

RATE BILL OF SENATOR ELKINS

IT IS MADE PUBLIC IN THE UPPER HOUSE.

Text of the Measure and How It Is To Be Enforced by the Courts.

WASHINGTON—Senator Elkins, chairman of the senate committee on interstate commerce, has made public his bill for the regulation of railroad rates which he proposes to offer for the consideration of congress. The commission is increased from seven to nine members. The expenses of litigation are to be borne by the United States. The bill has not been completed fully, but the section relating to the fixing of rates embodies most of the important features and is as follows:

That whenever the Interstate Commerce commission shall be of the opinion that reasonable grounds exist for believing that any rate, fare or charge established or charged by any common carrier or carriers for any transportation or other service subject to said act approved February 4, 1887, or any amendment thereof, is unjust and unreasonable, or that any such carrier or carriers shall be making any unjust discrimination or be engaged in any other practice or be doing any other act in violation of any provision of any said acts, it shall be lawful for said commission to institute a suit or proceeding in equity in the circuit court of any district in which the principal office of any carrier defendant in the suit or proceeding shall be located, to restrain such carrier or carriers from continuing in force such rate, fare or charge, or from continuing such unjust discrimination or other unlawful act or practice. The commission in its discretion may institute any such suit or proceeding upon its own motion or upon the application of any person, firm or corporation interested in the matter complained of, and the commission shall not be required before instituting any such suit or proceeding to give notice to the parties defendant therein or grant a hearing or make a report, finding, recommendation, decision or order in respect of the matters complained of, but the commission shall have power before instituting any such suit or proceeding to make such investigation as it may deem proper.

Any suit or proceeding authorized by this act may be instituted by petition, briefly setting forth the matters complained of, and any parties interested in such matters may be made defendants. The court shall have power to hear and determine such suit or proceeding speedily without the formal pleadings and proceedings applicable to ordinary suits in equity and such suit or proceeding shall be conducted in such manner as to be just to the parties and in such manner as the court may cause evidence to be taken before such officers and in such manner and within such time as the court may prescribe.

If it be made to appear to the court that any such rate, fare or charge of any carrier complained of in such suit or proceeding is unjust and unreasonable or that the carrier is making any such unjust discrimination or is engaged in any such other practice or is doing any other such act in violation of law, the court may, by its order or decree, mandatory or otherwise, restrain and enjoin such carrier from continuing in force such rate, fare or charge.

INSURGENTS GROWING BOLDER.

Claim to Be Gaining Recruits to Anti-Statehood.

WASHINGTON—Opposition in the house to joint statehood seems to be gaining ground, and insurgents are growing bolder in their denunciation of the proposed administration measure.

Representative Babcock, Wis., the leader of the insurrection, and his lieutenants say their movement has gained strength since Saturday.

Compromises have failed up to this time, and the republican insurgents on both the Philippine tariff and on the joint statehood measure are firmly lined up against the administration policy, and insist that they will not weaken under fire.

Gans Knocks Out Sullivan.

SAN FRANCISCO—Joe Gans, rejuvenated, put up the fight of his life and knocked out Mike "Twin" Sullivan in the fifteenth round. The issue of the fight was hardly in doubt from the first round. From start to finish Gans was the aggressor and kept right on top of his man. Sullivan made several brave rallies, but he could not hurt the colored man, and finally in the fifteenth round a series of lightning right hand blows to the jaws ended Sullivan's aspirations and put Gans at the top of the fighting heap.

Campaign Contributions.

WASHINGTON—Senator Patterson, Colo., introduced a bill having for its object the publication of all contributions made by corporations, organizations of all kinds, and individuals to campaign committees in presidential elections. It requires that all statements regarding the amount of such contributions must be sworn to and provides for penalties for a violation of the law. The bill follows the plan advocated by Perry Belmont of New York for publicity in all matters pertaining to campaign contributions.

Stockmen to Present Views.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah—President F. J. Hagenbarth of the National Live Stock Association has appointed a committee to confer with Gifford Pinchot chief forester of the United States, and members of the United States Land board at Denver, Jan. 27, on the question of forest reserves and public ranges. President Hagenbarth also appointed a committee to be present at the congressional hearing on the twenty-eight hour law. This includes W. A. Harris of Chicago and L. A. Crace of East St. Louis.

THE TARIFF BILL.

Philippine Measure Passed in the Lower House.

WASHINGTON—The Philippine tariff bill was passed by the house Tuesday substantially as it came from the ways and means committee. The vote was 258 to 71. Rice was made subject to the same tariff as sugar and tobacco—25 per cent. of the Dingley rates—and one or two changes were made as to language. Fifty-seven republicans and fourteen democrats voted against the bill on its final passage. This result was attained after a decidedly the most strenuous day of the present congress.

The many amendments which were launched and went to pieces in the storm of debate and against the rock which the house rules constituted, left much legislative wreckage and many records only useful for future political purposes.

Republican opposition to the bill in the interest of American beet and cane sugar and tobacco tried out its strength early and gave up. This opposition refused to affiliate with democratic efforts. The strongest plea for "insurgent" support was made in behalf of Champ Clark's amendment regarding the differential on refined sugar. The minority sought to duplicate the house record made on the Cuban reciprocity act, but they reckoned without their host today, as not a republican opponent to this measure stood with them to overrule the decision of the chair. The democratic substitute met with only the support of the minority and went down under a vote of 231 to 106. On the final passage of the bill the "insurgents" demanded a roll call that their record might be preserved.

The bill admits goods the growth or product of the Philippine islands into the United States free of duty except sugar, tobacco and rice, on which a tariff of 25 per cent of the Dingley rates is levied. It provides that after April 11, 1909, there shall be absolute free trade each way between the United States and the Philippines. It also exempts Philippine goods coming to the United States from the export tax of those islands. Merchandise from either country is subjected to the internal revenue tax of the country in which such merchandise is withdrawn for consumption.

ORCHARD HELD FOR MURDER.

Believed to Be Man Who Killed Ex-Governor Steunenberg.

CALDWELL, Idaho—Probate Judge Church committed Harry O. Orchard, on the charge of having murdered ex-Governor Frank Steunenberg. The defense offered no testimony. The most important witness was Andrew Johnson, a policeman, who talked with Orchard several times before and after his arrest. Julian Steunenberg, son of the murdered man, testified that a man whom he identified as Orchard came to him on Wednesday before the murder and asked when his father would be home. He said he had a deal with his father for some sheep, and was anxious to see him.

NEW RAILROAD RATE BILL.

Democratic Members of House Prepare a Measure.

WASHINGTON—The democratic members of the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce have prepared a railroad rate bill. The bill is a comprehensive measure, dealing with all the questions involved in the subject. Its essential difference from what is to be the majority measure, the bill of Mr. Hepburn, is that instead of authorizing the interstate commerce commission to fix a "maximum" rate in accordance with the specific recommendation of President Roosevelt, the rate to be adopted shall be a reasonable one. It forbids the commission increasing any rate which has been fixed and published as such by any railroad. It authorizes the rate fixed by the commission to be reviewed by the courts only when it is shown that such rate does not enable the carrier to realize a fair profit on the capital actually invested in the road, or where the commission has exceeded its power in fixing the rate, making it confiscatory.

PRAISE FOR AMERICAN BISHOP.

Pope Compliments Rt. Rev. William O'Connell, Sent to Japan.

ROME—Right Rev. William H. O'Connell, bishop of Portland, Me., the special envoy of the pope to the emperor of Japan, who arrived here yesterday, was received in private audience by his holiness today. The audience lasted for an hour, during which the bishop made a verbal report of the results of his mission. The pope expressed his great satisfaction and said if all American envoys did their work so well they would become the first diplomats of the world.

Warner Says "Ridiculous."

WASHINGTON—Senator Warner, Missouri, characterized as "supremely ridiculous" his boom for the republican nomination for president, launched by Representative Bartholdt.

Half Million Deficit.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—At a joint meeting of creditors and stockholders of the Tennent Shoe company, it was revealed that a total deficit of \$583,639 between liabilities and assets exists.

Declines Appointment.

WASHINGTON—J. C. Napier, the negro lawyer and banker of Nashville, who was recently offered the position of United States consul at Bahia, Brazil, called on the president and declined the appointment.

Ensign Wade Acquitted.

MARE ISLAND, Cal.—News was received by Admiral McCalla from the secretary of the navy that Ensign Wade, U. S. N., had been acquitted on all charges in connection with the Bennington disaster, and has been restored to liberty.

Insurgents Enter Quito.

QUAYAQUIL—The revolutionaries have entered Quito (the capital of Ecuador). Vice President Bequerizo Moreno has assumed executive power and will appoint a new cabinet.

A WEEK OF BY EVENTS

ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN VENUEZUELAN AFFAIRS.

The Situation Such as to Attract Unusual Attention—The General Elections in Great Britain.

WASHINGTON—If France makes a decisive move in retaliation for Venezuela's treatment of her representative, Caracas this week will be the center of world interest. Venezuela under the Castro regime has been an international problem, but the Monroe doctrine, although necessarily involved in it, is so thoroughly understood by the European powers that the State department anticipates no untoward action on the part of France.

The most recent Franco-Venezuelan trouble began with the expulsion of M. Brun, the representative of the French Cable company at Caracas, and Charge d'Affairs Taigny's protest against this action. Venezuela held that its position was correct and refused to treat further with the French government through M. Taigny. There then followed a long period during which, owing to the good offices of United States Minister Russell, an open rupture was avoided. President Castro by his dilatory tactics angered the French government and a fleet was sent to Martinique. However, this indication to push the matter did not have the desired effect. Then followed M. Taigny's action in boarding the steamer Martineque to obtain dispatches and the refusal of the Venezuelan authorities to permit him to return ashore. Although technically this was not a forcible expulsion, it amounted to an act of hostility and M. Maubourquet, the Charge d'Affaires of Venezuela, was expelled from French territory. Three French warships are now off the Venezuelan coast and a naval demonstration is anticipated.

From an international point of view, Algeciras will divide interest with Venezuela. At the beginning of the Moroccan conference the delegates uniformly expressed themselves as in favor of conservative action that much was hoped for the outcome of the negotiations. However, according to later advices, extreme caution and lack of confidence have begun to destroy this favorable atmosphere and a feeling of unrest is said to exist among the delegates of the less interested powers, who believe that trouble is in sight. The first point at issue is that of contraband arms, after which will be considered the reform of the finances of Morocco, so that the question of the organization of the Moroccan police, which involves the vital issue between France and Germany, has been postponed for some time.

The end of the week will see the close of the general elections in Great Britain, but the liberal victory has been so overwhelming as to take the most of the interest out of the matter. In another sense it added unprecedented interest to the developments which are sure to come with the opening of Parliament.

CHRISTIANITY BY JAPAN.

Current Events Indicate Its Eventual Acceptance.

NEW YORK—Current events indicate the coming acceptance of Christianity by Japan as one of the fruits of the recent war, according to the annual report of the American Tract society, which was made public recently. Among the cities which during the last year have arranged for the permanent support of the administrative secretaries is Tokio, the Japanese capital.

The report says that the schools in Japan, and also in Turkey, China and other foreign countries, are creating 1,000,000 new readers every year for from Christian literature is needed. A permanent endowment of the society is required. During 1905 the society circulated nearly 3,000,000 periodicals.

RAILROADS LOSE ONE CASE.

Commission Decires New Rate on Leather is Too High.

WASHINGTON—The Interstate Commerce commission has announced its decision in the case of M. Newman against the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad company and various other principal carriers in official classification territory in favor of the complainant, holding that a third-class rating for leather is less than carload lots is sufficiently high.

Buried Treasure Recovered.

EMPORIA, Kan.—Marion Turner and Otto Freshwater, Emporia men, claim to have found buried treasure to the value of \$100,000 in or near Phoenix mound, southwest of Emporia. Part of the treasure, they say, is in gold coin and the remainder in gold-bearing quartz.

Would Preserve Constitution.

WASHINGTON—After paying a tribute to the frigate Constitution and ordering an investigation to ascertain the annual amount necessary to preserve the ship the house devoted some time to the perfection and passage of a bill providing for the final disposition of the affairs of the five civilized tribes in Indian Territory. With minor amendments the bill passed substantially as it came from the committee. The bill provides for concluding the enrollment of Indians of the tribes and allotment of lands to them.

Monte Christi Capitulates.

SAN DOMINGO—The port of Monte Christi, on the north coast, which recently was in the hands of the revolutionaries, capitulated to the government forces today, the latter guaranteeing to protect the lives and property of the rebels.

The Dominican Gunboat Independence.

The Dominican gunboat Independence, which supported General Morales, the former president of Santo Domingo, also surrendered after its commander had sought refuge on one of the American warships. The revolution is ended and all is quiet.

BIGELOW TO GO UNPUNISHED.

Decides that Witness is Not Worthy of Being Made Martyr.

WASHINGTON—The senate committee on interoceanic canals has postponed until next week consideration of the recalcitrance of Poulitney Bigelow.

Before the meeting several members said they had slept over the case and are now disposed not to make a "martyr" of a witness, whose testimony appeared to be of too little value to dignify his conduct with summary punishment. It was decided that further discussion, in executive session should be had, however, to determine whether the witness should be given another opportunity to become amenable to the demands made of him.

Senator Hopkins offered a resolution certifying Mr. Bigelow's contumacy to the vice-president for action in the courts and asked that it be adopted. Several democratic senators opposed this course and Senator Simmons addressed the committee at length. He declared that it was an extraordinary penalty that was proposed and contrary to common law. He suggested that the court's might refuse to act on the certification, which he asserted would prove most embarrassing.

FIGHTING OVER INSCRIPTION.

State of Iowa at War with Battlefield Commission.

WASHINGTON—The long standing controversy over the wording of the inscription on the monument erected in the Shiloh battlefield park in memory of the Iowa state troops was revived at the war department when Secretary Taft gave a hearing on the subject to Secretary Shaw and Senators Allison and Dolliver of Iowa. The point of dispute relates wholly to the time in which the Iowa troops fought in the battle of Shiloh.

The controversy has been the subject of several investigations by different military boards, practically all of which have sustained the action of the Shiloh park commission, which is willing that the inscription on the monument should show that the Iowa troops fought at the spot "for two hours" during the battle without specifying the time. The Iowa authorities, however, insisted that the inscription state the Iowa troops fought at the site of the monument from 10 to 12 o'clock in the morning.

SOUTH DAKOTA MAKES A KICK.

Insists on Having Credit for All She Raises.

WASHINGTON—A wide discrepancy in the final summary of the crops of 1905 as relating to South Dakota, compiled by the department of agriculture, has been pointed out by Governor Elrod in a letter addressed to Secretary Wilson, made public, which he says seriously affects that state before the world and which should be officially correct. The letter has particular reference to barley, oats and hay. In reference to barley Governor Elrod says that according to the state census South Dakota actually produced in 1904 18,640,102 bushels, whereas the department's estimates place the amount at 9,562,400 bushels. It is estimated that 20,000,000 will be the production for this year, or more than twice the yield credited to that state.

Favor Hepburn Rate Bill.

WASHINGTON—The republican members of the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce held a caucus at which the Hepburn rate bill was discussed at considerable length. The bill, it is believed, will be reported to the house next week in slightly modified form. Senator Dolliver, Ia., attended the conference and joined with the representatives in reviewing the provisions of the measure. The caucus was held in Mr. Hepburn's committee room.

Will Tunnel River.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—According to a statement made by August A. Busch, the Manufacturers' railway, a St. Louis terminal railroad controlled by the Anheuser-Busch Brewing association, will construct a \$3,000,000 tunnel under the Mississippi river in order to connect the road's Illinois and Missouri terminals. At present the road is operating a ferry.

Grand Island in the List.

WASHINGTON—The senate committee on public buildings and grounds ordered favorable reports on bills making appropriations for new federal buildings in part as follows: Fort Worth, Tex., \$325,000; Denver, Colo., \$2,500,000; Sheridan, Wyo., \$160,000; Cape Girardeau, Mo., \$5,000; Grand Island, Neb., \$135,000.

To Be College President.

NEW YORK—John Willis Baer, for many years secretary of the Presbyterian board of home missions, announced that he had accepted the presidency of Occidental college at Los Angeles, Cal.

Governor of Alaska.

WASHINGTON—Assuming that John G. Brady governor of Alaska, promises to resign his office, W. T. Perkins of Nome has been recommended strongly for appointment as governor of the territory.

The Urgent Deficiency Bill.

WASHINGTON—The sub-committee of the house committee on appropriations met and completed the urgent deficiency bill. It carries appropriations aggregating \$15,000,000 and includes the additional appropriations for carrying on canal work until June 30, 1906.

Berlin—It is announced that he exports from Germany to the United States during the year 1905 amounted to 125,724,321, an increase of \$14,484,096.

THE AMERICAN CONSULOR SERVICE

ITS SHORTCOMINGS SET FORTH BY SECRETARY ROOT.

Too Many Old Men in Places That They Are Unfit to Fill—Not Enough Push in their Makeup.

WASHINGTON—Secretary Root, while appearing before the house appropriations committee in relation to the expenses of the State department, spoke frankly concerning the shortcomings of the American consular service. The statements of Mr. Root, which have just been made public, show that in response to questions by Representative Livingston, the secretary said:

"There are a great many consulates that have been in that condition, and there are some that are still in that condition, and the fact arises from several causes. One cause is that consulates are used and regarded here not as places in which active and sufficient work is to be done, but are used as places in which to shelve estimable and elderly gentlemen whose friends find it necessary to take care of them in some way. (Laughter.)

"Now, I have got old enough to be able to say that sort of thing without anybody being offended. I do not think that when a man has lived on the activity of his life and passed beyond his ambition and his energy and his desire to make a career for himself—I do not think that then is the time to start him out in a new place, where he has got to learn a new business and push the commerce of the country."

The following statements were then made by Mr. Root in reply to questions of members of the committee:

Mr. Brundidge—I quite agree with you Mr. Secretary, as to that, but upon whom rests the blame for that condition?

Secretary Root—It rests upon a long standing custom, whereby the executive is expected to appoint to important consulates important men from the different states.

Mr. Graff—But you have a system of examination?

Secretary Root—Yes, so far as the young fellows go. You can put the screws on them and make them come up for examination. But when an eminent citizen—

Mr. Livingston—An eminent senator or member of congress.

Secretary Root—Yes, when an eminent citizen comes around, you cannot examine him in geography and arithmetic. He resents it, and there is the dickens to pay all along. (Laughter.) It is a custom that has grown up, just like this deficiency custom. When you step into change a custom you cannot change it by piecemeal; you have to jar something. Take this consular bill which is now pending. When it was introduced it contained a series of provisions under which the consulates were to be graded. The original appointments were to be only to the over grades, and the upper grades were to be filled by promotion, so that we would catch fellows young while they still had some motive power left in them. These provisions have been stricken out and the bill reported without them. Still, the bill makes a great advance over the present system.

NEW SIEGE GUN FOR TRIAL.

Government Sends Small Calibre Gun From Rock Island to Be Tested.

WASHINGTON—A new type of siege gun has been completed by the ordnance department of the Rock Island arsenal and has been shipped to the Sandy Hook proving grounds at New York for a test.

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FRANCE WILL ACT.

Satisfaction for the Expulsion of Taigny.

PARIS—Official confirmation of Venezuela's unceremonious treatment of M. Taigny, the retiring charge d'affaires at Caracas, has reached the Foreign office. The government immediately decided to adopt the most energetic measures to obtain satisfaction. Though the officials will not make any direct statement on the subject, it is understood that a naval demonstration is under preparation, the division of the French warships recently assembled in the vicinity of Venezuelan waters being utilized for that purpose. A diplomat confirmed this view of the situation, saying that President Castro's action, though not an absolute forcible expulsion of the French representative, amounted to an act of hostility, since M. Taigny had left the shore in perfectly good faith in order to obtain dispatches from the French steamer Martineque, the Venezuelan authorities without warning offered armed opposition to his relanding. Such an act should not remain unchastised, and France, the diplomat added, will have the support of the whole world in demanding and obtaining proper satisfaction, even should armed intervention prove necessary.

France, it was further pointed out, has exhibited wonderful patience, but is now driven to extremities.

The French cable company officials say that they received confirmation this morning of the reports that the managers of the company at Caracas and La Guayra have also been expelled from Venezuela. The company has about ten other managers in charge of different offices in Venezuela and momentarily expects to hear that they have been expelled. The officials of the company have brought the matter before the government, which has not yet announced what steps have been taken in the matter but it is believed the United States will be asked to extend its representation to these managers.

In the meanwhile M. Maubourquet, the Venezuelan charge d'affaires here, has received an intimation to leave French territory, thus placing him personally in an awkward position owing to his private commercial relations with France, and it is also believed that he retains his French citizenship, which would make him liable to military service under the conscription law.

The action of the French government with reference to Venezuela has not yet been finally decided. M. Rouvier is calling the cabinet council together to consider the steps to be taken. In ministerial circles it is believed that the incident of M. Taigny's expulsion loses some of its character of gravity, as official notification was given to President Castro a few days before by the American minister, Mr. Russell, that diplomatic relations between France and Venezuela had ceased to exist.

HOLDUP MEN MURDER.

Neils Lausten Shot and Killed in His Saloon on Cuming Street.

OMAHA—Neils Lausten, a saloon-keeper, was shot and instantly killed by Jack O'Hearn, who with Leo Angus entered Lausten's saloon, 2101 Cuming street, for the purpose of robbery. As soon as the proprietor fell to the floor the men rifled the cash register, and leaving the unfortunate man where he lay, made their escape through a rear door. Half an hour later Angus was arrested, and still later three other men engaged with him were in jail. One of them has made a full confession. According to this confession Jack O'Hearn fired the fatal shot.

Congressman Hubbard Wins.

WASHINGTON—Congressman Hubbard of the Sioux City, Ia. district, has been up against a hard postoffice fight, but has won out, against a rule of the first assistant postmaster general that all things being equal the incumbent of an office will be continued in his position unless direct charges were made against him. Mr. Hubbard was notified that his nomination of John T. Hoban at Cherokee would be accepted. A bitter fight has been waged between Henderson, the incumbent, and Tom McCulloch.

WILL BUILD TO SHOSHONE.

Big Horn Railway Files Amended Articles of Incorporation.

CHEYENNE, Wyo.—Amended articles of incorporation of the Big Horn railroad, an adjunct of the Burlington system, were filed in the office of the clerk of Laramie county. The amended articles state that the road shall have power, in addition to its other projects, to extend its line which now is being built from Cody, Wyo., to Worland, in Big Horn county, south of the Big Horn river at its junction with Muskrat creek, which will bring the road into the Shoshone reservation, close to the town of Shoshone, established by the Northwestern railway.

"Beef Trust" Cases Go Over.

CHICAGO—The trial of the "Beef Trust" case which was to have commenced Wednesday in the federal court before Judge Humphrey was postponed until Thursday because of the illness of one of the attorneys for the packers.

Friend of Livingstone Dead.

CAPTOWN—Dr. James Stewart, the friend and companion of David Livingstone, the explorer, whom he joined on his second journey to Lake Nyassa, is dead.

Pass Confederate Bills.

VIENNA—What seems to be an organized effort to pass off bills of the American confederacy has come to notice lately in this city, the shopkeepers of which have been victimized to a considerable amount within the last few weeks.

Special Agencies.

WASHINGTON—The secretary of the treasury has established five special agency districts in Europe. Up to this time the only agency in Europe was located in Paris.

"HOME" FOOD FOR DYSPEPTICS.

New York Woman Makes Much Money by Supplying It.

The American habit of overeating with its consequent train of stomach troubles, has brought about a curious business in New York. It is that of supplying food "such as mother used to cook" to patients whose digestions have got out of order and who are taking the "rest cure" for the affected organs. This novel business enterprise is carried on practically by one woman who has made a name for herself among stomach specialists in this city by the purity and the simplicity of the soups and broths she makes for invalids. She began to cook these dishes several years ago, her plan consisting of one half bed room, a big gas stove and one old colored woman to carry on the actual work of the cooking under her directions.

Now her business has grown to such proportions that she has a whole house devoted to it, the latest feature of her trade being this of supplying food to patients who are living temporarily in the big hotels. One of the first things a doctor does nowadays, when he is called in to attend a patient afflicted with the ills that come from overfeeding, is to lay down the law that the rich hotel fare shall be cut off and the simple, wholesome dishes from this unique establishment be substituted. It is not an expensive substitute, for the prices charged by this woman make even those asked at the St. Regis seem, cheap in comparison. So valuable do specialists consider these wholesome foods that one physician is seriously considering turning one of the dwelling houses on the same block with her establishment into a sanitarium to be near the base of supplies.—New York Press.

HAD TOLD THE STRICT TRUTH.

Argument of Horse Trader Proved Unanswerable.

Thomas Morton, once proprietor of the Stockton Springs hotel in Maine, was noted for his shrewdness in a horse trade, and few men knew a horse at sight better than he. He was troubled with an impediment in his speech. One day a man looked over his horses with the intention of purchasing, and asked the age of one which he fancied. Morton replied that he was "N-in-nine years old."

The man took the horse and afterward ran across a former owner, who asked how much he paid for "that old plug."

"Old? Do you call nine years an old horse?" he asked, and then he was told that the horse was twenty-seven years old. Whereupon the man promptly drove to Mr. Morton's and demanded an explanation, calling him a liar.

Mr. Morton replied that he had told him the truth, and nothing but the truth, and said: "You fool, didn't I say 'nine, nine, nine,' and isn't three times nine twenty-seven?"

The other man gave in as beaten.

Children's Jokes.

Mary announced the other day that she was hungry. Her brother, to tease her, inquired, "How do you feel when you are hungry?" Mary promptly replied, "Exactly as if I had a cork-screw in my stomach."

The same little girl had just been introduced to a visitor named Mr. Hunter. After dinner this visitor said: "If you remember my name you shall have these bonbons, Mary," and in her eagerness to get the bonbons lost by exclaiming, "It's Mr. Shooter."

Willie had just started to kindergarten. The terms horizontal and perpendicular had been explained. The next Sunday Willie said, "Mother, I don't like my Sunday school teacher."

"Why?" asked his mother.

"Well," replied Willie, "she's all right for a school teacher, but I don't like her for a Sunday school teacher. She's too horizontal, and she ought to be more perpendicular."—Exchange