

it will be interesting to observe the attitude of the republicans of those states. In Alabama the republican committee issued an address in which it insisted that the republicans were entitled to a share of the credit for the adoption of the Alabama constitution and that while the constitution was really adopted by the democratic vote, it had the cordial sanction of the republicans. The republican state convention of North Carolina that met recently excluded negroes from participation in the party affairs. The chairman of this republican convention congratulated his delegates that they had released themselves from "the body of death," as he called it, which, being interpreted, meant political affiliation with the negroes.

AND NOW THE SPIRIT APPEARS TO BE contagious and even that staid old republican newspaper, the Kansas City Journal, in an editorial printed in its issue of August 30, declares that it is the part of wisdom for other southern republicans to follow the example of those of Alabama and North Carolina. The Journal says that these republicans can never hope to win except as a white man's party. Continuing on this topic, this republican paper declares: "There is no disputing that the weakness of the republican party in the south since the war has been largely due to its negro membership. The interests of the people of that section have been better represented and more effectually promoted by the national republican party than by any other party; and it is probable that but for the fear of negro domination other states of the 'solid south' would ere this have followed the example of Kentucky and Tennessee, which have returned occasional republican majorities and elected republican congressmen. The elimination of the negroes may therefore reasonably be expected to increase the white membership of the party in the south materially. There will for several years be a lingering suspicion that if the republicans should get into power they would restore negro suffrage, and this will count against them; but if a consistent policy is pursued in party affairs this fear will be gradually overcome and the south brought to an appreciation of the advantages to be derived from republican rule in the state as well as in the nation."

BOYS AND GIRLS OF THE LONG AGO WILL remember Augusta Evans Wilson as the author of "St. Elmo," a very lively bit of fiction. Mrs. Wilson is now sixty-seven years of age and lives in Mobile, Ala. Although advanced in years, she has recently written another novel, entitled "The Speckled Bird," which is the first book produced by Mrs. Wilson during the last fifteen years.

THE "PICUS FUND" WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1697. A writer in the Chicago Record-Herald says: "The purpose of this fund was to assist Roman Catholic missions in the Californias. It was confided first to the Jesuits, was taken over by the Spanish government upon their expulsion in 1767, and was assumed by the Mexican government when the Mexicans had secured their independence. After the Mexican war the Mexican government withheld payment on account of the fund from the missions in the territory which had become part of the United States by treaty with this country, but when the matter was brought up before an international commission in 1868 it agreed to the decision of the umpire, Sir Edward Thornton, in so far as to satisfy back claims amounting to \$904,700.79. It has refused, however, to make any more payments since, and the question before the Hague tribunal is whether the obligation is a continuing one, as the bishop of California insists through the government of the United States."

THAT THE LOT OF THE KING'S DOCTOR IS indeed a happy one is revealed by a writer in the London Chronicle, who says: The coronation baronetcy conferred on Sir Frederick Treves will not be the great surgeon's only reward for his successful conveyance of the king "out of danger." For his four weeks' attendance at Sandringham and recovery of the king from typhoid fever in 1871 Sir William Gull received £10,000 as well as the dignity of baronet. Twice the amount was paid to Sir Morrell Mackenzie for his treatment of the late Emperor Frederick, and in addition was presented with the Order of the Red Eagle. The doctors who attended Queen Victoria in her last illness received 2,000 guineas each. But the record in medical fees is held by the ancestor of the present lord mayor of London, Dr. Dimsdale, who received for his journey to St. Petersburg and vaccination of the Empress Catherine II. £10,000 as his fee, £5,000 for traveling expenses and also the title of the baron and a life pension of £500 a year. Sir Frederick Treves has

certainly earned a generous reward for his skill. At little more than a month's notice he placed his whole time at the king's service, and for at least seven days and nights he never went to bed, snatching sleep at Buckingham Palace at odd moments. His daughter's wedding occurred during those critical days, and it was only when she herself drove to the palace and put the case before her father that he took a hurried half hour to attend the quiet ceremony.

ACCORDING TO THIS SAME WRITER, the medical men who are attending the king are all attached to his majesty's household, some in honorary capacities and others under nominal pay. For instance, Sir Thomas Barlow, as physician to the household, is in receipt of a small salary, while Sir Frederick Treves and Sir Thomas Smith, as "honorary sergeant surgeons," are not in receipt of pay. Nor can they, by reason of court usage, send in a bill for services rendered. The king may, and he usually does, send the "honoraries" a recompense of some sort, which compares more than favorably with honorariums received from private persons. The surgeons and physicians to the household, such as Sir Francis Laking, Sir Thomas Barlow, Dr. Hewitt, Mr. Allingham and Mr. Fripp, are in receipt of from £200 to £300 per year, for which they are expected to attend upon all the members of the royal household without further charge. For instance, if a royal scullery maid so far rises above her station as to acquire "housemaid's knee" she has the attention of the most skillful medical men in the country. A call from a private patient, worth perhaps £200, is neglected for this summons from the royal scullery. If the wife of the master of the household or the subdean of the chapel royal, or the master of music, or the captain of the yeomen of the guard, wish it, they may have the advice of any of these gentlemen without paying for it.

THE NOMINATION FOR CONGRESS OF THE three Landis brothers, two in Illinois and one in Indiana, prompted the claim that if these gentlemen were elected, it would be the first time three brothers had served in congress together. The Augusta (Me.) Journal, however, disputes this contention and points to the case of Maine's famous Washburn brothers, four of them representing as many states in congress and three of them being members at the same time and all three later becoming governors of their respective states. The Journal also points to another case in which Maine has repeated this achievement. The three Washburns were all members of the Thirty-sixth congress. In the Thirty-seventh congress were the three Fessenden brothers, and in this latter case not only were they Maine men, but all three represented Maine in congress. William Pitt Fessenden, of Portland, was in the senate, and his brothers, Samuel C. Fessenden, of Rockland, and Thomas A. D. Fessenden, of Auburn, were members of the national house.

A WEEK OR TWO AGO ANOTHER EVIDENCE was afforded of eastern ignorance of western conditions. A few drunken Indians at Naper, Neb., became boisterous, whereupon a dispatch was sent to an eastern paper. Upon the strength of that dispatch a number of eastern newspapers wrote up thrilling stories about an Indian uprising in Nebraska, and spoke about the danger to the white inhabitants from the presence of so many red men. There are some Indians in Nebraska, to be sure, but most of them own farms and till them, and there are not as many in Nebraska as in New York. The danger of Indian uprisings in the west exists chiefly in the imaginations of the gentlemen known in newspaper circles as "string fiends."

"BIG CORN" STORIES ARE GOING THE rounds these days, most of them being old and very familiar. There is the one about the boy who tried to climb a corn stalk, and the stalk grew faster than he could slide down. His father tried to cut the stalk down, but it grew so rapidly he could not hit it twice in the same place. In the meantime the boy is living on raw corn and already has thrown down two bushels of cobs. A better, and newer story comes from Furnas county, Nebraska. A paper in that county says that the corn is so tall the farmers will have to use balloons to gather it and then let the ears down with parachutes to keep the ears from driving themselves out of sight in the ground when they fall.

A FEW YEARS AGO THE WESTERN COUNTRY was up in arms against the Russian thistle. Stringent laws were enacted to prevent its further spread, and in some states the man who let the thistle grow on his premises or along a public highway adjoining, was liable to fine or im-

prisonment. During the drouth years, however, it was discovered that cattle loved the thistle, and that when it was slightly damp from melting snow or light rain they would leave common hay to feast upon the much maligned weed. Immediately scientists connected with agricultural colleges took up the matter, the investigation resulting in the discovery that the thistle was a nutritious forage plant. A great many people may not be aware of the fact that the Russian thistle and the "tumbleweed" are one and the same thing.

THE AGE OF REAR ADMIRAL THOMAS O. Selfridge, retired, is just now a matter of considerable speculation. The admiral is the only one who knows his exact age and he will not divulge it. He has a son, Rear Admiral Thomas O. Selfridge, jr., who is 66 years old. The senior Selfridge entered the navy in 1818, and figuring that he was not less than 15 years old at the time he is now past 99 years old. He says it is nobody's business how old he is and he will not discuss the subject. But there is every reason to believe that he is the oldest naval officer in the world. He was born in Hubbardston, Mass.

THE GROWTH OF ELECTRIC CAR LINES has been demonstrated recently by a Chicago man. He tried the experiment of traveling from Chicago to New York wholly on electric cars and succeeded, making the journey in nine days. He was enabled to do this because of the growth of interurban electric lines, and the fare was a little less than one-half that charged by the steam lines between Chicago and New York. He mentions the fact, however, that what he saved in carfare was more than equalled by the cost of living during the nine days.

THE MANAGERS OF THE ST. LOUIS EXPOSITION will act wisely if they investigate the merits of newspaper advertising as compared with pamphlets and the use of bill boards. This is a busy age and the average man has very little time to spare wherein he may stop to read gaudy hangers or sizeable bill boards. He wants something he can read while eating breakfast, or going down town on the cars, or in the evening after supper, and the daily and weekly newspapers fill the bill to his complete satisfaction. Expert advertisers express the opinion that if the St. Louis exposition managers will reduce the "circus" advertising to a minimum and come out strong on newspaper advertising they will reap a rich reward.

FROM NEW YORK COMES A STORY CALCULATED to arouse sympathy for an unfortunate man. John B. Hendrickson is the unfortunate one. He had served a short term in prison, had established a home for his wife and children, and, according to his fellow employes, was trying hard to better his condition in life. There is a law in force in New York making the person guilty of misdemeanor who obtains employment through a false statement as to name, residence, previous employment, qualification, etc. John Hendrickson had been convicted of securing a business man's signature to a bogus petition and using it to draw funds from a savings bank. Judge Hurd took pity on the prisoner and sentenced him to only eighteen months at Sing Sing. At the expiration of the sentence Hendrickson determined to redeem himself, applied for and secured a position as trolley car conductor, under the name of Cox. His wife and two babes were re-established in a neat home, and their happiness was complete. Recently Judge Hurd, who, since the hearing of Hendrickson's case, had retired from the bench, boarded the car in charge of Cox. The conductor spoke to his passenger, recalling the case, and thanked Mr. Hurd for his leniency. The ex-judge, in conversation with a friend later, mentioned the case. Others took up the story, and finally it reached the railroad officials. Cox was at once dismissed and arrested.

A GREAT MANY DISEASES HAVE BEEN given names that are self-descriptive. "Reporter's paralysis" is a new phase of "writer's cramp," and "housemaid's knee" is an affliction common to those whose work keeps them in a kneeling position. The "bicycle face" explains itself, and the "automobile face" is an aggravated form of "bicycle face." One of the latest is "motorman's ear." It is said to be an affliction of the ear caused by the constant ringing of the signal bell.

THE HAYTIEN ARMY IS COMPOSED OF four thousand generals and four thousand privates. Only four hundred of these generals receive pay, the remaining thirty-six hundred depending upon the honor of their positions for full compensation.