

EDITORIALS

OPINIONS OF GREAT PAPERS ON IMPORTANT SUBJECTS

Vigor from the Farm.

SECRETARY ROOT, who is a native of Clinton, Oneida County, N. Y., deprecates the fondness of the Americans of rural communities for city life. He estimates that the urban population of the country is now 25,000,000. The movement to the cities goes on at an increasing ratio. "We are facing," says the Secretary of War, "a new set of conditions in the formation of national character. Life in the city tends to greater alertness of mind, to a sharpening of the faculties and greater nervous energy, but at the same time to a strained intensity and refinement of the nervous system which will make a different race of us. If the strong, self-possessed, self-centered, dominant man is to continue his race he must continue in contact with the soil. No race of the city bred can perpetuate these qualities, for the nerves and sinews are strengthened and the moral integrity enlarged and deepened by contact with the soil, by the soothing and calming influence of nature."

The city is always calling to the rural American of the old stock. It offers him golden opportunities, and he comes to make the most of them. Run through the list of the generals of Wall street, the leaders of the bar, the skillful physicians, the merchant princes, the big contractors, the engineers and architects who are most in demand, and you will find that a surprisingly large number of them came to New York with one suit of clothes, a change of linen and a ranshackle trunk. Their capital is thrift, hope and an appetite for work. Their constitution was a bank which honored every draft upon it. They out-work, out-fight and out-live the city man, and fall is not in their lexicon.—New York Evening Sun.

English Jury System.

THE English jury system remains so far unmodified for two reasons—that it has worked well on the whole, and that public opinion is not easily roused in favor of innovations. But the requirement that all the twelve good and true men shall be unanimous does occasionally cause great inconvenience. We had a flagrant illustration in the Pasenball case, where two successive juries disagreed. And in the London Sheriff's Court the other day, one obstinate man held out against the other eleven, and caused all the labor of the hearing to come to naught. In the opinion of the under sheriff, who summed up, there was no point of difficulty to be decided; but, whether there was difficulty or not, it is amazing that one individual, a twelfth of the whole body, should have the power of nullifying the unanimity of the rest. Of course, the jury is "the palladium of the Englishman's liberties," and as such has furnished many a flowing oratorical period. No one, however, proposes to tamper with the "palladium." The only change advocated is the substitution of a two-thirds majority for absolute unanimity. The Scotch have got on very well with a majority system, which applies in England already to coroner's inquests, and would not do any harm at Assizes as well.—Liverpool Mercury.

Problem of the Country Towns.

EVERY year or two somebody of an impulsive turn of mind publicly discovers that the country towns are going to smash, whenever a number of particularly tough cases have been brought to light, through the courts or otherwise. These prophets of woe are of the same class as travelers who judge a city by its slums and back streets. The country town is no annex of reahus celestial. It has its toughs sometimes, its degenerates occasionally, and its share of no-account folks, like the city. Only a few of them, to be sure, but police supervision being necessarily limited, moral lapses sometimes become pronounced and offensive, yet much less so than would happen in the cities where the restraints are lax. The big cities without a trained police force would be scarcely endurable, as places of residence. However, such comparisons do not disprove that room for country improvement exists, espe-

cially when much of the good old stock has been supplanted by people of inferior and neglected training. Whatever can be done by way of remedy must be done by the good citizens, and is a part of the personal responsibility of each. There are officers to be aroused to their duty, laws to be enforced, children to be kept in school, work to be furnished, religious and charitable measures to be employed. What many a town needs more than anything else is selectmen and constables who are willing and anxious to perform the plain duties of their office.—American Cultivator.

Eyes and Headaches.

MOST medical books for popular reading mislead by confining themselves to what he calls a "biographical clinic," Dr. George M. Gould has succeeded in his book called "Genius and Eye Strain," in writing one of the most useful works on popular medicine that has recently appeared.

Some four centuries of investigation in modern medicine were necessary before the faculty discovered the relation between the imperfect lens of the eye and nervous strain, which registers itself in large or small derangement of the entire system from a passing headache down to life-long derangement of digestion. It is not surprising that this relation is still little understood by most of the community.

By taking four men—De Quincy, Carlyle, Huxley and Browning—and using them as examples of the neglect of this fact, Dr. Gould has made one of those convincing personal demonstrations which will lead any one who watches their own development or has to do with children to be prompt to understand that where there is interruption of normal function, in adolescence or during any work of any kind, mental or manual, one of the first questions which should be asked is whether the eyes do not need examination, not by some one who does nothing more than fit glasses, but by a competent physician who makes this field his specialty.

There are fruitful children, juvenile delinquents, women who are unable to control their tempers, and men who find themselves unequal to the task of plying their craft, their calling or their profession, whose life would be changed and altered if this were once understood and acted upon.—Philadelphia Press.

Thousand-Dollar Bills.

THE recent finding of a thousand-dollar bill has brought out the inquiry, How many such bills are there in existence? As a number of correspondents have asked us this question, the answer may be of general interest to our readers. According to the tables prepared by the United States Treasury, there were outstanding on Jan. 31, 1903, United States notes of the value of \$1,000 each to the amount of \$26,035,000. Of the treasury notes of 1890, \$564,000 was outstanding in \$1,000 bills; \$25,000 was outstanding in national bank notes in such bills; \$46,735,500 in gold certificates, and \$159,000 in silver certificates, making the grand total \$73,515,500, which would seem to prove that there were outstanding, according to the treasury estimates on Jan. 31 last, 73,515,500 \$1,000 bills. The greatest amount of our paper money is in \$10 bills, which foot up to \$440,556,992. Then come \$5 bills, amounting to \$349,094,304, with \$20 bills third, footing up \$396,531,596. These three classes make up practically two thirds of the paper money now outstanding. The fourth class is \$10,000 bills, the fifth \$100, the sixth \$1, the seventh \$1,000, the eighth \$50, the ninth \$2, and the tenth \$5,000. The great bulk of the ones and twos, and even the fives, are silver certificates. More than half of the tens are United States notes, while national bank notes and gold certificates make up the bulk of the twenties. Beyond the thousand-dollar limit there is practically nothing but gold certificates, the only other paper money, according to the treasury table, being three United States notes, two for \$5,000 each and one for \$10,000.—Boston Herald.

AMERICANS OF PURE BLOOD STRAIN ARE FOUND IN THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS.

MANY people understand in a vague way that the purest American strain of the United States is found in the Southern States. In some of these the proportion of foreign born is a minute fraction. Of course, in the Atlantic coast and gulf line States there is a large black mixture, but in the Appalachian Mountains the white Anglo-Saxons are found almost pure. This is an enormous region, stretching from Pennsylvania to Mississippi and making up the mountain hinterland of nine States that front on the ocean and on great navigable rivers.

The President of Berea College, which lies near the Kentucky mountains, describes these people in a recent lecture in the North as "our contemporary ancestors." The phrase describes them like a picture. These mountaineers, to the number of several millions, are living in the precise manner and amid almost forgotten conditions of colonial times. Industrially the women retain the art of the spinning wheel and hand loom; the men are clever in the use of the whip saw for getting out lumber and the hand mill for grinding corn. The mountain stills use the primitive methods of the last century and the mountain potteries make open lamps in which grease is burned with a floating wick. Intellectually they have rather degenerated than developed from the Scotch-Irish ancestors of the eighteenth century, but they have retained strict, though narrow, religious ideas.

What is to be the future history of these colonial Americans of pure blood, hardly changed for five generations, who thrive and multiply in lonely homes, only a day's journey from modern civilized life? They have physical vigor and latent intellectual power. The few individuals like Andrew Jackson and Lincoln who have risen out of the mass have left the strongest mark upon our national life and history. It is a common question, in playing with historic analogies, where the barbarians are to come from to renew decayed American civilization as the Teutonic tribes renew that of Rome. Perhaps they will pour down, when the time is ripe for them, out of this mountain backbone of the continent.—Minneapolis Tribune.

We say we roast our meats. We talk glibly of 'roast beef,' 'roast chicken' and so on; but what we should say is 'baked beef' and 'baked chicken,' for anything cooked in an oven is baked, not roasted. We don't talk of roast bread, do we? Yet we cook our meat in the oven as our bread is cooked.

"To roast meat you must cook it on a spit before the fire. You must turn it constantly. Every little while you must baste it. It is hard to roast meat. But meat roasted is in every way better than meat baked. It is tenderer, sweeter and more digestible. Also its appearance is more appetizing, and the appearance of a vland has a tremendous effect on its digestibility.

"Experiment—actual experiment—has shown that the sight of an appetizing dish starts the gastric juice to flowing instantly, and that such a dish digests much more quickly and thoroughly than an unappetizing one. Altogether we ought to go back to the

genuine roasting process of our ancestors, and our health would improve and there would be less talk about vegetarianism.

"Of course I and all good chefs actually roast meat. But roasting is with the average cook in the average American household an unknown process."

An Engraver's Feat.

An engraver of Odessa has engraved the entire Russian national hymn upon a grain of corn, and recently he presented the curiosity to the Czar. His majesty has now forwarded to him through the Civil Governor of Odessa a gold watch and chain, with his thanks for carrying out such a laborious undertaking.

Ill-Timed.

"You say your playing created a great deal of talk?" said the friend. "Yes," answered the pianist, "but, unfortunately, it was mostly during my performance."—Washington Star.

CABINET OFFICERS EARN EVERY DOLLAR OF THE SALARIES THEY RECEIVE.

THE position of cabinet officer must be a snap in Washington," remarked a visitor to a resident official friend in the office of an uptown hotel this morning. "I would like to have the office 'tendered' to me. The alacrity with which I would 'accept the portfolio' would be astonishing."

"But there might be reasons why you would not accept," replied the official. "The position is very far from a snap, as you say, and I, being a poor man, would, for one man in the capital, decline the honor, no matter how much I might secretly desire the office."

"There is not a member of a cabinet, with possibly an exception here and there, who gets out of the game for less than \$20,000 a year and no one under \$10,000 or \$12,000. To properly maintain the position of cabinet officer, and to live upon the salary would entail the practice of economy which would be quite unusual. A member of the house can live—and many practically do—upon his mileage, but not a member of the cabinet upon his salary. I have known of many members of different cabinets who have spent from \$30,000 to \$150,000 a year. In the Senate and House combined there are scores of men who have practically no incomes other than their salary of \$5,000 a year. These men work for what may be properly termed their wages."

"Cabinet officers do not work for their salaries; they merely accept what the Congress decided a century or two ago, in stage coach days, to be adequate compensation. The salary of the office did not enter into their calculations in ninety-nine cases out of 100 when their portfolio was tendered them."

"When a cabinet officer is a wealthy man, as most of them usually are, they work for a variety of reasons. Some have wives who have social ambitions and tastes which cannot be gratified in their former environments. Others work for the personal pleasures, the privileges and the honors the position bestows, the last being more or less passed down to their posterity. Others give up \$100,000 a year income, toll like messengers over their desks by day and eat official dinners at night for reasons past finding out. Some believe, usually erroneously, however, and occasionally correctly, that service in the cabinet may prove of future use to them in presidential conventions or in senatorial elections. Dozens of members of the cabinet have resigned before the end of the first two years."

"The pay is incommensurate with the responsibilities and the work. A cabinet officer once said to me: 'My salary pays my house rent and gas bills. My work is performed solely for love; it is uncompensated, and, upon the theory that the laborer is worthy of his hire, I am going back home and gather up the stray strings to my scattered income,' and home he went shortly afterward."

"To the feminine members of a cabinet officer's family the rule is reversed. They get about \$1,000,000 a year each out of it in the gratification of their personal ambitions and desires and the fun they have."

"You often hear men say: 'I would go into the cabinet for \$8,000 a year.' These men can't get in. Ninety-five per cent of the cabinet officers of the United States, who are not multimillionaires, serve their country at a sacrifice, and the latter do, too, to a certain extent. Upon a single meeting of the cabinet may hang the fate of hundreds of thousands of lives and the expenditure of billions of money, yet the men who thus are to pass judgment are paid salaries on a par with the cashier in a New York bank of small size."

"I should think that Congress would properly increase the pay of cabinet officers."

"My friend, you do not understand Washington life. For over a century there has been a deadly social feud between the members of the Senate and the members of the cabinet. Up to the time of the passage of the presidential succession act, placing the cabinet in line for succession to the presidency in the event of death, the Senators had the best of it, but to-day the wives of the cabinet members carry the trophy flag. There is no immediate prospect of the passage of the bill you suggest."—Washington Star.

ENGLAND'S NAVY TO BE INCREASED BY ADDITION OF THIRTY-ONE NEW VESSELS.

THE naval program of the British government for the coming financial year is bold and comprehensive, says the London correspondent of the Washington Star. Although the details of the ships to be ordered are not yet drawn up, it has been decided to order thirty-one new fighting vessels, exclusive of a river gunboat, a new admiralty yacht, and a surveying ship. The new program includes three battleships, three armored cruisers, four scouts, fifteen destroyers, ten submarines and two coast guard cruisers. Even the "forward group," who desire the navy to be increased at the expense of the army, will be satisfied at the estimates, which propose a net increase of the naval expenditure of £3,250,000, compared with the last year.

Exclusive of £1,250,000 met by appropriations, the total expenditure will be £34,500,000. The personnel will be 127,000, a net increase of 4,600, for which £619,000 increase is taken. The biggest increase, however, is £2,250,000 for new construction, principally in contract work. The item for armaments has decreased by £150,300 to £3,250,000, but there is an increase of nearly £500,000 in works.

Those who have complained in the past that the naval authorities appear to have been asleep while other countries were making a great fuss over the doings of their submarines will be particularly pleased with the statement explaining the navy estimates. The admiralty have been active in the matter of submarines and before long England should have a nice little fleet of these queer craft. A year ago five of these vessels were under construction and they have been delivered.

Trials will shortly commence to test their practical utility, both for defense and attack, and one may expect to hear some interesting details. Meanwhile four vessels of an improved type have been laid down, and it is hoped they will be completed before the end of March, 1904. One of the four has so far advanced that preliminary trials have begun, but secrecy is maintained as to the results. Evidently they have been satisfactory, for it is proposed to build ten more.

DON'T DROP BEHIND.

No Woman Should Lose Her Hold Upon Progress and Growth.

Often times one hears a woman complain that she is losing her hold on progress—that she hasn't time to read and to keep up generally.

Why has she dropped behind? Some women do not. Under any circumstances, amid any surroundings, they develop. Take them into a log cabin in the wilderness and they return to civilization and talk so delightfully about their experiences that everyone envies them the chance of the wilderness and the joys of the log cabin. In their success one finds a hint of the possibility of catching up with the procession, and keeping up with it, too. What is their secret of progress, where other women fall out of the line of advance?

One woman, relates Harper's Bazar, who lived in the most out-of-the-way place in all Texas for some ten years, and came back more charming than she went, explained it thus: "I never let either my dress or my mind get careless. There is a great deal in girding up one's loins, as the Bible advises, and keeping them girded. Once loosen everything and you dissolve in sloth, and lose ground before you know it." She was determined not to drop behind, and, having the will, she found the way. She kept up her correspondence with many friends, subscribed for a New York newspaper, and read it regularly, even if a trifle late, and studied with so much interest the life of the far-away spot where she lived, its people, its animals, its plants, its customs and incidents, that when she came back to her Eastern home and talked to her friends about it, every woman of them sighed and said: "Oh, what an opportunity you had in being there!" Instead of com-

plaining her for having been a thousand miles from a woman's club.

Bees and Red Clover.

Select strains of Italian bees work under certain circumstances on the blossoms of common red clover, particularly of the second crop, the corollas of the latter being shorter than those of the first crop, at least in most cases. Carniolan bees also work on these blossoms. Had the same care been bestowed upon the Carniolan race in the way of selection of breeding material during the past forty years that has been given to the Italian race no doubt select strains might now exist which would work to a greater extent on red clover than the best bred Italians.

The longest tongued honeybees, however, are the Cyprian race, and these work the most freely on red clover under such conditions as any bees will work on this plant. All honeybees whenever seen working on blossoms are distributing pollen, of course, and effecting the pollination of the plants. Yet the main pollinators of red clover are still wild bees, especially those of the genus *bombus*, the common bumblebee.

A Sacred Tree.

The oldest tree on earth with an authentic history is the great bo-tree of Burma. For twenty centuries it has been held sacred to Buddha, and no person is allowed to touch its trunk. When the leaves fall they are carried away as relics by pilgrims.

Undressed kid is the favorite material for slippers, but slippers are not the favorite material with the undressed kid.

Some men's idea of a brilliant leader is a partner who leads trumps opportunely.

QUEER STORIES

North America has twenty volcanoes, Central America twenty-five and South America thirty-seven.

The so-called sword of the narwhal is in reality nothing but a huge tooth. It sometimes grows to a length of ten feet.

A herring lives the shortest time of any fish when taken out of water; carp and eels the greatest length of time.

The wives of knights and baronets have no legal right to the title of "lady." They should be known as "dames."

In the colony of Queensland there are sixty thousand more men than women, and in New South Wales ninety thousand more men than women.

A well-known English woman pays \$4,000 a year to be made beautiful. Her treatment lasts from six to seven hours every day. She is kept in a bath for one hour, and a dark room for four, and for the remainder is bandaged from head to foot in chemical preparations.

About sixty thousand water-wheels are used for manufacturing in the United States, yielding 1,300,000-horse power, or one-quarter to one-third of the whole power used. Of this total, 250,000-horse power is used by the two thousand mills in New England. It was not until 1875 that the amount of steam-power used passed the water-power used in New England. There are one thousand miles of river available for power in New England, and two thousand dams.

A naturalist, while visiting Great Sangir, one of those islands of the Indian ocean known as the Celebes or Spice Islands, found a curious time recorder lodged at the house of a rajah. Two bottles were firmly lashed together and fixed in a wooden frame. A quantity of black sand ran from one bottle into the other in just half an hour, and when the upper bottle was empty the frame was reversed. Twelve short sticks, marked with notches from one to twelve, were hung upon a string. A hook was placed between the stick bearing the number or notches corresponding to the hour last struck and the one to be struck next. The sentry announced the time by striking the hours on a large gong.

CONFESSION OF A VEGETARIAN.

Often Hungered for Meat, but Felt Worse After Eating It.

In a downtown store where vegetarians are supplied with nut meats the proprietor's son is himself a devotee of the cult. He has been living on vegetables, fruit and nuts for nine months and is an enthusiast.

"Before I adopted my present mode of living," he said to a Mail and Express reporter, "I was bothered with headaches and felt bad—sluggish and stupid. I worked daily in a gymnasium, but couldn't shake that feeling off. Then I changed to vegetables and nut meat and I felt like a different being. My headaches left me; I felt bright and became more active. I found I could bear a greater physical strain in the gymnasium. Why, I can dance all night without fatigue. And some of the men who live as I do can stand the greatest amount of cold without discomfort. They come in here for nut meat on the coldest days, wearing no overcoat, vest or undershirt. It's just fine." He drew himself up as he spoke, his eyes sparkling. He was enthusiastic.

The reporter to whom he was speaking was rather an ancient person of portly habit, much given to the flesh pots through defective early training, possibly, and withal inclined to scoff. So with diabolical intent the reporter said to the glowing youth:

"Don't you ever experience a meat hunger? For instance, a nice, thick steak, deep brown on the outside, the inside a robust red, the steaming juices running out of it, fried potatoes and—"

"Alas, for frail humanity! It was too much. The youth bent forward, the corners of his mouth quivering. He permitted his questioner to get no further than the potatoes.

"Oh, yes," he interrupted. "I eat a steak occasionally, but I always feel the worse for it next day."

ST. LOUIS BOY WHO IS THE CHAMPION BIBLE READER.

St. Louis claims to have the champion bible reader in the person of young Hardy Winn, a member of the Lafayette Park Baptist church of this city.

Hardy is but 16 years old, yet he has a record of reading 270 chapters of both testaments in one week. This remarkable feat was accomplished as the result of a bible-reading contest started in Hardy's Sunday school class. The fact that young Winn works during the day makes his efforts all the more noteworthy.

Hardy proved an easy victor in the contest, reading the entire new testament and ten chapters of the old. All the rest of the class combined read out 581 chapters, and the youth will be presented a prize by his teachers for his good showing.

Terminal facilities of wasps are not very large, but they are simple for their purpose.



HARDY WINN.