

By D. M. AMSBERRY.

BROKEN BOW, NEBRASKA.

Yes, Mark Twain is a genius, but it is not his eccentricity that proves it.

Brigands are reported to be active in Sicily. Perhaps Sicily is trying to be known as the Wall street of Italy.

The expression about not caring a red cent may be a misfit. The first one coined, in 1793, has been sold for \$82.

Even a couple that is wedded in a den of lions might be unable to withstand the jars incidental to married life.

Maxim Gorky declares that the Americans are a gloomy, silent race. And he was here during the latter part of the baseball season, too.

Count Boni de Castellane's degradation may be said to be complete. His colleagues in the French chamber of deputies have refused to listen to his speeches.

Prof. Bailey Willis holds that there is conclusive evidence that the North American continent has been submerged four times and has five times been elevated above the sea.

The St. Louis woman who found her lost hat after a four days' search probably had an exclusive model, the kind that wives tell their husbands about after the bill falls due.

The wife of an Indiana policeman is suing a rich widow on the ground that the defendant made love to her husband. But isn't it customary for one to tell her troubles to a policeman?

Apples grown in Tasmania, south of Australia, are shipped 11,000 miles to British markets, and yet they pay so well that Tasmania apple orchards have sold as high as \$1,100 an acre. Five hundred dollars an acre is a modest valuation.

Church attendance in rural districts, it is said, is greatly decreased by the prevailing "motor fever." The ever-increasing use of the automobile for Sunday touring on country roads banishes the church-goer who drives with his family to church, for the horse is apt to take fright and life become thereby endangered.

A London medical journal suggests that for the sake of safety steps of stairways should be of standard size, of uniform height and breadth the world over, and wide enough to take the whole foot. An equally necessary reform is the removal of the extra step, which in the dark one thinks is not there, to that other place where in the dark one thinks there is a step, and find only unsustaining air.

The smokeless condition in Berlin is ascribed to the preponderant use of smokeless fuel, in the form of coke and briquettes, the skillful, scientific construction of boiler furnaces and chimneys and finally to the high standard of skill taught and enforced among firemen who stoke furnaces with coal for steam and other purposes. Before a man can assume such a charge in Berlin he must be taught the theory and practice of economical, scientific firing.

The French have a neat way of showing disfavor. When Boni de Castellane, who is a member of the house of deputies, ascended the tribune to make a speech, half of his fellow-members arose and left the chamber, administering such a public snub as has seldom been inflicted. Boni has a reputation as a duelist, but it is doubtful if he will feel impelled to challenge every manly man who took such an opportunity to express an opinion of Castellane's conduct.

Sir Patrick Manson, in his recent lectures on tropical diseases, although accepting the theory that the only mode of transmission of malarial, or malaria, fever is through the bite of the Anopheles mosquito, adds the statement, which will probably be new to most readers, that the mosquitoes are capable of becoming infected by absorbing the blood not merely of human patients, but also of anthropoid apes, and perhaps even of various other mammals, which, in an evolutionary sense, are related to man.

Persons who think the railroad companies do not do all that they might for the comfort of passengers will be interested to hear a report made recently to the Royal Meteorological society in London about the cars on the Uganda railway in Africa. To exist amid armies of wood-eating insects the cars are built of metal. The large ventilators are protected by gauze against mosquitoes. The windows are of green tinted glass, which allows the passenger to see the landscape and at the same time shields him from the glare of the tropical sun.

A Frenchman now visiting London has discovered why the ballet over here is as far in advance of the ballet in Paris as French drama is ahead of English drama, declares the London Chronicle. Coming away from one of our best music halls in ecstasies, he put the matter briefly but clearly: "It is true," he said, "that the ladies of your ballet have more beautiful figures than ours, and why? In England your girls are tall and scraggy—and you can put on. In France our girls are short and fat—hela! mon ami, you can not take off!"

NEBRASKA NOTES

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

CHILD LABOR IS DISCUSSED

Senator Beveridge Makes an Address Before the State Teachers' Association — Editor of Nebraska Paper Killed by a Hotel Landlord.

Mr. Beveridge on Child Labor. The State Teachers' association meeting at Lincoln closed with an address by United States Senator Beveridge. The occasion was made more interesting by the fact that W. J. Bryan introduced the speaker, it being remembered that these two exchanged compliments in speeches at Lincoln during the campaign. Mr. Beveridge said in part:

"Nothing shows how greed forgets humanity as child slavery. There is something with a prosperity which is so immense that it finally comes to feed upon the lives of little children. Men who make money by working infants are making too much money.

There are, at a low estimate, 500,000 children under 14 at work in cotton mills, glass factories, sweat shops, mines and like industries. Those whom such toil does not kill are being ruined for citizenship. We are turning out, at a low estimate, 200,000 adult 'hoolligans' every year; and these become in turn the parents of hundreds of thousands of other degenerates. And so this civic pestilence riots and spreads.

It must be stopped—if not for the sake of these children themselves, then for our own sake; if not for the sake of common humanity, then for the sake of the republic's safety. For this republic is based on citizenship. We cannot sow the winds today without reaping the whirlwind tomorrow.

"If everybody, including the most earnest advocate of 'state rights' could agree on a national quarantine law to keep out yellow fever, which does not kill twenty people in twenty years, how much more should we agree on a national child labor law to stop a practice that actually kills thousands of children and irreclaimably ruins tens of thousands every year?"

Editor Shot and Killed.

MINATARE — Samuel D. Cox, editor of the Minatare Sentinel, founder of the Lincoln Daily Call, was shot and instantly killed here by E. S. Kennison, landlord of the Enterprise hotel. A scuffle took place between the men on the street. After a short scuffle, Mr. Kennison is said to have pulled a gun from his pocket and fired three shots. All of them took effect.

The killing is regarded as cold-blooded in every detail and it is pointed with some degree of color that it is the outgrowth of a strong campaign on the part of Cox against the liquor traffic. Kennison was playing cards and a few moments before the tragedy after losing several hands, remarked he was going up the street and lick the first man he didn't like. He walked into the White drug store and called Cox outside. No one was near enough to hear the conversation, but they were soon scuffling and Kennison drew a gun and fired three shots, the third one entering Cox's left breast and he fell.

Imaginary Troubles Are Fatal.

HASTINGS—Herman Pisse, aged 40, of Deshler, was found dead in his room in the Lepin hotel. He shot himself with a revolver. Among the lead man's personal effects was a certificate of deposit issued by the State Bank of Deshler for \$2,000, also three certificates by the same bank for \$50 each. It is believed he was worried over imaginary troubles and that it was dependency of this sort that induced him to commit suicide.

Reduction of Interest Rate.

LINCOLN — Recommendation is made by Land Commissioner Eaton in his biennial report to the governor that the interest rate to be charged purchasers of school lands on any amount they are unable to pay shall be 5 per cent instead of 6 per cent. Mr. Eaton is of the opinion that this will bring in a large interest revenue to the state, as now the farmers are in the habit of borrowing money from the loan companies at 5 per cent and paying the state in full.

Bryan Pays the Bill.

LINCOLN—Unwilling that his homecoming reception should cause pain to any one, W. J. Bryan quietly provided for the care of a little colored boy, the son of J. S. Andrews, a waiter at the Lincoln hotel, who was injured in the crush of the parade last fall.

Case Settled Out of Court.

CENTRAL CITY—A check for \$500 has been received by A. F. Mc Masters from the Union Pacific Railroad company in settlement of a claim for \$2,000 damages, which he had filed against that company.

Harry Dow is Free.

LINCOLN — Harry Dow of North Platte has been pardoned by Governor Mickey. Dow has served about a year in prison on a grand larceny charge. It has been established that he took a grip and an overcoat, the latter costing \$16 new.

Stalk Disease Kills Cattle.

TAYLOR—Hoobler & Son lost sixty-five head of cattle with stalk disease in a few days. A number of other farmers have lost stock from pasturing stalks this season.

OVER THE STATE.

Mevis Viles, a Burt country pioneer, died last week.

The Burlington will build a handsome new depot at Wymore.

The livery barn of D. M. Murber at Scribner, was destroyed by fire.

Frank Swoonda, an insane man, in the Norfolk asylum, committed suicide.

Geneva's new library and reading room was formerly opened New Year's day.

Beatrice will select a team to debate with the Humboldt High School pupils.

Beatrice's Salvation Army distributed twenty-five bushels of food and 150 garments.

W. R. Rose has filed with the governor his bond for \$10,000 as deputy attorney general.

Three cases of smallpox are reported in the family of J. R. Walker, north of Beatrice.

Attorney General Brown will move to Kearney as soon as his term of office expires.

The Union Pacific will add to its shop facilities at Omaha by erecting an \$80,000 paint shop.

W. T. Gore of Beatrice sues the Burlington for \$477.42 damages for delay in shipping cattle.

H. E. Sweedy, editor of the Cortland Sun, was quarantined for several weeks as a smallpox patient.

As a result of the McConnell meeting at Fairmont, 120 persons have joined churches united in the revival.

William Kline, a young man of Sterling, was brought before the insanity commission at Tecumseh and was adjudged insane. He was ordered taken to the Lincoln asylum.

While husking corn at his farm near Harbine, a German farmer named Kratz in stooping struck his right eye against a stalk, the end of which pierced the eyeball. He will lose the sight of the eye.

Mrs. Mollie Garrens "smashed" the business house of H. M. Townsley at Union with an axe, alleging it was a liquor "joint." The proprietor is under bonds on charge of selling liquor without a license.

William Kern died at the Soldier's Home in Grand Island at the age of 78 years. He was a member of Company B, First Minnesota volunteer infantry, and was admitted to the home from Arcadia, Valley county, in 1904.

State Treasurer Mortensen has started a conscience fund and at this time it contains \$25, received from a man who once upon a time broke a Nebraska law, since which time his conscience has never ceased to trouble him.

A Burlington conductor says that more people traveled during the week preceding Christmas than he ever knew to travel during that period before, and he is wondering where people get so much money to pay for railroad fares.

On the complaint of the officers of the Nebraska Children's home, two children have been taken from the family of a man named Holton, at Nebraska City, and will be sent to Omaha. They were being allowed to roam the streets without restraint, the girl being 13 years of age and the boy

The State Teachers' association elected the following officers for the ensuing year: A. H. Waterhouse of Omaha, president; E. E. Magee of Ashland, vice president; Katherine Woods of Peru, secretary; R. D. Overholt of Minden, treasurer; E. B. Sherman, member of the executive committee to take the place of W. H. Gardner, whose term expires.

In his biennial report Insurance Auditor John L. Pierce recommends the passage of a fire marshal law, passage of a law limiting the liability of a surety company on any one risk to one-tenth of the amount of the company's capital and surplus, an act providing for publishing brief abstracts of annual statements of foreign legal reserve life insurance companies, and a new section providing for fees to be paid by all legal reserve life companies.

Two applications were filed with Governor Mickey for pardons, Harry Dow, sentenced for three years for grand larceny from North Platte, and Charles Shear, sentenced for three years for robbery from Douglas county. Both men entered the penitentiary last December. Dow stole a grip and an overcoat from Conductor Anderson of the Union Pacific, which the jury valued at \$51. Anderson has filed a letter with the governor that the value of the two articles when new was \$25.

One of the most interesting cases before the supreme court, was the contest case from Saline county over the office of county treasurer. The contestants are C. J. Bowlby, the incumbent, and P. F. Dodson, who claims that his opponent is ineligible for the reason that the statutes prohibit a county treasurer from holding office for three consecutive terms. Mr. Bowlby, who has served one full term and part of a term to which he was appointed and who was re-elected last fall, explains that the part of the term he served was not his, but his predecessor's.

Nellie Huffman and Eulo Mickle, 16 and 14 years old, respectively, of Mason, City, ran away from home and were located at Baird by telephone. Their parents went after them.

On the evening of January 15, the trotting and pacing horse breeders of Nebraska will meet at the Lindell hotel, Lincoln, for the purpose of organizing a state association. At that time a constitution and by-laws will be adopted, officers elected and stakes opened for the first annual meeting, which will be held at some point in Nebraska for the season of 1907.

ACHAN AND HIS WEDGE OF GOLD

A STORY OF THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN.

By the "Highway and Byway" Preacher.

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Scripture Authority:—Joshua, chapter 7.

SERMONETTE.

"Make confession unto God." This Achan had to do. This every soul must needs do.

But confession at the judgment bar of God and confession at the mercy seat of God are as different as life is from death.

The confession which is wrung from the unrepentant heart brings with it no claim for mercy, but the repentant heart as it pours out its confession of guilt may claim the promise: "If we confess our sins God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

It is a solemn thought that all things are to be revealed before God. (Luke 12:2-5.) "We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

Let us fix this thought in mind, then, O soul! That confession of the hidden things of thy heart and life must be made to God. It may be delayed, but it cannot be evaded. It must come.

But when? The time, the place, are within the choosing of every soul.

"To-day if ye will hear his voice." "Now is the accepted time." This is God's call to confession.

His voice sounds out from the mercy seat where Christ the crucified one stands to blot out the transgression and save from sin.

"Choose you this day." Will you unfold your heart and life to God and receive his mercy and grace, or will you with rebellious heart shut him out and turn a deaf ear to his cry as he pleads: "Turn ye, turn ye, for why will ye die?"

For such there waiteth the day of wrath and vengeance from God. The day of grace sinned away, the soul must at last appear before God, there to make confession to the sins of the life and the heart. It will no longer be a matter of choice, but of absolute necessity, for the searching eye of God will discover every hidden thing.

But oh, how vastly different will that scene be from that which it might have been the privilege of the soul to enjoy. No longer does the voice of God sound forth from his seat of mercy. The day of mercy has passed. The day of judgment has come, and the guilty soul can find no refuge in which to hide. The confession is wrung from the unrepentant heart, and the voice of God sounds from the judgment seat saying: "Depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

THE STORY.

ACHAN looked about him. No other Israelite was in sight. In his eagerness to get into the midst of Jericho he had left his comrades quite in the rear, and as he went about applying the torch that the city might be burned as the Lord had commanded, curiosity led him to enter a wing of what was evidently the king's palace, and there before his eyes were gold and silver and rich garments scattered about in reckless profusion.

"They had gathered their treasure, and then had to leave it behind in their effort to escape," muttered Achan as he stooped and dug his fingers into the silvery pile at his feet, and then let the coins sift through them with a merry jingle.

Beneath the coins thus displaced he caught the gleam of gold, and pushing the silver aside, eagerly, there soon lay revealed before him a great bar of rich yellow gold. He took it in his hands. It was more wealth than he had ever held in his hands before, and the wish half formed came into his heart that it belonged to him.

Suddenly a voice seemed to speak right at his elbow, saying: "And ye, in any wise, keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest ye make yourselves accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it."

With a start Achan looked about him, letting the wedge of gold fall upon a pile of silver with a clatter, but he saw no one, and partly reassured, he turned his eyes again upon the glittering gold at his feet.

"Who was to know if he took just this one piece of gold from the midst of so much?" he asked himself, and his conscience answered back:

"But Joshua solemnly told us not to touch the accursed thing."

"Yes, but was not the gold and the silver to be gathered and turned into the treasury of the Lord?" questioned

Achan as he reasoned with himself. "Surely of all this great pile which I will turn into the treasury they will not miss this one wedge of gold."

"But it all belongs to the Lord," came back the answer in his heart, and again the words of Joshua echoed in his ears:

"Keep yourselves from the accursed thing lest ye make yourselves accursed."

Impatient with himself over his improving conscience, Achan stooped and began gathering the silver and gold in piles, saying as he did so:

"No one else, I dare say, will bring so much treasure into the tabernacle to-day as I. Why, there is almost more here than I can carry."

In his search for something suitable in which to place the gold and silver his eyes fell upon an exquisite garment.

"That must have belonged to the king himself," he exclaimed, feeling its soft texture and noting the delicate golden embroidery which like lace-work covered the entire garment.

As he continued gathering the treasure together, his thought was upon that wedge of gold and that fine garment, and somehow, these two did not get into the bundle which he was preparing to deliver to the priests.

The temptation had come, and instead of turning from it resolutely, he dallied with it and let covetous eyes and heart fix themselves upon these treasures. And ere he had finished gathering the gold and silver for the treasury of the Lord, he had persuaded himself that that wedge of gold and that garment really belonged to him for his loyalty for turning in such a goodly sum. It never would be known, and as he placed the gold and the garment within the folds of his own clothing his avarice grew and he placed some of the silver there, also. Then, shouldering his burden, he made his way back to camp and presented himself before the door of the tabernacle, where the priest received his offering.

He wondered as he went away and sought the seclusion of his own tent whether the priest suspected him, for he asked whether this were all. How that gold and silver and garment hidden within his clothing seemed to weigh him down. Feverishly he dug deep in the ground underneath his tent and placed the treasure there, and when it was done and the earth replaced, he breathed a sigh of relief and went about his usual tasks of the camp.

That night his slumbers were disturbed by frightful dreams and he seemed to see Joshua pointing his accusing finger at him and saying, in a voice of thunder:

"Where is the accursed thing? Where is the accursed thing?"

Once he started up and would have gone and made confession, but he turned back and called himself a fool, saying that no one could know what he had done.

The next day all was excitement in the camp, for Joshua had called for volunteers to go up against the city of Ai.

"We can take the city easily," spoke out confidently the men who had been up to spy upon the place.

Achan heard the words, and there echoed in his heart the words of Joshua:

"Lest ye make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it."

"Oh, bother," he exclaimed under his breath, "what difference can the little gold and silver I have in my tent make with these my brethren in their fight upon Ai?"

And silently and half sullenly, few his heart was greatly troubled over this thing which he had done, he watched the little company of 3,000 picked men depart in full confidence for Ai. He wanted to shout after the men not to go, but the thought of the gold within his tent and the desire to keep the same held his tongue. No, he would not tell. None should ever know.

In his troubled condition Achan wandered off from the camp, and it was late in the evening when he returned. He found the camp in disorder, and the people weeping, and he learned that defeat had been met at Ai, and 36 of his brethren had been slain.

"Was he responsible?" he asked himself, and then as quickly he tried to defend himself and persuade his troubled conscience that he had done nothing wrong. "And none shall know of the gold," he added.

He was roused from his troubled thoughts by the crier passing through the camp saying:

"This is the word of Joshua, calling upon the people to sanctify themselves against the morrow, for thus saith the Lord God of Israel: There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel; thou canst not stand before thine enemies until ye take away the accursed thing from among you."

Achan listened with blanching cheek, and a great fear seized his heart. Every eye seemed to be turned upon him as he passed through the camp and sought the seclusion of his tent. The moaning of the wind seemed to be a voice crying out its accusation against him. The rustle of the leaves in the trees by his tent seemed to be whispering together and talking of his guilt. And everything about him seemed to be saying: "Tomorrow!" "Tomorrow!"

Ah, Achan didst thou but know that thou wert dealing not with man alone but with God, thou wouldst not with such boldness and hard-heartedness have gone with thy brethren into that great company of Israelites. Slowly but surely under the direction of God's spirit the people were sifted out, until at last Achan was taken and a confession wrung from his lips which spake his doom, for sin when it is come to the full, bringeth forth death.

THE PROGRESS OF THE CANADIAN WEST.

Nearly 200,000 of an Increase in Canada's Immigration in 1906.

The progress of a new country cannot be better ascertained than by noting the increase of railroad mileage in its transportation system, and, judged by this standard, the Canadian West leads all the countries in the world during the current year. Thirty years ago there was not one hundred miles of railroad west of the Great Lakes, and very little prospect of a transcontinental route for many years to come, but by the end of 1885 the Canadian Pacific Railway was within measurable distance of completion, and last year—twenty years later—over 6,000 miles of railroad traversed the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

In the past year the work of railroad construction has been vigorously prosecuted, and by the end of 1906, some 5,000 miles of completed railroad has been added, making a total of fully 11,000 miles in the three great grain producing provinces of Canada. Such an increase in the transportation facilities of the country is bound to make good times not only in the districts where the railroads are being built, but throughout the entire west. Allowing \$20,000 a mile for construction, the sum of \$100,000,000 will be put in circulation, and this in itself should cause good times to prevail in a land where work is plentiful, wages are high, and the cost of living is moderate.

But the building of new railroads through Western Canada means a greater benefit to the country than merely the money put in circulation by the cost of construction. Additional railway building means the opening of new agricultural districts and an additional area under crops; a largely increased output of grain to foreign markets with consequent financial returns; the erection of elevators and the growth of villages, towns and cities; and everything else that makes for the progress of national life, and the opening up of additional thousands of free homesteads, so extensively advertised by the Canadian government agent, whose address appears elsewhere.

It was stated on the floor of the Canadian Parliament recently by a prominent representative that ten years from now would see the bulk of the population of Canada residing west of the Great Lakes, and if the work of railway building during the present year is any criterion, the prophecy made by the Canadian statesman may be easily fulfilled inside of the time stated. During the present year no less than 189,064 persons have found homes in the Canadian west, of whom 57,796 were Americans who have seen the great possibilities of this new West, and have decided to cast in their lot with it. Certainly, our neighbor north of the 49th parallel is making a great record, and deserves the success that appears to be coming its way.

A man isn't necessarily a manufacturer because he is always on the make.

Lewis' Single Binder — the famous straight 5c cigar, always best quality. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

Fear of the future is worse than one's present lot.—Quintilian.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY. Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets. Drug stores refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

Nothing is more annoying than a tardy friend.—Plautus.

Top Prices for Hides, Furs, Pelts. Write for circular, No. 9 N. W. Hide & Fur Co., Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Country youths sow wheat and raise corn, but some of their city cousins sow wild oats and raise Cain.

Smokers appreciate the quality value of Lewis' Single Binder cigar. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

Death is a welcome relief to the man who is forced to hustle 18 hours a day in order to keep the premiums on his life insurance policies paid up.

The greatest cause of worry on ironing day can be removed by using Defiance Starch, which will not stick to the iron. Sold everywhere, 16 oz for 10c.

Strangely Mounted. The strangest military body in the world is a band of cavalry at Saint de Moorvay, a province on the east coast of Africa, which is under the rule of the French governor general at Mada gascar. These soldiers go about their military operations on oxen. The animals are lean creatures, and it is said they move with surprising rapidity.

\$100 Reward, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by all Druggists, etc. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

The Language of Commerce. Great Britain and her colonies and the United States represent together the fabulous total of 111,000,000 English-speaking persons, figures which leave all competitors hopelessly in the rear. Germany and Russia occupy second place with 75,000,000 apiece, and France, Spain, Italy and Portugal follow, with 51,000,000, 43,000,000, 33,000,000 and 13,000,000 respectively, according to The Atlas of the World's Commerce.