

CUBA IN THE BALANCE

FATE OF THE ISLAND LIKELY TO BE SETTLED SOON.

Recognition of Rebels or Intervention May Ensnare—Uncle Sam Is Waiting—Administration Proposes to Maintain Strict Neutrality.

Affairs Near a Crisis. Washington dispatch: It is the firm conviction of officers of the administration that a crisis is approaching in Cuban affairs, and that the only safe course for the United States to pursue is to await developments. Many sensational stories are afloat about immediate intervention by the United States and extensive military preparations for prospective trouble with Spain. It can be stated with authority that the President regards the present military situation on the island as far too critical to warrant action by the United States at this time. That the military operations now actively begun by the Spanish will result in bringing matters to such a stage as to necessitate the recognition of the insurgents or intervention in the interest of humanity, the authorities regard as absolutely certain. The President is so thoroughly convinced that there will soon be important changes in the situation by reason of the military operations that he is now in progress that he has not touched upon the Cuban clause of his message.

Leading further developments on the island, the attitude of administration will continue to be one of strict neutrality. If there is no material change by the time Congress convenes, the President's treatment of the Cuban question in his message will be much the same as last year. It can be stated authoritatively that the report made by General Lee during his recent conferences with the President and the Secretary of State will not be productive of any immediate change in the attitude of the United States.

The presence in Washington of Admiral Bunce, of the North Atlantic Squadron, and his lengthy conference with Secretary Herbert have given rise to many sensational reports about impending trouble with Spain. One of the alarming reports is that the administration has now become thoroughly convinced that Spain's extensive preparations at home and the recent large augmentation of the military forces in Cuba are in anticipation of a conflict with this country to be provoked by Spain for the purpose of preserving her dignity in the loss of Cuba. There is no justification for war talk at this time. The visit of Admiral Bunce had to do with the repair work on the vessels of his squadron and his winter's cruise.

THE POPULAR VOTE.

How It Has Stood in Various Quadrennial Contests.

While the electoral vote decides who shall be President, it is always of interest to know the popular vote cast for successful presidential candidates. Prior to 1828 there was no "popular vote" which is worth recording. At the time when the Federalists and Republicans or Jeffersonians were fighting for power the electors in most States were chosen by the Legislature. After the break-up of the Federalist party there was a long period during which each quadrennial contest was a strife between men rather than measures. There were not strong and well-organized parties in the field as there are now.

The following table gives the actual votes and pluralities, excluding the minority candidates, in years when the pluralities have been over 200,000.

Year	Candidates	Plurality
1828	Pierce	1,601,474
1832	Scott	1,385,578
1836	Buchanan	1,838,169
1840	Polk	1,341,294
1844	Polk	1,863,252
1848	Polk	1,375,157
1852	Lincoln	2,216,067
1856	McClellan	1,808,725
1860	Grant	3,015,071
1864	Seymour	2,709,913
1872	Grant	3,597,070
1876	Greeley	2,834,079
1880	Cleveland	5,554,226
1884	Harrison	5,175,201

Whether in proportion to the total vote cast McKinley's plurality will be as large as that received by Grant cannot be told until the returns are all received.

GOVERNMENT CROP REPORT.

Indications of a Slight Increase in the Rate of Yield for Corn.

The returns to the Department of Agriculture for the month of November as a rate of yield make the average of corn 27.3 bushels, which is above the yield indicated by the condition figures in October. Last year the preliminary estimate of yield was 26.2 bushels. The rates of yield in the large and principal corn States are as follows: New York, 31.7; Pennsylvania, 37.1; Ohio, 30.9; Michigan, 37; Indiana, 32.4; Illinois, 40.4; Minnesota, 30.6; Iowa, 37.7; Missouri, 26.3; Kansas, 27.1; Nebraska, 37.2.

The average yield of buckwheat is 18.7 bushels an acre, against 20.1 bushels last year, and 16.1 for the year 1894. The average yield an acre of potatoes is 86.8 bushels, which, though not phenomenal, is nevertheless above the average for the last ten years. The average yield of hay as indicated by the preliminary returns is 1.36 tons, against 1.06 last year. The average yield of tobacco is 679 pounds an acre, against 743 pounds last year, and 733 pounds in the year 1894.

The European agent notes the lack of trustworthy estimates of the Russian wheat shortage. The advance in price which is expected to be fairly well maintained will result in increased acreage in Great Britain. Wet weather in October throughout Central Europe was unfavorable for the potato crop. A good corn yield has been realized on the lower Danube.

James A. Gray, a farmer six miles above Little Rock, Ark., was in town the other day to transfer his farm of 160 acres, with all appurtenances, to his neighbor, J. H. Hayes, in payment of an election bet. Gray bet his farm, together with everything he had on earth, that Bryan would be elected.

Daniel J. Greenwald, a preacher in the Reformed church, was found hanging in his barn at Bonner Springs, Kan. He had become dependent over business affairs. He had a wife and eight children.

THE DAY AND THE DAY AFTER.

Strange Incidents of the Election and Its Ratification.

Every election day has its oddities and comicities, and the one now past has proven no exception to a general rule. In fact, Nov. 3, 1896, probably furnishes a more complete list of queer and unexpected happenings, of peculiar complications and irresistibly grotesque election wagers than any election day on record. The unusual interest manifested during the campaign influenced many to a high strain of excitement, and reckless enthusiasm led large numbers to make ridiculous bets, the fulfillment of which has afforded considerable entertainment for the community at large. A peculiar feature of the last election day was the list of fatalities due entirely to excitement. A colored man of East Et. Louis, Ill., cast his vote, walked to the barn near by where he was working, hurried for his candidate and died; Harrison Bacon, a pioneer of Cortland, Ohio, in going to a prominent business man of Spokane Falls, met her husband at the door election night, eagerly asked for the news, and expired instantly. The list of those who went insane during the strain suspense pending the announcement results, was quite a large one. Of general happenings out of the ordinary the variety was extensive.

Robert Porteous, a railroad auditor at Manistee, Mich., ate a boiled corn in the presence of several spectators, to pay an election bet.

In Dagsboro Hundred, Del., where the vote was a tie last year, no election was held, the voting booths having been destroyed by a mob.

Three Chinamen voted in the Thirtieth Election District of the Second Assembly District of New York. They were Harry Lee Sing, Domingo De Luce and James White.

At the Eleventh Precinct of the Fourth Ward in Chicago, some delay was caused by the stealing of all the pens from the booths. It was finally decided to allow the voters to use pencils.

Two men were arrested in Chicago for "larceny of one elephant." On election night they went to the winter quarters of a circus and tried to get out the elephant to head a ratification parade.

Two ministers blowing horns marched at the head of the nocturnal procession which celebrated the defeat of the constitutional amendment to move the Missouri State capital from Jefferson City.

At the polls at the Moncrief Springs district, in Florida, the inspectors sat in a building in which they were obliged to hold umbrellas over the ballot boxes and table to keep things dry. The inspectors also wore their mackintoshes.

A Chicago enthusiast settled an election wager by rolling a peanut a mile on a public street. He could not throw or kick the peanut, but was obliged to keep it on the ground all the time, and it took him about four hours to pay the wager.

The story is that a pretty schoolmarm at Sellersburg, Ind., made an agreement with one of the big schoolboys attending her school that she would give him a sound whipping if his candidate won, and he was to whip her if it was otherwise.

Joseph Field, 104 years old, voted at Middletown, N. Y. Owing to his foot, which was hurt last summer, and still in bad condition, he had to be carried from his carriage to the booth. He cast his maiden vote in 1813, and has voted at every presidential election since that time.

One of the saddest young men about a certain Western town is a youth of high social caliber, who is obliged to go to a church social clad in a silk hat, a dress coat and bloomers. Another young man in the same neighborhood will have to take care of the horses of the man he bet with for two weeks, and the dog which sleeps in the stable does not like him.

Among some odd Chicago bets promptly paid was that of a man who had to promenade its most fashionable thoroughfare with the blackest colored girl who could be hired at an employment agency, take her to supper and escort her to a theater. Another had to buy two tons of coal for the other fellow and, after delivering it in front of the winner's yard, had to carry it all into the basement in a tin pail, making about 300 trips in the process.

FARMERS' CONGRESS.

National Association Holds Its Fifteenth Annual Session.

The fifteenth annual session of the Farmers' National Congress began at 10:30 a. m. Tuesday in the Indiana Hall of the House of Representatives at Indianapolis. The members present were representative men and leaders in the cause of agriculture. The congress was called to order by the President, R. F. Clayton, of Indianapolis, Iowa. Mayor Taggart delivered an address of welcome. Response was made by the Secretary, J. M. Stahl, of Chicago. Gov. Matthews, of Indiana, then welcomed the congress on behalf of the State.

President Clayton was then introduced and delivered his annual address, speaking in part as follows: Our meeting follows in quick succession a determined and closely contested national political campaign. In this campaign the interest of every farmer and producer has been involved. The two great political parties, one of which has dictated the policy of the Government for nearly a hundred years, met in national convention and submitted to the American voter a line of policy for the control of our republic for the remainder of the nineteenth century.

Laying aside the bitter personal attacks that usually characterize national politics, having as leaders men of the highest personal integrity and character, a campaign of education was inaugurated and seventy millions of American people in the sacred right couched in the silent ballot rendered their verdict on Nov. 3, and as a result of that campaign no nation so well understood the financial system of their Government as do the American people.

While it is quite natural for a large and equally intelligent minority of our people to feel disappointed at the results, yet it is fair to presume that they will join with the majority in the hope that they will join with the high and supreme tribunal before which great issues must be decided—will result in the restoration of life and activity in our commercial centers and give employment to both capital and labor.

At the afternoon session John G. Offut, of Indiana, offered the following resolution, which was immediately referred to the Resolutions Committee without action.

Whereas, The products of the farmers are measured by the amount of redemption money that is in circulation; and

Resolved, That the Farmers' National Congress is in favor of the equal use of both gold and silver coin as money of ultimate redemption, and that we do request the incoming President of the United States to call a conference of nations that are willing for the use of both gold and silver as money, and that we do demand the unlimited coinage of both gold and silver in a ratio to be agreed upon.

NOTES ON EDUCATION.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO PUPIL AND TEACHER.

Self-Reporting System Not to Be Committed in School Government—Two Very Ancient School Houses—Three Things to Be Watched.

Self-Reporting System. This system consists in having at the close of the day each of the pupils rise as their respective names are called and make a confession of the various faults they have committed during the day. By some teachers the particular faults to be confessed are specified; as, for instance, the number of times the child has talked to his associates. A serious objection to this system is that the good pupils report faithfully, and are marked accordingly, while the evil-disposed report unfaithfully, and receive greater credit than do the good.

A second serious objection to this system is that it trains the children to be liars. Feeling that those who report the fewest faults are they who will receive the best marks and reports, irrespective of conduct, it is a short step, for even an honest pupil, from truth to falsehood; and even those who have always been accounted truthful have such temptations placed before them that, with the weakness incident to the moral nature of childhood, they in many cases become untruthful.

Confessing a fault to the teacher should be encouraged, but any system of confession which charges guilt to the pupil who confesses, and credits the guilty with good behavior, is to be condemned as faulty in principle and vicious in practice. The schools are indeed few in which weak human nature can stand such a strain on conscience as is placed upon it by the so-called self-reporting system.

Some years ago the writer made the foregoing a part of his work on School Management. Subsequent experience has convinced him still more firmly in the belief that the practice of calling the roll at close of school in order to have pupils rise and confess their faults of the day is not only demoralizing but vicious.

A prominent teacher in speaking on this question once said before a gathering of teachers that his own experience when acting as a city superintendent had convinced him of the serious wrong some of the teachers were doing to his own children in having the self-reporting system in force. An instance had come to his notice in the case of one of his own children who had been trained to be strictly truthful and that of one of the boy's playmates. When an unfavorable report came home at the end of the month, inquiry was made as to the conduct marks and the boy made a candid statement that he had talked sometimes during school hours, and that when the pupils stood up as their names were called at the close of the day he reported to the teacher the number of times he had spoken, but without taking the precaution to add that most of his offences were occasioned by consultation with his seatmate and classmate about the lessons of the day. His confessions were promptly recorded, and charged against him. The superintendent happened to notice that the report of the other lad was marked unusually high for conduct. After tea he said to his own lad: "Willie, why is it that you are marked 75 in conduct and John Henderson is marked 98?" The boy looked at his father, and promptly said: "Papa, when we were called on to report our conduct John Henderson lies."

This is the legitimate and normal result of the system. The truthful boy will be marked down and the other will be. Is there not danger that all too soon, under this system, even the truthful boy may become a liar? And who is responsible? The teacher.—Educational News.

Three Things. In beginning the new year there are three things to be watched lest they become fixed habits. First, nagging. In a recent visit to a primary room of youngest children I was particularly struck with the absence of all nagging by the teacher. A little boy began to hum in an absent-minded way. "Who has to hum?" asked the teacher in a pleasant, half-chiding way. The boy looked up smilingly and stopped humming, which was all the teacher was after. Wasn't that better than to say, "Stop humming! If I catch you humming again, I'll punish you." The nerves of both children and teacher are saved and it is a good thing to save nerves and friction when you can. Again in the same room a girl was playing with her shoe buttons during a recitation. "Who isn't helping?" asked the same teacher. The little girl was all attention in a moment, and had not been smoothed the wrong way. The absence of nagging in that room was a blessed relief to the visitor, to the children and to the teacher as well. See how often you can forget to say "Don't this year."

Heavy, shuffling walking by the children. It is astonishing how much of this shuffling motion is permitted in the school room by teachers who never seem to mind it or know it. Little children, particularly boys, often bring this habit to school in an aggravated form. It is as if the home people had never even noticed it or attempted to correct it. Begin the very first day to correct this heavy, dragging step. Not by saying, "Don't walk that way," but by devising some way to get the light, buoyant step. Not a tip-toe—that is almost as bad. Children have to learn to handle their legs and feet. They are as much in the way as are hands sometimes.

Thick, indistinct enunciation is another of this prominent trio of evils.

It is an exception if children speak clearly and distinctly in the school room. It has been considered "cunning" at home for the babies to talk indistinctly and the teachers have it all to undo. Unlearn it gently, but correct it as persistently as you would pull weeds out of a garden. Not once, but every day. They will be sure to grow over night. It is just possible that teachers themselves are not the best example in this respect. Nothing is better to correct this tendency than frequent phonic drill.—Primary Education.

Morals and Manners.

The following presents several points in the course of studies on morals and manners in Wallingford, Conn. The subject is one of great importance, and should receive the attention of all school officers and teachers in every State of the Union who have not at ready made this a special branch of instruction in their schools:

Manners in General—Quotations about manners; golden rule; need of constant practice; learning by observation.

Manners at School—Entering and leaving room; laughing at mistakes or accidents; treatment of new scholars; conduct when visitors are present; raising hands, rights of property; distributing and collecting materials, conduct in wardrobe and at sink; in relating occurrences; when to speak of one's self; tale-bearing, or telling about other children.

Manners on the Street—Why specially important; noisy and boisterous conduct; calling across the street; obstructing the sidewalk; meeting and passing persons; returning salutations; tipping the hats; carrying an umbrella; throwing things on the sidewalk; marking fences and sidewalk; looking at windows of private houses and pointing at objects; staring or laughing at infirmities; answering questions; offering assistance.

Manners in Society—Entering and taking leave; removal of hat and care of wraps; various courtesies; staring at or speaking of defects and infirmities; treatment of accidents and mistakes; whispering, laughing and private conversation; inattention to the company we are in; introductions; giving proper titles; attention in conversation; attention to reading of music; interest in what is shown us; asking questions of strangers; contradicting statements.

Manners at Church—Punctuality; manner of entering; courtesy toward ladies; courtesy toward strangers; whispering, laughing and moving about; turning the head to see who comes in, attention to the service; manner of leaving.

Manners at Home—Why most important of all; politeness to parents; politeness between brothers and sisters and to servants; treatment of company—grown-up company, callers, and visitors, young company.

Manners at Places of Amusement—Punctuality, finding seats; waiting quietly; talking and laughing; applause; courtesy to others; time and manner of leaving.

Manners at the Table—Promptness in coming in to the table; when to be seated; waiting one's turn to be helped; asking for articles of food—how, when and where; criticism of food on the table; use of napkin, knife, fork and spoon; haste in eating; attention to wants of others; conduct in case of accidents; mention of unpleasant subjects; when and how to leave the table.

Manners Toward the Aged—Respectful treatment at all times; mistakes in grammar and pronunciation; attention to remarks and questions; patience in repeating answers; what to talk and to read to them; waiting upon them and saving steps, giving them the best seats; helping them first at the table; giving up seats to them in cars and public places; never letting them feel in the way.

Manners in Stores and Public Places—Shutting doors; how to ask for articles in stores; making trouble for clerks; handling goods; finding fault with articles or prices; courtesy to other customers; courtesy to clerks; conduct in the postoffice; entering in crowds; not waiting for others; noise and rudeness; visiting railroad stations.—National Journal of Education.

Two Ancient School Houses.



This is a picture of the school house where the late Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock battled with his A. B. C's.



And here is where the great Gen. Grant conquered the three R's.

It is in the darkest corner of the piazza that love can see best.—Texas Siftings.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

THIS IS THEIR DEPARTMENT OF THE PAPER.

Quaint Sayings and Cute Doings of the Little Folks Everywhere, Gathered and Printed Here for All Other Little Ones to Read.

How the Monkey Won.

A race was proposed between a monkey and foxhound. As the hound claimed the selection of the ground, the monkey stipulated that any method of arriving at the goal should be deemed fair.

"This," said the monkey, "is necessary, as it is well known that I cannot maintain one steady gait, like a dog."

The judges said that the monkey should be allowed his way, and that any method of arriving at the end of the race should be allowed. When all was ready, and the signal given, the monkey sprang nimbly upon the dog's back, clasping him tightly around the neck, at the same time spurring him on. When near the end of the racing ground the monkey suddenly jumped to the ground, and with one bound reached the goal and won the prize. Wit often is more than a match for muscle.

A Business Rooster.

"Bob" is a rooster which drums up trade for his owner. He belongs to a San Francisco poultry dealer, and besides being a business bird is a great fighter. He will attack a man, horse, dog or cat with equal disregard of the odds against him, and he is particularly combative when a stray dog happens along.

Bob came to his master with a number of other chickens to be sold, but there was something about Bob which attracted the poultry dealer and he



BOB AT WORK.

was spared. One day when the door of his coop had been left open accidentally Bob walked out.

Instead of trying to escape he walked calmly down the aisles of the market, stopping every few feet to crow lustily. A dog came along, and Bob at once attacked him, and to the great delight of the market men drove him away.

Then Bob returned to his coop, and jumping up on top of it, flapped his wings and crowed again and again. From that moment he has been permitted to go and do as he pleases. When business is dull Bob steps out on the sidewalk and attracts attention to his master's stall by crowing at the top of his voice.

But the cleverest thing Bob does is to take one of his master's cards in his beak and strut up and down the market with it. In this way he draws many customers to his owner, for scores of people follow Bob out of pure curiosity.

A Magic Letter.

Did you ever think what a strange letter S is? It is a serpent in disguise. Listen—you can hear it hiss. It is the wizard of the alphabet. It gives possession and multiplies indefinitely by its touch. It changes a tree into trees and a house into houses. Sometimes it is very spiteful and will change a pet into a pest, a pear into a spear, a word into a sword and laughter into slaughter, and it will make hot shot at any time.

Farmers have to watch it closely. It will make scorn of his corn and reduce every peck to a speck. Sometimes he finds it useful. If he needs more room for his stock it will change a table into a stable for him, and if he is short of hay he can set out a row of tacks. It will turn them into stacks. He must be careful, however, not to let his nails lie around loose. The serpent's breath will turn them into snails. If he wishes to use an engine about his farm work he need buy any coal or have water to run it. Let the serpent glide before his horses. The team will turn to steam.

If ever you get hurt call the serpent to your aid. Instantly your pain will be in Spain. Be sure to take it with you the next time you climb a mountain if you desire to witness a marvel. It will make the peak speak. But don't let it come around while you are reading now. It will make this tale stale.

How the Pigs Got the Plums.

Once lived on a farm in the western part of Illinois. My father owned a great many fruit trees, but the finest fruit on the farm grew on a plum tree which stood in the center of a small meadow, in which a few of the hogs were wont to run. There were a few other trees in the meadow, and altogether it made a very nice place to be in on a warm day.

One morning when the plums were at their best my mother gave me a small basket and asked me to go down to the tree and fill it. The tree was loaded with the bright red plums, and I soon filled my basket, and then sat down on the grass under a large shady tree to eat some of the delicious fruit.

Soon I heard a gruff "Ugh! ugh!" followed by the falling of a perfect shower of plums from the tree. Quickly turning, I saw six large hogs standing un-

der the tree quietly munching the fruit and cracking the pits between their teeth. Having consumed all the plums on the ground, one old hog that seemed to be the leader went up to the tree, and giving another "Ugh! ugh!" rubbed his body against the trunk of the tree, and shook down another supply.

I watched this performance for some time, and then informed my father about it. It is needless to say the pigs were promptly turned out of the meadow.—Chicago Record.

Useful Black-and-Tan.

Black-and-tan dogs are not expected to earn their own living, any more than dolls and other such pets; but the Indianapolis Sentinel reports an interesting exception to the rule. As the story goes, the mistress of the dog is also a keeper of hens. One of these was sitting upon a "clutch" of thirteen eggs, and Don, the black-and-tan, soon became very curious to know why she stayed in the barn so closely. The dog, as it appears, had formerly been given to teasing the hen, snatching her food away from her, and otherwise making himself a torment; but this intercourse had gradually turned into friendship, and the two would sometimes be seen lying and squatting side by side in the sun, on a bit of carpet in the back porch.

During the three weeks that the hen sat on her eggs, Don used to pay daily visits to the barn, and sometimes would stay with her by the half-hour.

Then the chicks came out of their shells. Don was intensely interested. All day long he scarcely left the barn. The next morning, when the hen stepped off the nest and with a cluck called her brood after her, Don followed. The hen fell to scratching, and the fluffy chicks darted hither and thither, pecking up the tidbits which the mother had uncovered.

"Good!" said Don to himself; "I can help in this business," and to the terror of the chickens he ran in among them and began turning up the soil at a lively rate. Then he sat down and waited.

The mother hen called back the chicks to the newly scratched earth, and soon they picked it clean. Then the dog took another turn. And so the good work proceeded, to the great delight of all the parties.

Thackery Among Friends.

One of the prettiest of the many charming anecdotes of Thackery was told by Douglas Jerrold. He was one morning at the chambers of Mr. Horace Mayhew, in Regent street, when Thackery knocked at the door and cried, "It's no use, Horry Mayhew open the door!"

"It's dear old Thackery," said Mr. Mayhew, joyfully, as he opened the door.

"Well, young gentlemen," said Thackery, cheerily, as he entered, "you'll admit an old fogey."

He took up the papers lying about the room, and talked with the two young men of various matters of the day. Then he took up his hat to go, but as if he suddenly remembered something he paused at the door.

"I was going away," he said, "without doing part of the business of my visit. You spoke the other day at the dinner,"—referring to the Punch weekly meeting—"of poor George. Somebody—most unaccountably—has returned me a five-pound note I lent him a long time ago. I didn't expect it; so just hand it to George, and tell him when his pocket will bear it, just to pass it on to some poor fellow of his acquaintance."

With a nod the tall, genial-faced author went hastily out of the room.

Thackery was a constant attendant of the Punch dinners, and an important member of the council which discussed and decided upon the contents of the forthcoming numbers. It is hinted that he and Douglas Jerrold, who always sat next him, sometimes squabbled a little, but nothing ever came of it.

"There is no use of our quarrelling," Thackery would say with irresistible good humor and logic, "for we must meet again next week!"

His Intimate Friends.

It is related of Father Darcy, one of the celebrated wits of Ireland, that he once visited the palatial mansion of a man newly become rich. He was shown over the house, his pompous host taking great pains to inform his guest as to the cost of all the beautiful objects he saw.

Finally, after making the tour of the rooms the library was reached, its shelves groaning under the weight of thousands upon thousands of volumes, resplendent in the most magnificent bindings. Here they seated themselves, and the host said, with a sigh of snobbish exultation:

"Well, father, I have brought you here last, because this is my favorite room. The other rooms, maybe, give pleasure to my wife and my daughters, but this is my place—right here among these books, who are my friends. And these here on the desk (pointing to a score of ultra-looking volumes) are what I may call my intimate friends."

Father Darcy got up and examined one of them, when a broad grin spread over his good-natured face, as he noticed that the leaves had never been cut.

"Well, it's glad I am to see that you never cut your intimate friends," he exclaimed.

A Hospital's Growth.

The Milwaukee Lutheran hospital in 1863 began with \$200. Now its property is worth \$225,000.

There are two things men don't enjoy—kissing a girl through her veil, or the visits of kin.

People are very lenient with eccentricity until it takes the form of long finger nails.