

and as the academic requirements became more onerous, Wellesley sloughed off the domestic hour. Does it still hold at Mount Holyoke?"

FIFTY BOER FAMILIES RECENTLY LEFT South Africa to establish a colony in Mexico. Gen. W. D. Snyman, formerly of the Boer army, and General Viljoen are the leaders in this plan. They will locate near Chihuahua where the climate and physical conditions are somewhat like those in the Transvaal and where favorable terms were secured through the efforts of enterprising citizens. A writer in the Milwaukee Wisconsin, describing this Boer colony, says: "A tract of 83,000 acres of grazing and agricultural land was purchased, lying along the Conchas river, twelve miles from Ortiz, on the Mexican Central railway. Of this tract, 4,000 acres are already under irrigation, and there are 1,000 head of cattle on the ranges. General Snyman secured an option on 363,800 acres adjoining the purchase, so that there will be plenty of room for future growth. He has already made arrangements for the purchase of agricultural implements and supplies in the United States, and for the purchase of a herd of Hereford short-horns in Texas. It is the intention of the Boers to cross these Herefords with the hardy Mexican cattle. The Mexican government has made the purchase of land easy for the Boers by extending payment for the same over a period of twenty-five years."

EVERY GEOGRAPHY PUBLISHED GIVES Tahlequah as the capital of Indian territory. Tams Bixby, chairman of the Dawes commission, says that the educators of the Indian territory should endeavor to educate the various school book publishing companies in regard to the capitals of the Indian country. Mr. Bixby says that the maps of the territory in the geographies show scarcely any other towns than Tahlequah and that that town is always printed in heavy black letters with the star representing the capital. He says, however, that it is about time that authors of geographies learn something of the Indian country. Mr. Bixby says that as a matter of fact, the Indian territory proper has no capital as it is not a regularly organized territory. It is simply the Indian country. The seat of government is Muskogee. Each of the five civilized tribes, however, has a capital. Tahlequah is the capital of the Cherokee nation. Okmulgee of the Creek nation. Tishomingo of the Chickasaw nation. Wewoka of the Seminole nation. Tusahoma of the Choctow nation.

A GENERAL STAFF PROJECT HAS BEEN submitted to the secretary of the navy by the naval general board. Congress will probably be asked to adopt this plan in which event the navy department will undergo an entire reorganization. The Associated press explains that under this scheme the secretary of the navy stands at the head of the department and in his absence the assistant secretary. Under the latter's control are placed all the bureaus of the department with the exception of the bureau of navigation, whose duties are to be performed by the general staff. In charge of the military end of the department will be the senior ranking naval officer on duty at the department, who will have the position of chief of the general staff and will probably rank as vice admiral. This officer will be responsible to the secretary for the movements and organization of the fleets and for all matters relating to the personnel of the service. Under the chief of staff will be three grand divisions of the general staff, to be known as the divisions of the personnel, of the fleet and of war plans, respectively. The chief of the division of the personnel will rank as a rear admiral and during the absence of the chief of the general staff will have general supervision over the entire organization. The plan contemplates that this officer shall be charged with the organization of the fleets and squadrons and shall be the advisor of the secretary on all war plans and questions of policy affecting foreign fleets. The chief of the division of the fleet will rank as a rear admiral or senior captain and under him will be assistant chiefs in charge of the naval academy, the division of training men, the division of enlisted men and the division of officers. Each sub-division chief will rank as commander in the navy. Either a captain or a commander will be chief of the division of war plans, and his duties will be the study and development of all war plans; the organization of reserves, convoys and sea transports; also extra transportation, and to co-operate with the army general staff in plans of campaign. The scheme further contemplates the creation of an executive

committee whose duties will be the formulating of war plans and direction of the work of all branches of the general staff. The general board will be known as the general council. Its duties will be of an advisory nature on all matters referred to it by the secretary.

MANY PEOPLE WILL BE SURPRISED TO learn that the discarded tin can has come to be quite an important piece of "raw material." A writer in the American Machinist describes a visit he made recently to a factory located near New York city. The principal products of this factory are window sash weights, elevator weights and ballasts for boats. This writer describes the methods employed in this way: "After delivery at the foundry the cans are first piled into a large iron grating, located under a sheet iron hood which terminates in a smokestack. They are sprinkled liberally with crude oil, which is set on fire. This process consumes the labels, loosens the dirt and melts the solder, which falls through the grating, is collected, washed and melted, cast into ingots and sold to be used again. Some of these cans, which have simply lapped and soldered joints, melt apart completely. These are sorted out and the sheets forming the shell are straightened into bundles to be sold to trunk-makers, who utilize them for protecting the corners of Saratoga trunks. They are also bought by button manufacturers, who stamp from them the disks used in cloth-covered buttons. The remainder of the cans, being machine made, does not come apart. These are loaded into large carts, taken to the charging floor on an elevator and dumped into the cupola. The cupola is fed with coke and cans in alternation. There is occasionally an old wash boiler or a bundle of tin roofing used, but cans form the bulk of the material. The cans are so light that some of them are carried out at the top of the stack by the force of the blast and a large screen has been arranged to prevent the pieces from falling on the roof. If among those readers of the American Machinist to whom these facts are new there are any who have occasion to use the elevators in the sky scrapers of New York I can imagine such wondering how many empty cans it took to make the weights which balance the car in which they ride."

EVERY ONE IS FAMILIAR WITH THE EF-fort to locate water by the use of the witch hazel weed, and now we are told that electricity is to be put to a new use by taking the place of the witch hazel wand. The officials of the geological survey are just now experimenting with a little electrical device which they hope will develop into a reliable water detector. A writer in the Kansas City Star, referring to this device, says: "It is something like the seismograph used for determining earthquake disturbances, and is so delicately adjusted that it records the slightest vibration. By these vibrations the presence of subterranean streams are not only determined, but the volume and direction of the flow are also accurately recorded. This instrument will be of great value to the irrigator and farmer, as it will enable him to drive his wells where he will find water. In tests made with the new electrical device steel rods are driven a short distance into the earth and attached to the machine. The slightest vibration is recorded on the dial. There is an attachment resembling the telephone receiver by which the vibrations are converted into sound waves. In testing for water the volume of these sound waves are compared to the total minor vibrations from other causes in the areas of the same size in which it is known no water exists. The device will not work satisfactorily in regions where there are volcanoes or other seismic disturbances. The officials of the geological survey believe the device can be used to indicate the presence of oil, but the vibrations caused by oil are not so great as those of water and consequently much more difficult to detect. Oil is always found at greater depths than water, and for that reason a more delicately adjusted instrument will be necessary."

AN INTERESTING BIT OF POLITICAL HIS-tory is given by the Christian Intelligencer in this way: "Few remember how near the Reformed church came in the election of 1844 to giving a vice president to the United States. In that campaign Theodore Frelinghuysen, later president of Rutgers College, was the candidate for vice president, with Henry Clay for president. The election was decided by the vote of the state of New York, and Polk and Dallas carried the state by less than 8,000 majority. How this came

about is explained in a letter published in the New York Public Library Bulletin for April. It prints a letter from Henry Clay to Theodore Frelinghuysen, dated Ashland, Ky., May 22, 1844. In this letter Clay asks Frelinghuysen to advise him whether it would be judicious for him to make public his views on a proposed change in the naturalization laws. The indorsement of the letter is more important than the letter itself in explaining the loss of the election. The indorsement is in these words: "I advised silence. But he subsequently wrote a letter in favor of slavery, which lost him his election. It was a dishonest attempt to win the south by a letter in favor of slavery so late in the campaign that it could not reach the north in time to affect the northern vote. But it did reach us, and, of course, very properly defeated the writer."

ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING FREAKS of a cyclone is related by the Salina (Kas.) Republican. The house of a farmer named Olson was twisted into splinters, the son was killed, and several other members of the family, including the father, were desperately injured. Miss Olson, the daughter, was in bed convalescent from typhoid fever. When the storm had abated, Miss Olson was found a long distance from the site of the house, calmly reposing on the mattress of her bed and without the slightest injury to her person. The people of Salina county have given up as hopeless the effort to solve the problem as to how the girl and the mattress could have been lifted through the whirling mass of broken timbers, carried a distance through the storm, and dropped without injury to the girl.

NEAR VALLEY FORGE, PA., IS A FLOUR mill which has the distinction of being owned and operated personally by the only woman miller in the United States. This "woman miller" is only seventeen and her name is Miss Sallie Freichler. She is absolutely her own master, making her own rules, doing her own business, keeping her own books and carrying on her own correspondence. Miss Freichler learned the miller's business while engaged in helping her father in the mill. When her father died two years ago there was no one else to carry on the business and she took his place and has proved herself fully capable of the task thrust upon her. It is said that besides being a thoroughly capable miller the farmers round about the vicinity consider her an expert on rye in all its stages from the seed to the ground product.

IN BERLIN RECENTLY A MUNICIPAL COURT found itself compelled to punish an act of filial sacrifice which would have done credit to the days of Damon and Pythias. The Berlin correspondent for the Philadelphia Public Ledger tells the story in this way: "A man named Fritz Hille was sentenced to two months' imprisonment for misdemeanor. The misdemeanor consisted in the prisoner's refusal to obey a city ordinance regarding loitering in thoroughfares. Fritz was the sole support of a bedridden mother and several younger brothers and sisters. In the confusion which attended the marshaling of misdemeanants before the magistrate for sentence one of his brothers, Franz, took his place and suffered the penalty. The two months had almost expired when the authorities received an anonymous letter apprising them of the deception practiced. Their lawyer pleaded that Franz might be allowed to serve the unexpired term. The magistrate was disposed to compromise in the following manner: He resented Franz to serve an additional two months' imprisonment on the charge of forgery, because on entering and leaving the prison he had signed his brother's name. Fritz, who was charged with being an accessory to the deception, was acquitted."

THERE WILL BE NO LOTTERY IN CUBA if President Palma can have his way. In a public statement recently made, President Palma declared that he would veto a lottery bill if the congress passed it; and added: "I must maintain here the creeds that made me a revolutionist. When we raised our flag against Spain in 1868 one of the things that made me hate the government was the lottery, and the lottery here has continued repugnant to me the same as everywhere. The lottery is a source of revenue to the state, but the money collected thereby is almost a hold-up. Nothing is more immoral than for the country to be a great bank in which the lottery figures. The lottery reduces the moral level of a people; it seems to have been invented for an indolent people where men do not love work."