

Few people have time to manufacture all the excuses they need.

The trouble with tallow candles as a substitute for coal oil is that tallow is going up, too.

Holmes, the insurance swindler, might have made money by publishing his own stories.

A scientific exchange asserts that "a ton of diamonds is worth \$35,000,000." We doubt it; but to make sure of the matter we will weigh ours some afternoon and find out.

Now that Chicago is on top of the heap, or dangerously near it, the New York papers have taken to snubbing poor little Boston. Even Boston has things that New York has not.

An electric trolley car was held up the other night at Wichita, Kan., by a lone highwayman. The fact that the lone highwayman was not killed will excite the curiosity of the people to know how he got off the car.

Before that flag is made which the English astronomer Ball says must be as large as Ireland in order to communicate with the people on Mars, it should be ascertained whether he means as big as Ireland really is or as big as it seems to England.

The report that Mars' canals have begun to double has been confirmed from several sources. The theory, therefore, that this phenomenon was due to some observer having been in a condition that caused him temporarily to see double will have to be abandoned.

If society is so taken with the bicycle and golf ideas of leg upholstery that it will require every man to wear knee breeches shortly, as the fashion editor announces, then society may be congratulated heartily upon being caught knowing what it is about. No art is so wise and skillful that it may add by dress the least to the power of the beauty of the naturally developed human body; but all art is wisest and most skillful when it resolves only to help the naturally developed human body to express its beauty with the most freedom.

Among the schemes devised by the young ladies "to get near the young men," as Mrs. Potter Palmer would express it, the "progressive hammock party," which has broken out in virulent form at Massillon, Ohio, occurs to us as being the most touching of all. Each young man is required to sit in a hammock with each young lady five minutes. If there is any device outside of a Chicago cable car that will get the new woman closer to the new man than the hammock party, particulars of the same will be gladly received at the summer resorts.

The men seem to be having almost as much trouble over their bicycling costumes as the women. There are hotels, it seems, that will not entertain men in knickerbockers, and they are by no means so welcome in all places in their bicycle clothes as with trousers that flap about their ankles and modish shirts. It is largely in this consideration of clothes (says Harper's Weekly) that the far-seeing look for the preservation of the horse and the continuance of some of the old-fashioned methods of conveyance. If men could live and move and transact their business in golf stockings and knickerbockers, and women in bloomers or short skirts, the bicycle's progress might be as sure as it has been swift. But as it is, the formalities of life, such as they are, militate gently but firmly against the bicycle, and though they are not effectual to hold it back, they do make a little for its restraint.

In these days of almost universal wheeled, when riding schools are used to cover a multitude of falls and when dismounting persons, with arms in slings, go about condemning banana peels in ostentatious tones, it is refreshing to read how society takes its "headers" at Newport. There is no skulking in back alleys after nightfall; no wabbling around a sawdust-covered floor with the blinds pulled down. Every amateur, male or female, who belongs to the upper set takes his wheel to the one fashionable avenue of the place and wallows in its white dust, head and heels, in whatever jumble an unruly wheel may precipitate. Helresses to millions have plumped into this famous roadway with graceful abandon, afterward seeking the democratic articles of vulgar commerce and patching themselves up in public. Why? Simply because it is the proper thing. Oh, potent reason, "it is fashionable." No-body questions why it should be so, for nobody doubts the edict. It may be vulgar to sneeze or to eat asparagus with a fork, but when it comes to a summer suit into the warm, pallid dust of Bellevue avenue society takes to it as unquestioningly as it takes to the surf. Let the merry work go on. It is a good, old democratic leveler. It marks a happy possibility unless it shall become so fashionable that riders who fall to tangle are to be considered as bad form.

The fashionable country undertaker slips at Graveston, L. I., who has buried a photograph with a funeral sermon and a hymn, which he proposes to work off at funerals in lieu of a preacher, has opened up a new field of endeavor for this wonderful inven-

tion. At first thought such a performance might appear to be sacrilege, and one would naturally expect that this country undertaker's incursion into the preacher's domain would bring down upon him a hot and withering avalanche of righteous invective from the gentlemen of the cloth, who have always enjoyed a monopoly of the business. But upon more studious reflection we are inclined to believe that the innovation will be welcome by the clergy, for when they are called upon to transform with glowing and fervent eulogy some old sinner into a white-robed saint with snowy wings it will be a great relief to turn it over to a photographer with a small boy to turn the crank. For a photograph has no conscience and no beliefs, and when a particularly sinful fellow who has robbed the widows and orphans to pay his pew rent gets short on breath and gives up his grip upon finite things, what a delicious joke it will be to have the photographer make the necessary misrepresentations to the throne of grace. To be sure, the photograph cannot weep, but its lachrymal deficiencies can be made up in tearful sounds and groans that will be calculated to move the perfunctory mourners to expressions of grief. Yes, the photographic funeral sermonizer is a good thing, and it can't come too quickly to the pulpit declaimers, who have always regarded a funeral as a fitting occasion for making an effort to outclass Ananias.

FRENCH JOURNALISM.

Why a Correspondent Failed to Report a Presidential Function.

The following is the explanation given by the Paris correspondent of the Independence Belge for not sending to that paper an account of a garden party at the residence of President Faure: "I must say a word, even if a day late, about the charming fete given yesterday at the Elysee by Mme. Felix Faure. I was there and I stand there; that is the reason why I could not send any account of the function. That is my only excuse, and it is the strongest proof of the charm of the evening which we all passed there."—New York Sun.

Undressed by Lightning.

Mr. C. R. Hoffman, of Butte, Mont., is now known as "the human lightning rod." The epithet is descriptive of his unique experience of what lightning can do in the way of instantaneously undressing a man. A writer in the New York World relates the story of the man, who survives, though stripped naked by a stroke of lightning: Hoffman was standing at the mouth of a mine. The bolt first struck his straw hat, tore a hole in it, and cut off part of the brim. Then it tore his clothing into shreds, and left him naked. The bolt, after passing through his hat, struck him on the shoulder and ran the full length of his body, burning the skin to a crisp on the sides and legs. It also cut his left foot on the side and bottom, breaking the bones of the foot.

He became unconscious as soon as he was struck, and did not revive for an hour and a half. When he regained his senses, he was in great pain, and was confined to the hospital for nine weeks. When his clothing was examined after the accident, it was seen that in many places the lightning had cut the cloth as neatly as if it had been done with a razor. Some of the cuts were long and straight. The lightning took his clothes off quicker than he could have undressed himself, and it threw them in a pile on one side of the track, with his shoes carelessly deposited beside the pile. The clothes seemed to have been neatly folded until they were examined, and found to be a pile of rags.

The Saying of Grace.

Some of Dickens' most touching and effective word pictures were those family gatherings where for a moment song and mirth were hushed and the revered head of the household quietly invoked a blessing on the repast. Who does not remember the wedding feast at the Wardle home, when even genial Mr. Pickwick brushed away a tear, and Dickens voiced his feelings in that memorable passage: "There are dark spots on the earth, but its light shines brighter in the contrast." And through a mist of happy memories rises the home of the Cheerybros, those typical examples, who in the midst of their prosperity always remembered at meal time the "Giver of all good": "For these and all other blessings, brother Charles," said Ned. "Lord make us truly grateful, brother Ned," said Charles.

Tax on Parisian Theaters.

The Paris theatrical managers are agitating, not for the abolition of the "Droit des pauvres"—or tax on theatrical receipts for the benefit of the poor—but for some change in the system of collection. At present the tax, which amounts to 15 per cent., is levied upon the gross receipts, and is often paid by managers who are making no profits, or sometimes even sustaining a nightly loss. Altogether the impost yields annually about 2,500,000 francs, or \$500,000. One result of the system is that there can be no mystery as to the degree of success or failure of any new play, as the official returns reveal the exact condition of each theatrical treasury, thus preventing the enormous amount of lying which forms a regular and important part of the press agents' business here and elsewhere.

Victoria's Domestic Affairs.

Queen Victoria's household is a large one, consisting of just under a thousand persons, for the maintenance of whom the nation sets apart the sum of \$2,500,000 every year. Most of the offices are sinecures or fixtures for life. Let a girl keep her ideals. They don't cut her father anything so long as she doesn't marry one of them.

THE KU CHENG RIOT.

Dissatisfaction at the State Department. News from China.

CARRYING OUT THE INSTRUCTIONS.

The Government Requested to Replace the Buoys and Beacons, Which Were Removed During the War.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 29.—The State Department is in receipt of a cablegram from Minister Denby, in which it states that in response to a request made by him to the Tsung Li Yamen, the Foai, Hsu Hsing I, has been sent to co-operate with Consul Hixson in investigating the Ku Cheng riot. The rank of the commissioner, who is an intend of circuit (Taotai) is, by treaty, equal to that of the Consul. It is supposed at the department that the name of this officer may have been altered in transmission over the cable, and it is possible that the name should be Hsu Yung-I, a well-known metropolitan officer, who for many years was vice president of the board of works and has also been, of late years, a minister of the Tsung Li Yamen. Should, however, the department be mistaken on this, the person appointed appears, from his name, unquestionably to belong to the family of this well known Minister. The wording of Mr. Denby's cablegram leads the department to believe that the commissioner has been sent from Peking, and it is also inferred that Minister Denby has given ample instructions to Consul Hixson and that he is enjoying all the facilities necessary to carry out the instructions of Acting Secretary Adee and that there was dissatisfaction with him at the State Department. The department is also in receipt of a dispatch from Minister Denby of July 10, last, stating that in view of a request from the consular body at Shanghai and with the concurrence of his colleagues at Peking, he as dean of the Diplomatic Corps had requested the government of China to replace the Yang Tsu buoys and beacons which were removed during the recent war.

Renamed for Unit-d States Minister to Mexico.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 29.—The White house mail bore the commission of Matt W. Ransom to be United States Minister to Mexico. The commission was dated Aug. 24. This ends a legal complication which Minister Ransom, after several months' service at his post at the City of Mexico, was declared ineligible to fill the office to which he had been appointed prior to the expiration of his term as United States Senator. It was held by the treasury accounting officers that had he felt within a constitutional inhibition against the appointment of Congressmen to offices created, or whose emoluments had been increased, during their service in Congress. It has been generally understood that Mr. Ransom would be promptly reappointed, and the slight delay which has occurred presumably has been for the purpose of definitely ascertaining that there were no more legal or other obstacles in the way of resuming Mr. Ransom to the Mexican mission. The Minister was in Washington a few days ago, but is now in North Carolina recuperating from an attack of illness due in part to the climate of the City of Mexico.

A Big War Dance.

BLACK RIVER FALLS, Wis., 29.—The big war dance of the Winnebago near this city furnished attraction for a great number of visitors. There was a dance in which the Chippewa Indians joined. Many presents were showered upon the Winnebago dancers. The dance will be continued next Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, when another delegation of thirty Chippewas will visit the Winnebago and extend the friendship of the tribe and smoke the pipe of peace. But one encounter took place, and that was the outgrowth of the Blackhawk murder. The affray was between Green Cloud, who is striving to get at the head of the tribe, and Herman Chase, who was interpreter at the broken arm in the encounter with the wily young warrior. Bloodshed is looked for when old Chief Blackhawk returns from the northern part of the State, as he has sworn to avenge the murder of his son and legitimate successor.

Shot and Wounded.

GUADALAJARA, Mex., Aug. 29.—George S. Morris, an American mining man, was shot and wounded in a duel at Ameca, a town west of here, by a Spaniard named Jos Salazar. The two men had a quarrel over a business deal and the Spaniard issued the challenge to fight a duel. Morris accepted and seconds were chosen. The fight took place on the outskirts of the town and at the first fire Morris received a bullet in his breast. He was carried from the field. A strong effort has been made to keep the affair quiet, as it very pronounced. No arrests have yet been made.

A Queer Story.

RED OAK, Ia., Aug. 29.—W. R. Lidwell, living several miles north of here, had a surgical operation for cancer of the face performed in Omaha a short time ago, in which it was found necessary to turn a flap of the skin back on the wound, turning the hair on the inside. The hair keeps on growing, and at regular intervals Lidwell has to go to a doctor to have the inside of his mouth shaved, the hair growing from the reversed flap of skin through into his mouth.

JURY SECURED AT LAST.

A. E. Dutton the Twelfth Juror Secured. SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Aug. 30.—After six weeks of tedious work, a jury to try William Henry Theodore Durrant for the murder of Blanche Lamont has at last been secured. S. E. Dutton, the twelfth juror secured, said that he was only in favor of the death penalty in a case of cold-blooded murder. He would also require that the circumstantial evidence be direct in order to reach a conclusion. Only one murder case had the talesman sat on, and that was twelve years ago. But if a chain of circumstantial evidence was presented to him so complete, so perfect as to leave no room for reasonable doubt, he would join in a verdict to convict. He was then accepted by both the prosecution and defense. Clerk Morris then read the information, which recited the crime, the record that Durrant arraigned on May 2, and to which he pleaded not guilty. Attorney Dickinson for the defense moved for an adjournment until Monday, as there was but one more trial day and both sides were tired. He thought an adjournment would assist in promoting it. District Attorney Barnes joined in the motion.

Judge Murphy said he was very anxious to go on with the case, but he believed that giving counsel a few days for preparation would facilitate the work. He asked counsel to understand that the case must go on, and if necessary court would be held on Saturday. He granted the motion. He said in some cases judges placed juries as soon as selected in charge of the sheriff, but he would not do so in this case, as he felt that he could trust the jurors to keep aloof from any conversation upon the case. Monday morning the case will be opened by District Attorney Barnes. His address is expected to cover the entire case and to marshal all the material points of prosecution. It was expected that he would ask to have two extra jurors selected as a reserve, but he did not do so. The difficulty in getting twelve, and the uncertainty as to the constitutionality of the new law caused him to do this. There have been 81,400 talesmen called in the case and 509 have been examined. The state exhausted four preemptory challenges and the defense eleven, making 497 excused on examination. The trial so far has occupied twenty-one days of the twenty-nine trial days in Judge Murphy's court since July 22.

The complete panel is as follows: I. J. Truman, Thomas W. Seiberlich, M. R. Dempsey, Nathan Crocker, Charles P. Nathan, H. J. Smythe, F. P. Hooper, L. Gregoire, Warren Dutton, David Brooks, H. Babbitt, S. E. Dutton.

Many Drowned.

CENTRAL CITY, Colo., Aug. 30.—Water broke through the wall separating the abandoned workings of the Bob Tail tunnel property and the Sleepy Hollow and Americus mines at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon and caught thirteen miners before they could be warned of their danger. News was brought here by couriers late in the day and men went down to assist in recovering the bodies, as it is not believed that any of the workmen escaped. How extensive this disaster is cannot be determined yet. The Bob Tail property was famous in the early days of Gilpin county for its great yield of gold. Its shafts and drifts and chambers penetrate into the hills for miles. The property was closed down for years. About four years ago a Haverhill, Mass., company opened a portion of the property named the Flek out of which they have taken over a million dollars. This has encouraged others to lease portions of the property, and such was the Sleepy Hollow and the Americus. The new workings must have gone too close to the abandoned drifts, filled with water, and the walls broke, engulfing the new workings. The break occurred at the Ma-bee workings, now idle. Two unknown Italians were drowned in the Americus and eleven in the Sleepy Hollow.

A later cause is given in a supposed rise of water in the incline shaft of the Gregory lode, whose pumps have not been in operation for some time. The excessive rainfall of this season is the remote cause of the pumps of the district not being able to handle the water.

To Help the Waifs.

DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 30.—The third annual convention of the Waif-Saving association of America met in the council chamber yesterday. Many delegates were present, many of them women. Temporary organization was effected in the morning. Mayor H. B. Fingree delivered an address of welcome to the delegates, which was responded to by Hon. William E. Mason of Chicago. Other addresses were made by Mrs. S. A. Small of Illinois, Mrs. Joseph Bonebright of Des Moines, Ia. J. J. Kelso of Toronto, Ont., read an interesting paper on "Neglected and Dependent Children of Canada." Gen. R. A. Alger, the president of the association, was present at the evening's session, which was devoted to addresses and reading of papers.

Supposed to Have Been Drowned.

HALIFAX, N. S., Aug. 30.—A dispatch from Charlottetown reports that probable loss of seven lives. Five men and two women went from Cape Bauld in a sailboat to Fifteen Points a week ago. They remained there with friends over night and left next day to return, and nothing has since been heard of them. Their relatives did not become anxious for several days, supposing that the party had prolonged their visit and when they made inquiries learned that the party was missing.

Charred Bones Found.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Aug. 28.—In the chimney of a little frame cottage standing at some distance from a number of residences of Irvington, a suburb of the city, detectives found the charred bones of little Howard Pitzel, one of the Holmes victims. The find was the reward of a long and persistent search by Detective Geyer of Philadelphia, who came here six weeks ago and has been working ever since on the theory that young Pitzel had been killed here. Yesterday he and Inspector Gary found the empty cottage at Irvington which had been occupied by a man answering Holmes' description and a little boy early last October. They began a search and soon found a large stove and the "black trunk" in which it had been supposed that the boy had been shipped away. Further search was rewarded by the finding of a number of charred bones in the chimney, together with the buttons from the boy's overcoat. Evidently the child had been murdered in the house and his body cremated there. The two came to the house together and were seen at the place for a week, when both disappeared and nothing has been since heard of them.

After the detectives left the Irvington house Dr. J. F. Barnhill one of the former owners of the house, continued the investigation begun by the officers, and a thorough search of the house was made. In a chimney were found charred bones, which, Dr. Barnhill said, are those of a human body. Pieces of the skull were found which, he says, are of a boy about the age of Pitzel, this fact being judged by the thickness of the skull. Pieces of the femur and other bones were also found. After brining from the chimney enough of the remains to satisfy himself that there could be no mistake, Dr. Barnhill came to this city and made known the facts to Detective Geyer. The latter said there was no use in digging further in search of the remains, as it was evident the chimney contained the object of their search. All the deposit of the chimney will be removed and a careful search of it made.

Fights Must Be Stopped.

AUSTIN, Tex., Aug. 28.—Attorney-General Crane handed down his opinion in the Corbett-Fitzsimmons prize-fighting case in reply to the interrogatory of Sheriff Cabell of Dallas county, as to whether he had any right to shoot down people in trying to suppress a fight. The attorney's reply is to the effect that the prize fighters, referee, etc., constitute an unlawful assemblage, and the statutes of the state make special provisions for the disbandment of such unlawful assemblages, that the sheriff is empowered to summon a posse or even the militia to his aid and in case the fighters will not cease their unlawful conduct then that the statutes especially provide that homicide is justifiable when absolutely necessary to suppress riots and unlawful gatherings. The attorney-general concludes his opinion by saying he does not think it necessary, still, if it is necessary, the statutes provide the sheriff can use firearms in disbanding any unlawful assemblage.

Robert Inman Lost.

NEW YORK, Aug. 28.—Robert W. Inman, the cotton broker, whose sloop yacht Adelaide, was run down by the iron steamboat Perseus in the bay off Merton's Point, had not returned to his apartments, No. 32 West Thirtieth street yesterday nor had any news concerning him been received at his office in the Cotton Exchange building, and it is now feared that he was lost. All the others of the party have been accounted for. According to one of the Adelaide's crew, Mr. Inman boarded the Perseus when the boat collided, occurred, declare that he was not picked up, either by the steamboat, the fishing smack or Captain Jacobs, who afterwards brought the Adelaide to the New York yacht club anchorage. It is feared that Mr. Inman was caught under the paddle wheel of the Perseus and killed.

Made a Hasty Departure.

LONDON, Aug. 28.—The Chronicle published a dispatch from Constantinople saying that Shakir Pasha, first aide-de-camp to the sultan, who in June last was appointed imperial commissioner in connection with reforms in Armenia, started in great haste on Sunday by special steamer for the scene of his duties. Three British warships have been reported off Miltlene. Their appearance explains Shakir Pasha's hasty departure. It is urged in influential quarters in Constantinople that the Dardanelles in Constantinople that by hesitation or otherwise British prestige in the east will be seriously endangered. The presence of a fleet will alone convince the sultan that Lord Salisbury is serious in his insistence for reforms in Armenia.

United States as Arbitrator.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—A World special from Lima, Peru, says: The United States will be asked to be arbitrator in the dispute between Peru and Bolivia.

Languiques in Jail.

DENVER, Col., Aug. 28.—Frederick Wentz, the Philadelphia bank clerk, failed to obtain bail and still languishes in jail to await a hearing. He made an effort to secure bail from friends in the Denver athletic club, where he was entertained as a guest before the exposures of his crime were made. Witnesses will be brought here from Philadelphia. Wentz continues to assume a non-committal attitude, only saying he intends to fight.

STATE NEWS ITEMS.

1895 SEPTEMBER. 1895

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The canning factory at Tekamah is making a large pack. Sweet corn that it was thought would not make half a yield has turned out an average crop.

The farmers are beginning to haul their wheat and rye to market. The quality is very good. It is free from smut. There will not be much shipped east, but will be fed to stock in connection with alfalfa.

The family of Judge Byington, has turned up all right. They were away from home when their house burned. It is thought, however, that the place was burned by some one. Everything in the house went up in smoke. Mr. Byington was in Springfield yesterday and the people there made him quite a donation.

The body of Mrs. Ada Vennum, who was drowned in the Elkhorn river near Norfolk Sunday night was taken to Exeter Wednesday and after funeral services in the Congregational church was interred in the Exeter cemetery. Mrs. Vennum's parents and other relatives are highly respected and have the sympathy of the entire community in their bereavement.

Several new irrigation plants are being talked of among the ranchmen on the Lodge Pole canal. The village of Lodge Pole, eighteen miles east of Sidney will vote bonds for the purpose of securing an experimental artesian well. There is no question that such a move will do much toward proving the efficacy of the scheme, and the general opinion is that they will not have to go more than 800 feet.

Rain knocked out the tennis tournament at Ashland Wednesday. The finals in the doubles between Calhoun and Sweeny of Springfield and Shedd and Lindley of Ashland had to be given up, as well as the entire single tournament. The game were well contested and very interesting, about three hundred being in attendance. Another tournament will be held there the latter part of September.

A change is announced in the proprietorship of the Burt County Herald at Tekamah. J. K. Sutherland has sold out his interest to his partner, Charles K. Ott, who will conduct the paper on the same line as heretofore. Sutherland retires from the newspaper business in order to devote his entire attention to the office of secretary of the State Board of Transportation, to which he was appointed some months ago.

Snyder, the man arrested for selling liquor in the northern part of the county, on the border of the Omaha reservation, had his preliminary hearing yesterday. A large quantity of the fire water captured at the Snyder ranch was brought into court and sampled, and the beer almost drove the crowd from the court room when the keg was opened. This is the second case against Snyder for this kind of an offense.

The Board of Supervisors in session at Beatrice Thursday afternoon in dividing the county into seven supervisors' district, and selected seven members by lot from the board as heretofore constituted. Those drawn are: F. E. Whyman, Adams; A. S. Casad, Highland; H. C. Stoll, Riverside; G. W. Maurer, Beatrice; Ed Wilkinson, Sherman; E. W. Fenton, Wymore; V. J. E. Keller, Sicily. Whyman was made chairman of the new board and an adjournment taken until September 3.

The Gage county board of supervisors which is in session at Beatrice has found the redistricting matter a hard nut to crack. There is nearly as great a variety of opinions as to how the seven districts should be created as there are members of the board and after vainly trying to reach a conclusion three committees of five members each were appointed to prepare plans for division. The question was also raised as to the meaning of the statute relating to the division of townships in making up the new districts. The county attorney was unable to render a decision and the board adjourned until he could have a consultation with the attorney-general on the matter. It was reported that the board would finally ignore the new law, but only four or five of the thirty members have been heard to express themselves in favor of such action. It is likely that the question will occupy the greater part of the week.

The appointment of O. S. Parmelee as postmaster at Tekamah, vice W. H. Korna, resigned, gives general satisfaction. Parmelee has good endorsements from both republicans and democrats. He is an administration democrat.

Sidney is now becoming a great feeding resort for sheep and cattle. The prairies are loaded down with feed and the shippers from Utah and Wyoming are becoming aware of western Nebraska's benefits in that direction.