day, which was set apart by act of congress in 1894 in such manner as to lead the confiding layman to suppose it at least to be a national holiday, is not such outside of the District of Columbia unless by state enactment. The creation and regulation of holidays have been left entirely to the legislatures of the individual states.

The act of congress concerning Labor Day was approved June 28, 1894. It provides "that the first Monday of September in each year, being the day celebrated and known as Labor day, is hereby made a legal holiday, to all intents and purposes, in the same manner as Christmas, Jan. 1, Feb. 22, May 30 and July 4 are now made by law public holidays."

Clearly the proper construction of this statute can be arrived at only by reference to the provisions bearing upon the other holidays named. The act making holidays of Jan. 1, July 4, Christmas and "any day appointed or recommended by the president of the United States as a day of public fast or thanksgiving" was passed in June, 1870, and was restricted in its effect to the District of Columbia. These days are holidays in the various states only as they are made so by the various state legislatures.

The act of Jan. 31, 1879, makes Feb. 22 a legal holiday, and the act of Aug. 31, 1888, does the same for May 30, and both are restricted in their application to the District of Columbia. The act referring to Labor day says nothing about the District of Columbia, but it does say that the first Monday of September shall be a legal holiday, "to all intents and purposes, in the same manner as Christmas, Jan. 1, Feb. 22, May 30 and July 4 are now made by law public holidays."

The intent and purpose for which and the manner in which these days are made holidays are expressly limited to the District of Columbia, and so, by necessary inference, is the act referring to Labor day.

The misleading language of the Labor day act has led to a prevalent statement that the first Monday of September is a holiday throughout the United States by congressional enactment.—New York Tribune.

PRANKS OF SCOTTISH FAIRIES.

A Firm Belief in the "Fair Folk" Still Lingers.

There still lingers a widespread belief in the north of Scotland that the "fair folk," or "gweed neebors," as the fairies are called, still live in the hills, and during the first days of convalescence a mother must be zealously guarded lest one of the "wee people" come and rob the child of its nourishment. Sometimes they succeed in carrying off the mother. Here is one of the superstitious legends:

A north country fisher had a fine child. One evening a beggar woman entered the hut and went up to the cradle to gaze into the eyes of the babe. From that time good health left it, and a strange look came into its face, and the mother was troubled. An old man, begging for food passed that way. When he caught sight of the child, he cried:

"That's nae a bairn. It's an image, and the gweed folk has stoun his spirit."

Thereupon he set to work to recall the fisher's bairn. A peat fire was heaped high on the hearth and a black hen held over it at such a distance that it was singed and not killed. After some struggling the hen escaped up the lum. A few moments elapsed, and then the parents were gladdened by the sight of a happy expression once more on the child's face. It threw from that day forward.—Scottish Review.

A Dog Pursue Snatcher.

Pointer dogs can always be trained to steal. Many of them are natural thieves without training, and any of the species can be taught. There is a dog of this kind in northwest Washington. He will pick up anything he can find around a yard or outside of a store, but his specialty is ladies' pocketbooks and handbags. When he sees one of these, he grabs it and runs, always succeeding in getting out of sight before he can be captured or followed. No owner has ever been seen, hence no complaints have been made at police headquarters, but there is but little doubt, if it were possible to follow the animal, that it would be found that he has been carefully trained as a purse snatcher and that he takes his booty home to his master. He seems to be aware that he is doing wrong, jumping fences and dodging around houses when running away.—Washington Star.

Curing a Snake Bite. As is well known, the copperhead is one of the most poisonous snakes, yet J. C. Trout, who was bitten by one three miles from Trimble, Tenn., experienced no serious effects, owing to the remedy he used, which is an uncommon one. He was out hunting, and when a couple of miles from home was bitten on the ankle. He at once started for home, and on the way chewed and swallowed what tobacco he had. When he reached his home, some fresh red popcorn root was procured, and with the milky juice which exudes from it a stripe was made around his leg just below the knee. The leg swelled up to the mark and no farther, but it finally became so tightly swollen and painful that the juice was washed off and another mark made with it around his thigh. The swelling gradually climbed up to the new mark, giving him relief, and he recovered without using any other remedy.—Chicago Tribune.

Glowworms are much more brilliant when a storm is coming on than at other seasons. Like many other mysteries of nature, this curious circumstance has never been explained.

THE SUGAR BOUNTY.

The Omaha Trade Exhibit makes the following exceedingly timely comment on the sugar bounty muddle: "The supreme court of Nebraska has handed down its decision in the case brought by the Oxwards mandating Auditor Moore to issue warrants for a sugar bounty of five-eighths of a cent a pound, passed by the last legislature, but for which no appropriation was made. This made a test case of the constitutionality of the law which has resulted adversely to it. This is to be regretted. The act providing for the bounty required the sugar companies to pay \$5 per ton for the extra dollar per ton would be restored to them in the shape of a bounty. This is bad faith on the part of the state, something we cannot afford, and a wrong that should be set right by the next legislature. The point under which the warrants are held to be illegally drawn is that no appropriation was made for their payment. This decision reveals a difficulty in the way of making appropriations for bounties. Appropriations must be specific. A certain sum of money must be set aside for a particular purpose. It cannot be told in advance of a season how much the state would be called upon to pay in the case of bounty on crops. The only apparent way out of the difficulty is for the legislatures, following the seasons when the beets are grown, to make the appropriation. This would probably not be very satisfactory to the companies, as they would have to lay out of the use of the money for some time. In any event we have got into a tangle in the matter and it should be straightened out in a manner just to the companies and honorable to the state."

JUDGE McHUGH of Omaha has concluded that he doesn't want a federal position, anyway, there being other ways of gaining a livelihood. From appearances the judge's conclusion is timely.

NEBRASKA is going to keep her Christmas stocking hanging in hopes of capturing a few sugar factories. Any other kind of factories will be gladly received, but sugar factories are what she is clamoring for at present.

A NEWSPAPER that has been digging in the records finds that every state that voted for Lincoln in 1860 was carried for McKinley in 1896, and that every state that voted to go out of the union in 1861, followed the lead of Jeff Davis, cast its vote for W. J. Bryan.

IF WE were to say, in our opinion, what periodical was most effective during the last four years in educating the people to a rightful view of the tariff question, with an almost technical knowledge of tariff matters, we should decide that the one paper above all others in the ability of its management and editorial department and for meritorious work, is the American Economist. It is always bright, argumentative and convincing and deserves all the good things that can be said of it.

THERE is much interest being taken in the election of a United States Senator for North Carolina in January next. The democratic party of that state is committed to the doctrine of free trade, and, as a consequence, is doing everything in its power to prevent the re-election of Senator Pritchard. While it is true that Mr. Pritchard is a friend to silver and will in the future, as in the past, advocate bimetalism, at the same time he is the acknowledged leader of the protection forces in south and has done more than any other man from that section to develop a sentiment in favor of protection for his re-election.—Economist.

INFORMATION AND OPINIONS.

Leb-statemens ride In pomp and pride Upon the plains about; No pass for me. Says Stridling, see? While this old shack holds us.

The people throve When I once drove The bull-teams up the Platte That carted freight Across the state— Where are those bull-teams at?—Baby.

A murder was committed in Emporia the other day. The murderer confessed, and his attorney admitted he did the shooting. The coroner's jury thought such evidence was incompetent, irrelevant and immaterial and failed to agree. If a fellow should turn in and murder a whole family the people down there with the love of justice in their hearts, would probably reciprocate by electing him mayor of the town.

Teachers of Osage City, Kan., are rejoicing. A short time since the board passed a resolution to the effect that the teachers should refrain from dancing while in the employ of the city, as a good example for the

pupils. The Knights of Pythias championed the cause of the teachers, and the business men held an indignation meeting, at which the following resolutions were passed: "Resolved, That the board of education be instructed to refrain from the use of tobacco in any form during their term of office. We do not believe good results can be accomplished along the line to the pupils while the members of the board indulge in such low practices."

Hubert Lardner, the newly elected clerk of the court of Bourbon county, Kas., is in hard luck. The other night he was thought to be an all-round crook by one of the Ft. Scott policemen and about two years ago he was arrested by a United States marshal as a suspected train robber.

It would be a good idea for the officers to celebrate the new year by having all the alleys in the city nicely cleaned. The sanitary condition of the city cannot be too carefully looked after.

A petition has been prepared asking the submission to the voters of St. Joseph a proposition to pension deserving firemen and those who have become crippled in the service, as well as widows and orphans of deceased members of the department.

John Williams, a local character, was arrested at Trenton, Mo., on suspicion. He was attempting to get a \$5 bill changed, and the authorities thought that was too much money for one man to have in these times of financial stringency. He will probably be prosecuted for impersonating Vanderbilt.

Public Sale.

I will sell at public vendue on January 28, at the premises five miles southeast of Murray, the following personal property, to-wit: One span of mules, 2 horses, 4 cows, 90 head of hogs, 15 tons of hay, 3 farm wagons, 1 spring wagon, 1 binder, cultivators, plows and other articles too numerous to mention.

Terms of sale: On all sums over \$5, 1 year's time will be given on purchaser giving note with approved security. Under \$5, cash in hand.

NICHOLAS KLAURENS, Administrator of Estate of Peter Klaurens, deceased. December 29, 1896.

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Everything clean fresh and pure. Milk, cream or butter milk delivered at your door every day.

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It will pay you to examine our fine lines in Diamonds, Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Silverware, Cut Glass, Sterling Silver Novelties, etc. High grade goods only. As for prices, there is no such thing as competition when quality is considered.

Early callers enjoy many advantages over those who put it off till the last few days. You are cordially invited to call on us and see the many beautiful things that we have filled our store with, in preparation for the holidays this year.

Eyes tested free by a graduate optician.

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PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM. Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Restores Fall to Hair. Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. High grade goods only. As for prices, there is no such thing as competition when quality is considered.

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Dr. J. H. McLEAN'S LIVER AND KIDNEY BALM

Has proven, in thousands of cases and for many years, to be the Peerless Remedy for this dreaded disease

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14-inch Kid doll, Shoe; stockings...	25	Toilet sets, \$1 to... 10 00
Large blackboards	25	Brass candle sticks, 25c to... 3 75
1,000 cloth books	17	Glass medallions 25c to... 3 75
Toy books, 5c to \$1 00		Mirrors, 25c to... 5 00
Games, 5c to... 4 00		Briar pipes, up to... 4 00
Doll buggies	25	Meerschmum pipes, up to... 6 00
Hobby horses, up	1 00	Fountain pens up to... 4 00
Doll beds	25	Photo albums, 25c 6 00
Tea sets, 10c to... 1 00		And many others.
Photo frames	10	
Photo albums, 25c 6 00		

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