NEBRASKA DAY AT NEW ORLEANS.

A Speech on the Occasion by Hon. John M. Thurston, of Omaha.

Interesting exercises were held at the exposition building in New Orleans on Nebraska day. The orator of the occasion was Hon John M. Thurston, of Omaha, whose remarks are here given. He said:

"This magnificent exposition fills us with patronism, wonder and joy. Patriotism, to feel what a grand and glorious land is ours; wonder, to find, gathered together here, the choicest products of the agriculture, the art, the science, the invention, the manufacture and the commerce of the whole civilized world; joy, to know of the great era of universal prosperity and peace, of which these dumb witnesses so eloquently speak.

"Seeing the flags of all the great powers floating side by side in the air above us, we feel assured that the great international millenium has nearly or quite come; when the sword of the soldier shall no longer leap from its scabbard to settle disputes between civilized nations, but shall be kept forever sheathed by the wisdom of the statesman and the arbitration of the just.

"Shall we who have seen these things behold as dreamers if we prophesy that in the great future our own beloved United States is to become the Arcadia of the poet's dream, where universal knowledge, universal industry and universal love shall prevail? Where the inmate of a prison shall be a thing of the past; where the man of the mob shall become the man of the farm and the manufactory, and the man of the bludgeon and of crime shall have disappeared forever before the man of the temple and the man of law?

"We also believe that this gathering together here will prove an inestimable blessing to our own people, that it will do much to forever destroy all lingering traces of the old time sectional feeling, and that in this temple of industry we may gather from all portions of our common country and around its altar once again partake of the sweet communion of our renumerated love and faith.

"For but little more than a century the experiment of a people's government has been tried upon American foil. Born of the irresistible love of liberty springing up in the hearts of the people, rocked in the cradle of revolution, baptized in the blood of its heroic martyrs, this heaven-inspired experiment has become a grand success. We look abroad throughout the land and we see the cities, towns and villages, growing and thriving upon the hillside and in the valleys, at the foot of the mountains, by the shores of the sea. We see the forests disappear before the woodman's ax and the prairies broken by the plowman's skill. We see the steamboats plowing the lakes and the rivers, and the iron bands of the railways spanning the land. We feel that ours is indeed the land of all others. Where the schoolhouse is upon the hillside and the church spire in the air. Where the forge fire is aglow, and the smoke of the manufactory leaps upward to the eager heavens. Where the joyous ringing of the pick and the musical hum of the spindle delights the ear of well-paid labor. Where the rivulet and the river, the cataract and the waterfall have been chained by the ingenuity of man to turn the wheel that toils for him. Where every man, rich or poor, may own the land he tills, and liberty, equal rights and justice is the heritage of all.

"One hundred years ago the sovereignty of the thirteen original colonies was as yet unknown upon the shores of the Gulf of Mexico, and had scarcely penetrated into the unbroken wilderness beyond the Alleghanies. Now all changed. By cession, conquest and discovery we have advanced our boundaries until from the lakes of the north to the gulf of the south, from the rock-bound coast of the Atlantic to the golden gates of the Pacific we have a glorious country, where nearly sixty millions of free people pursue the prosperous paths of peace.

"By far the most important acquisition of territory was that of the province of Louisiana. In 1803 the wise statesmanship of Thomas Jefferson, operating with the warlike complications of Europe, induced the great Napolean to perform one of those grand acts of national sacrifice, more heroic than any of his innumerable conquests, and this vast territory, so necessary to the future development and power of this great government, was ours. Of this province, now subdivided into seven states and four territories, Nebraska was an almost unknown and unconsidered past. For many years distant, wilderness and savage tribes separated her from the Louisiana of to-day. By various acts of congress she became part of other territories and was known by other names.

"In the later times the terrible tide of civil war ebbed and flowed for four long years between us. We thank God that great conflict is long since over. The smoke has lifted from its scenes of carnage, and the sun of promise shines again. Rich harvests have been gathered from the fields that were plowed by the shot and by the shell. The fruit has ripened on the vines and trees whose roots were watered by the blood of the brave. The homes have been rebuilt, the plantations reinclosed, and the angel of peace has folded her white wings and nestled in the land where stalked the destroying angel of war. And now, in this glad time of reconcilliation, the baby girl, Nebraska, grown to the full stature of her womanhood, comes home to her mother, Louisiana, once again. Comes with her hands overflowing with the products of her bounteous harvests and her heart filled with reawakened filial love. We come to-day and say to Louisiana and to her queen city, New Orleans, let us enter into an enduring commercial alliance beneficial to both. The navigable waters of the Missouri, the mighty tributary of the still mightier Mississippi, flows past our very doors. Reach out your strong arms, extend the great arteries of trade. Let your vast wealth secure from us the surplus products of our fertile soil. Restore the great watery highway to its former glory, and keep for us the gate of commerce to the world of commerce beyond.

"And now I come to speak of Nebraska, her resources and advantages. This is something which I much dislike to do. It is very embarrassing for a Nebraska man to even half describe her wonderful productiveness and fertility. Strangers are apt to look at one with eyes askant, and with a rare expression of unbelief. But I modestly yet firmly assert that the men of Nebraska never lie. Every one of them wears next his heart a miniature edition of the historical hatchet. Nebraska, geographically considered, lies between the fortieth and forty-third parallel of the north latitude, and the ninety-fifth and 104th degrees of longitude west from Greenwich. It extends from the Missouri river westward, with a gradual ascent, not noticeable to the eye, toward the foot hills of the Rocky mountains. It has an extreme length of 412 and a width of 208 miles. Its total area is about 76,000 square miles, or 50,000,000 acres of farm and grazing lands, unsurpassed in fertility, productiveness and ease of tillage, by any tract in America. In the whole state there is not a square mile of swamp land or a section that cannot be successfully tilled or grazed. The whole section consists of rolling prairies, interspersed by numerous beautiful valleys, through which the countless streams and rivers wind like silver ribbons in the sunshine. The soil is a rich alluvial of an unknown depth and inexhaustible fertility. Its porous character enables it to withstand excessive rain or drouth. I shall speak no further of historic Nebraska, but shall refer to the advancement of the last twenty years.

"Up to within that period there were, practically, no settlements except upon her extreme eastern border along the Missouri river. For the most part her virgin prairies lay unbroken, roamed over by vast herds of buffalo and by the unmolested Indian. But there were few in the land whose daring minds had conceived the gigantic project of a great transcontinental railway, which should bridge the rivers, traverse the plains, climb the mountains, annihilate space and bring the two extremes of our land into commercial communication with each other. These enterprising giants brought to the accomplishment of this scheme great energy, perseverance and daring. They poured into it the accumulated riches of successful ventures, and gave to it the best years of their lives. It became a magnificent success. It advanced the development of our country many generations and made possible the settlement of the west. And one day the wild red man, riding his pony carelessly up the grassy summit of a prairie mound, observed a column of smoke ascending to the heavens. His practiced eye discerns that it is no smoke from the camp fire of an adventurous white man, for as he gazes in amazement it approaches toward him over the prairies, and affrighted at its wondrous aspect and thundering noise, he turns and flees. What heard he in that mighty sound? The blast of steam from iron throat? The shock of iron wheel on iron track? It was this, but it was more than this. It was the tramp of the ages, the footfall of destiny on the highway of civilization. No wonder that the untutored savage, hearing this prophetic sound, trembled and fled. Since then Nebraska has made most wonderful advancement. She has now 750,000 population, and is entered in the race to win. Her people are the pioneers of civilization—that heroic class of men whose courage, endurance and intelligence always succeed. They have come from the north, the east and the south. They have come from the fair fields of England, the bold highlands of Scotland, and from the wave-kissed shores of the Emerald Isle; from the vine-clad hills of France; from beneath the fair Italian skies, and from the castled banks of the Rhine; from the broad steppes of Russias; the cold peninsulas of Norway and Sweden, and from the owlands of the Zuyder Zee—leaving behind them the scenes of their childhood, the graves of their ancestors and the traditions of their fatherland. They have to come to us, for upon our rolling prairies they have found home, peace and plenty.

"Without enlarging further, I submit to your deliberate consideration the following carefully-prepared tables, showing the marked increase of our population, products and wealth." Mr. Thurston then read a number of statistical tables, from which it was learned that Nebraska has now a population of 694,210 as against 452 402 in 1880; that in 1880 Nebraska raised 147,867 bushels of wheat and 1,482,080 bushels of corn, while in 1884 the product of the state was 14,000,000 bushels more of wheat and corn than Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Utah and Montana raised in 1880. The immense growth of the cattle industry of Nebraska was also shown. In the number of oxen and other cattle, Nebraska excels every other state save Iowa and Texas.

Mr. Thurston continued: "A word should be said for the railroads of Nebraska. They have grid-ironed the state with their iron tracks, and have made the markets of the land available for her farmers. They have extended their lines far in advance of temporary profitable investment, and have done much to secure our population and build up our various industries, and are already commencing to reap the benefits. While Nebraska is more especially an agricultural state, she already has many and successful manufactories in operation, which time will not permit me to describe. I need only to say that Omaha, the metropolis of the state, is the largest manufacturing point on the Missouri river and west of Chicago and St. Louis. She gives steady employment to over 5,000 skilled mechanics. Her population, which in 1870 was not quite 17,000, in 1880 a little over 30,000, is now upward of 55,000, and is rapidly increasing. She has five miles of paved streets, a magnificent system of water works, five public buildings and the best free schools in the land. As a financial business center, the clearing house reports place Omaha among the prominent cities of the country, ranking next to Detroit and leading Cleveland, Memphis, Indianapolis, Hartford, New Haven, Columbus (O.), Peoria, Syracuse and others. And now, delegated by the governor and people of Nebraska, I formally deliver this exhibit of its resources to the commissioners authorized to receive the same upon behalf of the general government. As we have proved our loyalty and fidelity in the years gone by, so we will ever stand ready to join with our sister states in that united advancement of our common country to its magnificent future, whose realization will surely eclipse the wildest dreams of the most Utopian of us all."

THE EARNINGS AND EXPENSES.

What the Great National Highway Has Done and is Doing—Operations for 1884.

A summary of the operations of the Union Pacific for the year 1884 has been made public and is as follows: For the last six months the earnings, excluding the St. Joseph and Western railroad, were $14,738,000; expenses, $6,807,000; taxes, $519,000. The surplus earnings of the entire system for the last six months of 1884 were $7,381,000. The other receipts from miscellaneous sources make the total income $7,892,000, as against a total income for the first six months of the year of $[illegible],819,000. The expenditures for the last six months were $3,795,000. Of this amount $2,674,000 was paid for interest on bonds. The total surplus for the last six months of the year is $4,096,000. From this is deducted $750,000 for United States requirements, leaving a net surplus income for the last six months of $3,346,000, as against a deficit of $883,000 for the first six months of the year. The report says it is necessary to bear in mind that the various measures of economy which had been matured and entered upon during the first half of the year did not produce their effect until the second half. The total earnings for the year, excluding the St. Joseph and Western and the income from investments, was $25,205,000. In 1883 the earnings were $29,241,000. The surplus for 1884 was $2,962,000. For 1883 it was $5,156,000. During the year the floating debt has been reduced to $3,337,000.

During the past year there have been expenses and loss in receipts not likely to occur again. The increase in the taxes were $8,243,753, owing to a new law in Nebraska. The tolls due from the St. Joseph and Western road to the St Joseph bridge building company have not been paid. These tolls, amounting to $101,864, are properly receipts of the system. They will soon be paid. The accumulated deficiencies, open accounts and dispute of credits since the consolidation in 1880 have been charged off against the surplus income of 1884, which sufficed to meet them all after paying a dividend of 1¾ per cent and yet leave a balance of $1,033,444, equal to 1 7-10 per cent on the company's capital stock. The total outstanding funded debt of the company, which does not include the favored debts of auxiliary independent organizations in which the company is interested, amounted, on Dec. 31, 1884, to $84,173,285, as compared with $84,406,332 for the previous year, showing a decrease of $336,047. The net reduction of the entire debt, funded and floating, during the year, was $478,000. The land sales of the company during the year, after deducting the sales cancelled, were 4,241,044 acres for the Union Pacific proper, which realized $6,517,773; for the Kansas Pacific, 452,537 acres; amount realized, $1,917,875.

THE OKLAHOMA TROUBLE.

The Matter to Receive Speedy Official Attention.

The cabinet did not consider the Oklahoma question at its recent session. Secretary Lamar said, however, that speedy attention would be given to it, and he hoped that some decision would be reached at an early day. Mr. Lamar is much in earnest in this declaration, and he really has been greatly embarrassed by the condition of the department. He has not as yet had any help in the administration of the important matters of his department. He has had no assistant secretary upon whom he cared to rely. Mr. Clark, who died on the 24th, never performed an hour's work, and Mr. Lamar has not only had the whole routine of the department upon his shoulders, new as he is himself to all of its details, but he besides nearly all of the night and much of the day has been nursing his sick friend, the assistant secretary. He died in Mr. Lamar's own rooms. A new assistant secretary has been appointed, and Mr. Lamar hopes within a few days to come to a conclusion. It is believed that that conclusion will be that a commission shall be appointed under the provisions of the Indian appropriation bill to come to some agreement with the Indians as to the occupation of Oklahoma. The president also said to an inquirer greatly interested in the matter that he was convinced that the Oklahoma question was a very important and vital issue in the west, and that it should soon receive speedy consideration. The inquirer became impressed more from the president's manner than from anything that was said that the decision will be very much like that indicated as the purpose of Mr. Lamar—namely, the appointment of a commission.

Death of General Stager.

General Anson Stager, who has been suffering for some time from a number of complaints, including Bright's disease, died in Chicago on the 27th. He was born in Ontario county, New York, April 20, 1825. He began life as a printer. In 1846 he began work as a telegraph operator in Philadelphia. Two years afterward he was made chief operator of the National lines at Cincinnati, and in 1852 he was appointed superintendent of the lines of the Mississippi Printing Telegraph company. He took a prominent part in organizing the various lines and interests leased by and consolidated with the Western Union telegraph company, and upon the organization of that company he was made its general superintendent. In 1861 he was appointed by the secretary of war chief of the United States military telegraph. He organized the military telegraph and was commissioned as colonel and aide-de-camp, and was assigned to duty in the war department, and was brevetted brigadier-general at the close of the rebellion. At the close of the war he resumed his position as general superintendent of the Western Union, which post he retained until the consolidation of the Western and American Union companies.

The suppression of newspapers and books in Russia during the reign of the present Czar has been so considerable that the Russian press is pronounced to be "nearly dead."

THE MOVEMENTS OF BARRIOS.

Belief that It Will be Well for the United States to Prepare for Work.

John M. Gregory, LL. D., of the civil service commission, recently talked at length and freely to a St. Paul reporter. Questioned in regard to the new administration, said he:

I, as well as others of the civil service commission, believe that President Cleveland means every word of his civil service utterances. Mr. Cleveland is a plain, straightforward, practical and honest man. For months before his inauguration we adjudged him to be in perfect sympathy with the principles of civil service reform, and I believe his appointments and his official acts during the few weeks since March 4 to be in perfect accordance with such estimate of him. Mr. Cleveland has had several years of experience in the workings of the reform. As much as any other he furthered it in New York, and throughout his gubernatorial term always lent to it his official favor. He knows how successful it has proven in New York, and will try the same policy in the federal government. I believe he means precisely what he says, and I believe that he has the force of character and the inclination to do what he considers for the best interest of the nation. In regard to the federal offices, in Minnesota for instance, it is difficult to forecast his policy. Where a man has proven an efficient officer, I do not think the president will remove him. Undoubtedly many offices throughout the country have been used as political machines. If he could be led to believe that such has been the case with any officer here, I think the president would remove him. There are many seeking after the various positions who would not hesitate to charge present incumbents with a rabid partisanship. How much effect such charges would have upon the president's judgment is impossible to make. That, I think, would be the only argument that would induce him to remove an efficient officer. The terms of all the officials expire during the president's administration. It would be in the strict line of civil service reform to continue in office those who have proven non-partisan and efficient. Mr. Cleveland is but human, however, and where either of two men could serve the country well and efficiently it is but natural that he should favor the one of his own political creed. Not only do I not think that he would appoint a man who would make of his office a democratic machine, but I believe he would dismiss any man doing such a thing. Mr. Cleveland has said, "A public office is a public trust," and that is the keynote of his policy of appointment. Mr. Pendleton's appointment is a most worthy one. He sacrificed his senatorship for his devotion to reform, and his appointment is a graceful and worthy recognition of his labors in that behalf. The other appointments thus far made are in the same tenor. A little act of the president's, a few days since, fitly indexes his character. In looking over the roll of clerks in the executive department he found that he could dispense with quite a number. Inquiring into their work, he found them capable and efficient men, and instead of discharging them as supernumeraries, he retained them until places could be found in the other departments. They were almost all republicans. Finding the assistant private secretary to be very competent, he was also retained.

I think we may safely class President Cleveland as a genuine adherent of civil service reform. The success of the work since the law went into effect in July, 1883, has surpassed the most flattering expectations. The principles have been carried out to the letter, the appointments have been rigorously impartial and non-partisan, and the appointes have been able and efficient. We have examined 10,000 candidates. Of these over 2,000 have been placed in the service without the slightest regard to their political views. If an applicant ventures to hint at his politics, his letter is returned to him or thrown into the fire. After appointment the candidate is put on probation for six months, and the fact that all appointed, but two, have not failed to receive reappointment at the end of the term, speaks most creditably for the republican chiefs of departments, for in that time it is very easy to find out a man's politics; and the fact that this had no weight is a high compliment to the intention of the officials strictly to follow the law. I believe that in twenty-five years the civil service system will have been extended not only into every department of the federal service, excepting only elective offices and the cabinet, but throughout every state and large city government. Massachusetts and New York have already adopted it down to the most insignificant positions. Other states must. It is the only way to do away with rings and the old spoils system and to guarantee us a pure and efficient government.

THE RUMPUS WITH RUSSIA.

Queen Victoria Calls Out the Reserves and Militia—Strong Indications of a Clash of Arms.

A London dispatch says the calling out of the reserves and militia has increased the excitement over the Anglo-Russian dispute, especially in military circles. Orders for a thousand rifles and revolvers have been sent to Birmingham. Arms will be sent to Bombay as rapidly as completed. The factories at Birmingham are working night and day. The queen's message calling out the recruits and militia is as follows: "The present state of public affairs and the extent of the demand on her majesty's military forces for the protection of the interests of the empire having constituted, it is the opinion of her majesty, a case of great emergency, her majesty has deemed it proper to provide additional means for military service. She has, therefore, thought it right to communicate to the house of commons that she is about to cause the reserve forces and such proportion of the militia as might be deemed necessary to be called out for permanent service."

At Aldershot orders have been received providing for raising 15,000 troops for India. One battery of horse artillery proceeds from Woolwich to India immediately. The government of Burmah is sending thousands of camels to India to be employed in transport service on the frontier of Afghanistan by Gen. Stewart, British commander. The militia called out by the queen number 140,000 men and the reserves about 30,000.

In political circles at Constantinople it is thought that in the event of war between Russia and England the fighting will not be confined to the Afghan frontier, but will extend to the Black sea. It is rumored that Great Britain has already sounded the porte in regard to obtaining permission to pass the Dardanelles in case of war.

A special cabinet council was held at Windsor castle by command of the queen. Just as the ministers were leaving the castle, a messenger arrived from the foreign office bringing dispatches for Lord Granville from Sir Edward Thornton, British minister to Russia, and Lord Dufferin, viceroy of India. The ministers returned to the castle and a second council was held.

The New Minister to England.

Washington dispatch: Mr. Phelps, the newly appointed minister to England, has a brother in this city who is a clerk in one of the departments. A neice, also, is employed in the war department. To a democratic congressman, who expressed surprise at Vermont being given so high an honor, the president said that it was his selection, and that nobody else was responsible. He said he met Mr. Phelps some years ago and was very much impressed with him; that after he became president, and while talking with Mr. Smalley, member of the national democratic committee from Vermont, he inquired about Mr. Phelps. Mr. Smalley replied that the gentleman was living in Burlington, but added that he would not accept any political office, as he was wealthy and independent. The president, in the conversation explaining how Phelps came to be chosen, remarked that he was just the sort of a man he (the president) wanted. He was not seeking an office and did not want one. The president made up his mind to offer him the English mission, and he immediately invited Mr. Phelps to Washington. He came and agreed to accept the position.

Some interest attaches to the proposed changes in the examination system at Oxford, especially as one of the indirect results will be lessening if not a total abolition of Greek as a necessary subject of study.

CLEVELAND AND CIVIL SERVICE.

Some Speculation as to How He Will Manage Appointments.

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Terrible Suffering in Virginia.

Charleston (West Va.) dispatch: So great is the suffering of the people in the drouth-stricken districts of this and other counties adjoining that the authorities and people of Kanawha county were appealed to yesterday and quantities of provisions were ordered sent by the county board for the sufferers. Tales of suffering by men, women, children and beasts reach here from portions of Jackson, Gilmer, Calhoun and Roan counties. The mountain farmers in these counties are unable to purchase either food or seed, and, as the season for planting is near, everything looks distressing. Kanawha county can take care of her stricken people, but help will be needed for the other counties.

New Jersey After Wife Beaters.

The bill to punish wife beaters with thirty lashes on the bare back occasioned a seriocomic debate in the New Jersey assembly. Mr. Jenkins, of Morris, who introduced the bill, said he did not care whether it passed or not. Mr. Gangewere, of Burlington, said there ought to be no opposition to beating men who beat women. Mr. Kasby, of Newark, a bachelor, said he would vote with the majority, having no experience of his own on the subject. Mr. Besson, of Hoboken, pointed proudly to Delaware for its vigorous dealing with wife beaters. He added that locking them up only deprived the woman of her husband's support. After a further flow of gallant oratory the bill passed—39 to 13. The octogenarian, Mr. Wildrick, voted a vigorous aye. Bachelor Jenkins, who introduced the bill, voted with the negative side.

Not Creditable to English Troop

London dispatch: The press here is far from enthusiastic over the fight at Hasheen. The bravery displayed by the Arabs in the recent skirmishes causes grave misgivings as to success of General Graham's efforts to establish a defensible summer camp. It is certain that there will be a bloody campaign at the threshold of the march to Berber, and the success of the undertaking is very doubtful. The truth is very slowly coming out that the fight was not specially creditable to British arms. As a matter of fact, the Arabs chased the Bengalese all around, and the English officers are much discouraged at the revelation of Indian unfitness for the field which involved in the affair. It is understood that Osman has vastly improved his tactics since a year ago, and if he sticks to the idea of not fighting in the open field he can render General Graham's task one of terrible difficulty and enormous cost of life.

Going to the Front.

The secretary of the navy has directed, by telegraph, the commanders of the Wachusetts and Shenandoah, of the North Atlantic squadron, now near New Orleans, to proceed at once to Central America. The commanders of the three vessels of the squadron laying near New Orleans were directed to hold themselves in readiness for similar orders. Of the North Atlantic squadron three vessels—the Galena, Powhattan and Swatara—are now in Central American waters. The entire squadron will be held subject to orders from Washington. The movements are understood to have direct reference to the endeavor of Gen. Barrios to make himself the supreme military chief of Central America.

A Clearfield county, Pa., man considerately boards at a hotel in order that his wife can have time to attend a skating rink.

The Union Pacific depot at Scotia was recently broken into and about $100 taken. There is no clue to the robbers. Agent Collins is exhonerated from all blame.

Van Slyck.

Yesterday I walked down Lexington avenue with a gentleman named Van Slyck who had succeeded in scraping an acquaintance with me. He belongs to one of the proud old Knickerbocker families, that helped swindle the Indians out of Manhattan Island. Van Slyck is a very clever fellow in his way. He is certain, in his own mind, that the New Yorkers are the smartest people in existence, and also that he is the smartest among all the New Yorkers. He deas not think, but knows positively that it would be impossible for Omnipotence itself to make New York any more perfect than it is already. He suspects that you are ignorant of all this, hence he reminds you often, whenever he has a chance. Van Slyck has not got a very exalted opinion of Texas or Texans, but he was kind enough to inform me that he obtained that unfavorable opinion before he ever became acquainted with me. I believe he was introduced to Hobbs, the genial freight agent of the Sunset route, some years ago when he was on a visit to New York. I think I have partially succeeded in removing the prejudice in Van Slyck's mind, but he has a great deal to learn yet.

As we walked down Lexington avenue, Van Slyck, who was full of life and hope, he having had several hot whisky punches, discoursed about the advantages New York had over the rest of the planets, and he was particularly severe on the Lone Star state.

"Nothing in the world could induce me to live in Texas. I would never feel safe for a moment. I would always be under the apprehension that something dreadful was going to befall me. I'd be afraid of the cow boys," said Van Slyck.

"I don't think you would be in any danger from the cow boys, but you might run a risk of the cows trying to eat you up on account of your greenness.

"There is no security for human life in Texas. There is no telling what might happen to me," said he, paying no attention to my insinuation that he was a greenhorn.

"Human life is very secure in New York," I replied. "You never hear of any murders or robberies. Nobody ever gets run over, or dropped off the Elevated road."

"If I was in Texas I would be afraid to walk on the streets on account of the desperadoes."

"They are not so dangerous."

"And then the people in Texas cannot possibly have the culture and polish peculiar to New York."

"It's just as you say. The people of New York like polish. That's the reason they go to Madison Garden to see Sullivan and some other ruffian polish each other off."

"Here in New York," continued Van Slyck, paying no attention to my home thrust, "every precaution is taken to protect life and property. You are just as safe on the streets as you are in your own house. You may walk the streets for a hundred years and never—"

I looked around to see what had checked Van Slyck's flow of eloquence. Really his flow of eloquence was not checked at all, but it had merely drifted into another channel.

"I'll sue this infernal city for $50,000. O, but I'll make the blooming corporation sweat for this."

Van Slyck had suddenly changed his position. He was down on the side walk. One leg was doubled up under him, as if it was made of India rubber while the other was out of sight down in a coal hole. Judging by the expression of his face he was not enjoying himself very much. He had needlessly trodden upon the cover of a coal hole, and it, like the worm which was trodden on, turned, and down he went, barking his shin very severely, and splitting his coat all the way down his back. The suddenness of the incident was surprising. I was not as much surprised as I was when, on one occasion, I saw the editor of the Houstin *Age* pay for beer that he had ordered. That did make me catch my breath.

I helped Van out of his difficulty. His leg was not broken, which was something unusual in a coal hole accident. As a general thing the man who falls into a coal hole breaks both legs and injures his spine. I picked up Van Slyck's hat, and having dusted it, put it back on his head. His nose bled from the shock, and he was lame all over with the exception of his tongue, with which he made the air blue with profanity.

"There are no coal holes in Texas," I remarked, dusting him off, but he was too busy rubbing himself, in several different places, and talking down through the hole to the wooden headed idiot, who had left it open. The latter talked back. From what he said I infer that Van Slyck's ancestors were not as respectable as he pretends they were. The man down in the coal hole threatened to come up and break every bone in Van Slyck's body, and I was afraid he would come out, and give Van Slyck another Irish punch. As it was he threw diatribes and chunks of coal at Van Slyck through the coal hole.

The people in the house came to the window to see the fun. They laughed heartily. They were somewhat disappointed that Van Slyck had not broken his neck. Van shook his fist at them, but I comforted him by saying:

"It is impossible for the people of Texas to have the culture and refinement that are to be found in New York, and more particularly on Lexington avenue."

"Curse 'em."

Just as we were moving away, a policeman came running up, and holding his club under Van's nose threatened to brain him for disturbing the peace and quiet of the neighoorhood.

"In the frontier country like Texas, you are never safe from desperadoes," I remarked to Van Slyck, as soon as we got away from the policeman.

He did not reply, but as I helped him aboard a street car, he asked:

"Did you say there were no coal holes in Texas?"

"No coal holes."

"I believe I will go there as soon as I am ableto travel."

"Oh, no, I wouldn't do that. You might not feel safe in walking the streets."

The coal hole is one of the local institutions of New York. There is a coal hole in front of every house. Unlike the banana peel, the coal hole is always in season. It is covered with a round iron plate of about the size of a piano stool, and it is always loaded. When the cover is properly secured, the sufferer merely slips up and sits down on it. The cover is made of iron and is never injured, even by the concussion when a fat man sits down on it with sufficient emphasis to shake the birds out of their nests at the antipodes,

Very frequently, as was the case with poor Van Slyck, the cover is not properly secured and then the man who steps on it puts his foot in it. In that event, it is a miracle if the victim is not maimed for life. Falling over a wheel-barrow in the dark is a childish sport in comparison to it.

I asked another New York gentleman if there was not some remedy for the man whose legs is bruised all up by falling into a carelessly closed coal hole.

"Oh, yes," he replied, "there is a remedy. Rub arnica on it.—*Alex. E. Sweet, in Texas Siftings.*

Around a Snowy Neck.

In a suite of rooms stood two ladies. One was a devotee of fashion and pleasure. The other was a pale-faced woman, whose manner displayed great energy. She held in her hand a slip of paper, with which she measured around the neck of the fair creature of fashion.

"That will do," she said.

"What! you fit my dress by measuring my neck?"

"That is all I want," was the reply.

"Dear me," said the lady, "how strange."

"Gynametry is the name of the science," said the lady with the paper measure. "The system of measuring the female figure was discovered by me after years of patient study and hard work. The rules, however, which apply to the female figure apply with equal and absolute force to the male figure."

"Dou you mean to say that you can make my dress fit by simply measuring my neck?"

"I do, if I see you."

"And if you don't see me?"

"Then I must know the measure of your neck, the measure of your waist, and which toe is longest?"

"Dear me! Why do you want to know which toe is longest?"

"If your big toe is longest your shoulders are square. If your second toe is longest your shoulders are drooped, and the waist is correspondingly shorter. Drooping shoulders are those that slope from the neck outward—not stooped shoulders."

"Has your system any connection with the theory of twice around the wrist is once around the neck, etc.?"

"Not at all. That is a fallacy. It will not work out. My system is on a different basis, and one that has never failed to make a fit. I am constantly making dresses for ladies that I never saw in my life, and never yet had any complaint. It is impossible to measure the human form with a tape-line. You simply cannot measure the back to save your life. But my system does it, and I can make a lady's dress and never see her by simply having the measurements that I have named.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

Bonaparte's Favorite Sister.

I am reminded of a curious story Mme. (Patterson) Bonaparte once told me. She said: "While Napoleon I. would never publicly acknowledge me as the wife of his brother Jerome he did so privately by allowing me to be on terms of intimacy with the members of his family, who, without an exception, received me as if I were one of themselves. One day I called on Caroline, Bonaparte's favorite sister, and the greatest beauty of her day. She had just emerged from her bath and was lying on a lounge in her bed room.

The scantiness of her clothing revealed to me one of the most perfect forms that heaven ever bestowed upon woman. In particular her feet were of the most exquisite shape and color, the soles and undersides of the toes being of the tint of a tea-rose, the upper portions rivaling the lily in whiteness. Noticing my steadfast gaze Caroline smiled and said:

"Is not the blended color divine?"

I admitted that I had never seen anything more lovely.

"I have it done every morning after my bath."

"Have it done!" I exclaimed. "What do you mean by having it done?"

"Why, after the manicure has attended to my hands the chiropodist polishes my toenails and pinks and pearls my feet."—*Celia Logan, in New York World.*

An Interesting Table.

The following table shows the number of words our presidents have employed in their inaugural addresses; also how often the personal pronoun "I" was used:

President.	No. Words.	No. of I's
Washington, first term	1,307	24
Washington, second term	134	6
J. Adams	2,311	13
Jefferson, first term	1,926	16
Jefferson, second term	2,123	10
Madison, first term	1,170	11
Madison, second term	1,142	6
Monroe, first term	3,328	19
Monroe, second term	3,465	26
J. Q. Adams	2,944	14
Jackson, first term	1,116	11
Jackson, second term	1,167	6
Van Buren	3,884	38
Harrison	8,578	38
Tyler	1,643	15
Polk	4,904	18
Taylor	1,695	18
Pierce	2,319	25
Buchanan	2,772	13
Lincoln, first term	3,588	43
Lincoln, second term	588	1
Johnson	862	15
Grant, first term	1,139	19
Grant, second term	1,332	24
Hayes	2,472	16
Garfield	2,949	10
Arthur	431	1
Cleveland	1,688	5

Millard Fillmore took the oath without delivering an inaugural address.—*Cincinnati Times-Star.*