

## DEATH MASK OF PRESIDENT MCKINLEY



The death mask of President McKinley, taken soon after death at Buffalo has been sent to Washington, where it will be preserved among the most sacred mementoes which are kept in the capital city. A duplicate of the mask will be made and sent to Princeton University, to be added to the cel-

ebrated collection presented to that institution some years ago by Lawrence Hutton of New York. In this collection are the death masks of Cromwell, Napoleon, George Washington, Lincoln, Edwin Booth, Lawrence Barrett, Richard Brinsley Sheridan, and many other famous men.

## THE WEDDING RING

Attached to the use of the ring in wedding and other ceremonies from the earliest times there have been mystic meanings. Whether the plain band or the motto-inscribed article which the changing times brought into fashion, the ring has retained the significance attached to it as a sacred emblem or an emblem typifying sacred ceremonies. To the devoutly religious or the careless scoffer at religion the little circlet has its charm.

From the earliest period mystic significance has been associated with the ring. In its circular continuity it was accepted as a type of eternity and of the stability of affection. The Jews make it an important feature of the betrothal in the marriage ceremony. The rings used in the Jewish marriage rite were sometimes of large size and much elaboration of workmanship. It is necessary, according to the Jewish law, that the rings be of a certain value. It is examined and certified by the officiating rabbi and chief officers of the synagogue when it is received from the bridegroom, whose absolute property it must be, and not obtained by credit or gift. When this is properly certified the ring is returned to him and he places it on the bride's finger, calling attention to the fact that she is, by means of this ring, consecrated to him, and so completely binding in this action that, should the marriage not be further consecrated, no other could be contracted by either party without a legal divorce.

Solemn betrothal by means of the ring often preceded matrimony in the middle ages and was sometimes adopted between lovers who were about to separate for long periods. Shakespeare has more than once alluded to the custom, which is absolutely enacted in his

"Two Gentlemen of Verona," where Julia gives Proteus a ring, saying: "Keep you this remembrance for thy Julia's sake," and he replies: "Why, then, we'll make exchange. Here, take you this."

The fourth finger of the left hand has from long usage been consecrated to the wedding ring, from an ancient belief that from this finger a nerve went direct to the heart. So completely was this fanciful piece of physiology confided in by the Greeks and Romans that their physicians term this the medical or healing finger and used it to stir their mixtures, from a notion that nothing noxious could communicate with it without its giving immediate warning by a palpitation of the heart. This superstition is retained in full force in some country places, notably in Europe, where all the fingers of the hand are thought to be injurious except the ring finger, which is thought to have the power of curing any sore or wound which is stroked by it.

**Potatoes in Washington.**  
An immense potato crop has been raised this season by irrigation in the Yakima Indian reservation in the state of Washington. The quantity for export is 2,000 carloads, and one farmer will clear \$10,000. It is estimated that the crop will be 40,000 tons, worth \$1,000,000.

**Alcohol Product in Germany.**  
The production of alcohol in Germany in the year 1897 was 95,532,300 gallons, two-thirds of which was derived from potatoes of domestic origin. It was produced in country distilleries, which number about 12,500, of which 5,226 produce only from 264 to 2,642 gallons.

Words may shake a man's convictions but seldom shatter them.

## BERGONSFIELD AT 22

This is a picture of Lord Beaconsfield at the age of 22. He was then plain Benjamin Disraeli, and had just published his famous novel, "Vivian Grey," which won high favor in literary London. The picture was simply published as "the author of 'Vivian Grey,'" and for a time was



the talk of the town. Lord Beaconsfield was born in 1804 and died in 1881.

## ALASKA IS FERTILE

Alaska is not as barren a land as people generally regard it. The commonly received opinion is that it is a region of snow and ice, of chilly blasts and utter desolation. Governor Brady, however, thinks there is much to enjoy there, if one may judge by his Thanksgiving proclamation, in which he sets forth many reasons for gratitude. Here are some of them: "We in Alaska in comparing our blessings with those which our friends enjoy in other places find that we have much for which to be thankful. We have an abundance of grass, and where men have attempted to till the earth it has yielded many fold and those who have tried it are satisfied that greater things are in store for them. The sea has not failed to yield of its abundance and our fishermen have been handsomely rewarded for their toil. The mineral wealth of Alaska is more promising today than in the past. It is here, and when obtained will represent human effort. We have not been visited by destructive disturbances of the atmosphere, earth or sea. While we recount our manifold blessings our thoughts will be tempered by the calamity which overwhelmed so many people on the steamship Islander and by the humiliation which we feel in the manner of the death of President McKinley."

**Apparatus for Making Coffee.**  
Thousands of apparatuses for making coffee have been invented. The Patent Office is packed with pots, etc., some of which cost \$25 apiece. Some experts say boil the coffee; some say don't boil it. Some foreigners prefer to make it in a saucepan, and they have it as clear as crystal and as strong as alcohol. While I was in Sumatra, several years ago, I drank coffee made of the dried leaves of the coffee tree instead of the beans. At first I supposed they were brewing tea. But it was as fine coffee as I have ever tasted.

## EXPULSED PROFESSOR

M. Edouard Herve, the French professor who has been dismissed from his chair in Paris for writing anti-military articles, is one of the most distinguished scholars in France, and has been an eminent figure in the educational and literary life of Paris since philosophy at the Normal College. He is a member of the French Academy, a knight of the Legion of Honor and has been several times honored by many of the learned societies of Europe. M. Herve was professor of mathematics at the University of the City of Paris. His



offense was alleged to incite insubordination in the army and to prejudice citizens against military service. M. Herve is 65 years old, but age does not seem to have dampened the fires of his youth, which was marked by that almost defiant spirit with which he opposes his enemies in his present severe trouble. His article and its results are the foremost topic in political circles in the French capital.

## HELPS ELKHORN'S EXTENSION

Prospective Opening of Rosebud Agency Pleases the Road.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 30.—Officials of the Northwestern system have recently learned something that causes them to think still more highly of their extension of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad from Verdigris into Boyd county and to plan a slightly different future for this line. Two weeks ago it leaked out that the government would shortly open up a portion of the Rosebud Indian reservation, just north of Boyd and Keya Paha counties and across the line in South Dakota. Inquiry was at once made of Clem Deaver at the O'Neill land office, through which agency this will be done, and the answer was that the order was not yet formally issued, but that it would probably take effect soon.

This means that about 150 square miles of the finest farm land will be open soon for settlers and plans in the Verdigris extension have been conditionally altered to allow for this. The primary intention of the Northwestern officials was to reach into the rich farm lands of Boyd county, in which every quarter section has a settler and where the best corn in Nebraska was raised last season. To that end surveyors, under the direction of General Manager Bidwell of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad, has been pushing the line into the county lengthwise, about directly westward. Mr. Bidwell returned from the scene of the work last Tuesday night.

"The men are now about forty miles from the starting point, Verdigris," said he, "and are now spreading out into the country along two branching lines. One goes on westward toward Butter, the other reaches more to the north. These are both merely tentative feelers, the object being to choose which is the best route for the extension finally."

## The Memorial Fund.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 30.—State Superintendent of Public Instruction Fowler has prepared plans for the collection of subscriptions for the McKinley monument fund among the school children of the state. The work will be commenced January 6, and Mr. Fowler suggests that the lists be closed January 28, the fifty-ninth anniversary of the birth of the martyred president. With the beginning of the new year the state committee will commence the active work of gathering funds. The Workingmen's association will have its plans perfected by that time.

## Assign Terms of Court.

YORK, Neb., Dec. 30.—It has been ordered by S. H. Sornberger and B. F. Good, judges of the district court of the Fifth judicial district of Nebraska, that the terms of the court to be held in the several counties in the district during the year 1902 be assigned as follows: Saunders county, March 30, June 9, December 1; Butler, February 11, May 20, November 11; Polk, January 21, April 29, September 9; Seward, February 10, May 19, November 10; York, March 3, June 9, December 1; Hamilton, January 20, April 23, September 8.

## Wolves Get the Sheep.

PAXTON, Neb., Dec. 30.—One of the heavy stock losses in this vicinity during the cold wave was that in Henry Abshire's flock of sheep. One thousand of them strayed away and many of the lambs and weaker old ones were killed and devoured by the wolves.

## Fracturing the Sunday Law.

FREMONT, Neb., Dec. 30.—Local police authorities claim to be cognizant of the fact that Sunday poker-playing and liquor selling is going on here in violation of the city ordinances and they declare that they intend to stop it.

## Employee Remembered.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 30.—From the lowest salaried messenger to the general manager every person who has worked for the American Express company one year received a \$10 gold piece from the company as a Christmas present.

## Breaks His Neck in Fall.

M'COOK, Neb., Dec. 30.—While running a wolf on horseback, John Sly, who lived on the Robert P. Barr ranch a few miles southwest of M'Cook, was thrown off his horse. His neck was broken and he was instantly killed.

## Wanton Killing of Stock.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 30.—Some one went into a pasture south of the city and killed a fine two-year-old Jersey heifer and left the carcass, after skinning it.

## New Bank for Tecumseh.

TECUMSEH, Neb., Dec. 30.—Mrs. B. F. Perkins sold a frame building and a lot on the north side of the square to J. R. Pierson of Union and F. E. Bodie of York, who will erect a bank.

## MERGING RURAL SCHOOLS

Superintendent Fowler Tells Why He Advises Consolidation.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 28.—In a communication addressed to school people, State Superintendent Fowler discusses the advantages of centralization of rural schools. Mr. Fowler advocates the consolidation of small schools and opposes the organization of rural high schools as contemplated by a law passed by the last legislature. His communication in part is as follows:

"Will our state school laws permit several or all the districts in a township to unite for the purpose of forming a central high school? I answer yes. The law providing for a rural high school is set forth in sections 9 to 19, inclusive, subdivision 6, school laws of Nebraska for 1901. This department, however, is not in favor of the rural high school as contemplated in these sections, for the reason that its plan is to leave the pupils of the lower grade in these schools in their own respective independent and, in many cases, weak districts. The first condition of good rural schools is sufficiency of funds with which to provide and maintain them. How to provide these funds is not an easy problem. Many of our districts are small; the assessed valuation is low, so is the enumeration. With the small share of the state apportionment and with a tax levy that has reached the limit of the law, and yet a want of funds to run a good school, the question is indeed a serious one, and the attendance is often such as to make the per capita cost of maintenance unduly large, so that often a common school education becomes very costly. Any plan, therefore, that tends to weaken the already weak rural school should meet the opposition of all who are interested in the betterment of the rural schools. To overcome the many disadvantages of the present rural school system in Nebraska, and for the purpose of giving every farmer's boy and girl in this whole commonwealth opportunities equal to those of the boys and girls of the village and city, we recommend to the careful consideration of every rural school board and to the fathers and mothers of these children in the rural districts the consolidation of the small schools into a central school and the transportation of the pupils thereto. Consolidate or centralize the weak districts into a common central school, conveying the pupils from every part of the greater district or the congressional township to and from school by means of covered vans or wagons in charge of clean, careful, capable drivers. Such a plan would be legal under our existing statutes, as house roller 223, passed by the last session of the Nebraska legislature, removed the six-mile limit in the formation of school districts and we already had a transportation law.

**DIETRICH'S IRRIGATION SCHEME.**  
Thinks He Has a Plan Which Will Be Satisfactory to All Elements.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 28.—Senator Dietrich is remaining in Washington over the holidays working on a number of irrigation schemes, which he confidently expects will finally be reduced to such form as will guarantee favorable action during this session for an irrigation measure that will immediately aid in reclaiming large sections of Nebraska for agricultural purposes. At present he is interested in bringing together those who favor national ownership of irrigation and those who favor state ownership. He has a plan whereby the national government will control and own the reservoirs and the land owners control the distribution canals. He is confident this solution of the problem will bring the two elements together.

## Reports of State Banks.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 28.—Reports of state and private banks, made in response to the recent call of Secretary Royce, are coming in rapidly. Of the 442 banks in the jurisdiction of the department, 362 have submitted their reports. So far as a hasty examination shows there has been very little change in the condition of the institutions since the former report was made. Deposits and loans are about the same as when the other call was issued.

## Cattle Die of Blackleg.

CALLAWAY, Neb., Dec. 28.—Chris Burhop, a farmer living near here, has lost eight head of cattle from the effects of blackleg. With this disease and that of cornstalk disease many stockmen have suffered heavy losses in this vicinity of late, and there appears to be no help for it.

## Loup City Gets First Books.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 28.—The first shipment of books from the Nebraska Traveling Library association went to Loup City. It had been announced the first consignment would go to Blair, but that city waived privilege.

## Caught in a Cornsheller.

PAXTON, Neb., Dec. 28.—Frank Knight had a hand caught in a corn crusher, rendering necessary the amputation of his fingers.

## THE LIVE STOCK MARKET

Latest Quotations From South Omaha and Kansas City.

**SOUTH OMAHA.**  
CATTLE—There was an exceedingly light run of cattle, so that sellers had a good opportunity to advance prices. Packers evidently had to have a few cattle, as they paid the prices asked, and trade ruled active, everything being out of first hands at an early hour. There were only a few corned steers on sale and those were of rather inferior quality. Packers, however, bought them up freely at an advance of 10¢/50¢ over Tuesday's prices, or fully 15¢/25¢ higher than Monday. The cow market was also rather excited and higher. As compared with Monday it is safe to call the market fully 15¢/25¢ higher, with occasional sales showing a still greater advance. In view of the liberal demand the twenty cars that were on sale this morning were soon disposed of. Hails that were good enough for killers were in good demand this morning and prices were a little better on Tuesday. Stags also sold at higher prices, while veal calves were active and strong. There were only a few bunches of stockers and feeders in the yards, but there was plenty to supply the demand.

**HOGS**—There was a very light run of hogs, and as advices from other points were favorable to the selling interests the market advanced about a dime all around. The hogs sold more freely than they have for some little time, as all the packers wanted a few and the light run made it necessary for them to buy early. The prime heavyweights sold largely from \$6.35 to \$6.50. Good medium weight hogs sold in most cases from \$6.15 to \$6.30, and the lighter loads went from \$6.15 down. The lightweight hogs advanced as much as did the heavier grades, but still toward the close the market was a little dull on the loads weighing much under 200 pounds.

**SHEEP**—There were only about three cars of sheep and lambs on the market today, and as packers all wanted fresh supplies the market ruled active and higher. As compared with the close of last week prices are fully 10¢/20¢ higher. Owing to the active demand and light receipts everything was sold in good season. Ewes sold as high as \$3.30, wethers brought \$3.10 and lambs \$5.90. There were not enough feeders offered to make a test of the market, but it is safe to call the market steady.

## KANSAS CITY.

**CATTLE**—Market strong; native beef steers, \$4.75/6.00; Texas and Indian steers, \$3.00/4.50; Texas cows, \$2.25/3.50; native cows and heifers, \$2.50/5.00; stockers and feeders, \$2.75/4.25; bulls, \$2.40/4.25; calves, \$3.75/5.50.

**HOGS**—Market 5¢/10¢ higher; bulk of sales, \$5.75/6.60; heavy, \$5.60/6.75; packers, \$6.25/6.65; medium, \$6.10/6.90; light, \$5.25/6.25; porkers, \$5.00/6.00; pigs, \$4.00/5.00.

**SHEEP**—Market strong; muttons, \$3.00/4.25; lambs, \$4.50/5.40; western, \$3.50/4.25; ewes, \$3.00/3.75.

## CHAUNCEY DEPEW MARRIED

Ceremony Performed in the United States Consulate at Nice.

NICE, Dec. 28.—The civil ceremony of the marriage of Senator Chauncey M. Depew and Miss May Palmer took place at 3 o'clock this afternoon in the United States consulate. The bride's witnesses were Baron von Andre and Baron de Cantalause. The bridegroom's witnesses were James Gordon Bennett and Count de Sers. Among others present were Mrs. Palmer, Countess de Sers and Baroness von Andre. Senator Depew was in excellent health and the bride was charmingly dressed.

The bride being a Catholic, there will be two religious ceremonies. The first will take place at Notre Dame and the second at the Episcopal church, at 11 in the morning and at noon tomorrow, respectively, when ten blue jackets from the United States cruiser Albany will form a guard of honor.

## DATE FOR SHAW'S SERVICE

First of March Likely to Find Him Sitting Cabinet Position.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Gov. Shaw probably will not enter upon his duties as secretary of the treasury earlier than the middle of February or the first of March. The president is under the impression that Secretary Gage desires to retire about that time, and he has undoubtedly communicated to Governor Shaw the fact that he will be needed in Washington between those dates.

Notwithstanding the official announcements from the white house that Secretary James Wilson will remain in the cabinet, there continue to appear announcements of other men to succeed Wilson, the latest being that of F. D. Coburn, secretary of the Kansas state board of agriculture. Secretary Wilson has said he expected to stay in the cabinet and the president has indicated that he desires him to continue in his official family.

## Miles Resumes His Duties.

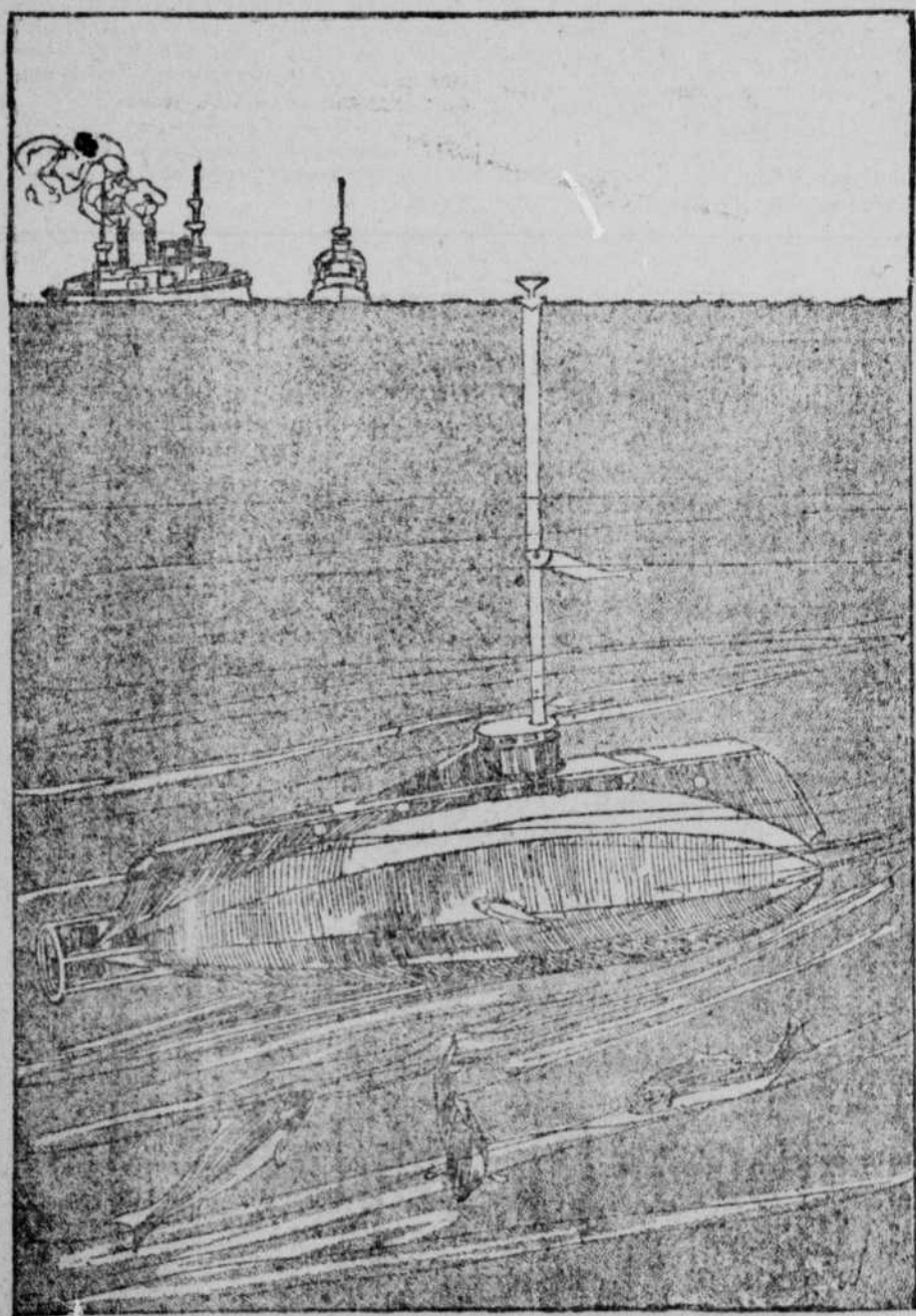
WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—General Miles resumed his duties in charge of the army at his office in the War department today. It is said that he has decided to accept the situation with the best possible grace and will say or do nothing to continue the controversy. The incident will cause no decided change in his rearranged plans for the future.

## Alger Safely Over the Crisis.

DETROIT, Dec. 28.—Dr. Howard Longyear, one of the attending surgeons on General R. A. Alger, said tonight that the critical period in the general's illness had passed and that his recovery was practically certain, so far as he could determine at present.

"He has been taking some nourishment in the form of broth and has passed a very comfortable day," said Dr. Longyear.

## CLEPTOSCOPE FOR SUBMARINE VESSELS.



A Roman engineer, M. Triulzi, has invented a tube with crystal prisms, whereby those in a submarine boat can see what is going on at the surface of the water. The instrument is called the cleptoscope. The experiments have been entirely

successful, and photography of objects on the water is possible thereby from a vessel beneath.

The experiments were made on board the submarine II Delphino, and in the presence of Sig. Morin, the Minister of Marine.