

A Minneapolis man was shot by a footpad the other night, but the bullet struck a well-filled pocket-book, which saved his life. The moral is obvious.

An enterprising Canadian with a firm belief in the value of advertising informs the public in a Dominion paper of her willingness to cater to the needs of the public as follows: "Washing and ironing and going out to day's work done here."

An international exhibition of gastronomy and of culinary art is to take place at Vienna in 1898 in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of the reign of the Emperor of Austria-Hungary, who, as every one knows, is the most abstemious monarch in Christendom in all matters relating to food and drink.

It is said to come from Cubans themselves that General Maximino Gomez agreed to fight with the insurgents through the Cuban war for the sum of \$100,000, to be paid him in installments of \$20,000 every three months. The first three installments were paid as agreed, but the balance has not been.

Kansas epicures who are fond of jack rabbit stew should exercise a degree of caution when they visit the Paris Exposition and order here at a French restaurant, for they are liable to get cat instead. The thrifty restaurateurs of that city are also in the habit of serving up pussy as spring lamb. The accidental appearance of a claw in a dish revealed this dreadful fact to a hungry American not long since.

"There is too much of blood-letting in this section of the country," says the Savannah News, "too much of pistol and knife fighting, and too great promptness in using deadly weapons upon slight provocation, or no provocation at all. There is a law against carrying concealed and deadly weapons, and law to punish the perpetrators of crimes of violence. The law should be rigorously enforced."

During the past few years it has been asserted that the horse is passing because of the change to electricity by street railways, the introduction of the bicycle and other innovations. And now comes the census man of Massachusetts showing that there were 3,085 more horses in that State last year than in 1890. It looks as though the noble animal might hold his own, even against the predicted horseless carriage.

Railroad extension in India is progressing at a rapid rate. On March 31, 1896, there were 19,677 miles, an increase of over 800 miles during the year, and in addition there were nearly 7,000 miles the construction of which was authorized, but which were not yet in operation. The proportion of passengers killed was only one in 19,000,000, and the total number either killed or injured from railway accidents of all kinds was one in 518,051.

The story is told in Maryland that ex-Tax Collector George W. Smith, of the First District of Howard County, has a petrified human body of great size, which was uncovered by the plow on his farm on the banks of the Patapsco. It is so large that it is declared to be the body of some member of a prehistoric giant race. It is said to be perfect, except that the head and forearms are missing, even the ribs being clearly defined. It is at Mr. Smith's home, near Rechester.

Hangchow, one of the two ports of China to be opened to commerce under the treaty with Japan, is commercially the most important city in that country. The city contains nearly 1,000,000 inhabitants, and is said to be the richest and finest in the empire. It is the capital of Chekiang, the most extensive silk and tea district in the world. The Province of Chekiang contains no less than 35,000,000 people, and produces two-thirds of all the silk exported from China, and is also the largest cotton growing province.

Mr. Hanbury, Secretary of the British Treasury, is one of the most remarkable men in the country in that he prefers hard work and the drudgery connected with his office to anything else. He has a fine estate in Derbyshire with the best fishing in England, and yet he never angles and knows nothing about the joys experienced by every disciple of old Izaak Walton. In fact, the most exalted idea of recreation entertained by Mr. Hanbury is to take a few hours' rest on the front Ministerial bench during the sessions of Parliament.

Notwithstanding the efforts of missionaries and other workers in savage lands to put a stop to cannibalism, the practice still continues. But the menu of these anthropophagous peoples is not entirely confined to roast missionary and cold boiled curate, notwithstanding popular opinion. A diet of laymen is not despised, as witness the recent killing of eleven miners in the Solomon Islands for gustatory purposes. These unfortunate individuals were penned up like shotes and carefully fattened until killing time and then eaten at a great feast, to which all the neighbors were invited.

The New York World says that at a recent dinner an English publisher, who is perhaps at the head of the trade, said that out of 315 manuscripts submitted during the year for publication his firm accepted only twenty-two. Another

publisher stated his ratio of acceptances as about four in every hundred manuscripts received. These publishers represent the class which deal fairly, publish at their own risk and do not make a business of preying on the vanity of young authors. So it seems that even under the most favorable conditions the aspiring author has only about eight chances in the hundred of getting into print at some one's else expense.

Abdul Hamid, Sultan of Turkey, secluded as he is in his palace at Yildiz, is not a lonely man by any means. The officials and retainers of the imperial household number 12,000 people, including 3,000 ladies of the harem. Of the latter, however, the Sultan can only show marriage licenses for seven, as he is not permitted to espouse more than that number of wives by the Mohammedan law. There is a family tradition among the heirs of Osman that it is necessary for them to speak in a loud voice, originating probably from the habit of terrifying their subjects and inspiring a feeling of awe for the commanders of the faithful, and it is said that the present Sultan's voice is strident and imperious.

Medical science is kept busy by the inventions for taking human life. In recent years the latter have produced some terrible explosives, bullets which rend and tear when they strike the human frame, making what heretofore was a curable wound certain death. The latest war gun is the product of a French engineer and is a rifle which contains a steel cartridge the size of a man's thumb. This contains 900 bullets which can be shot as rapidly or slowly as is desired, the whole contents costing only 2½ cents. There is no smoke or flash and only a low report. The gun itself is much lighter than the ordinary rifle and the projectile force is furnished by liquefied air at a pressure hundreds of degrees below zero, no powder being required. Medical science will be one of the most important features of future wars, but it now seems as though the invention of arms was going to make war impossible, paradoxical as this sounds.

Dr. John H. Gardner, an eminent physician of New York, is starting a movement for the abatement of the unnecessary noises with which city people are afflicted by night as well as by day. The doctor suggests a society for the prevention of noises, with powers similar in scope to the powers of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. "It should," he says, "make a study of the noises of the city, and through its own powers, and by advice and co-operation of various city departments, suppress such noises as are unnecessary and reduce to the minimum of disturbance those that are necessary. Such a work could not fail to be of immense benefit to the public, both in the matter of comfort and health. And the last word on the advantage of a city of comparative peace and quiet cannot be said until account is taken of the assistance such a state of things would render the individual in securing that inward peace which passeth understanding."

Although the year which has just passed away was leap year, reports show that in many large cities throughout the country there were fewer marriage licenses issued than there were in the previous year. This leads the Philadelphia Inquirer to say: "There must be something wrong about this. Here was the new woman given an opportunity to exercise a prerogative which tradition hasso long accorded to her, and yet she does not seem to have availed herself of it. Hundreds of men were living in alternate hope and fear that the great question would be propounded to them, and it was never asked. It cannot be that she was afraid the answer would be 'No,' for none of her sex was ever known to make that reply when there are thousands of good men in the world who would have made excellent helpmeets. It may be that the ransomed and disenfranchised young woman deemed it beneath her dignity to assume the old-time privilege, and if this be so she will have ample time to repent before another leap year rolls around. Eight years is a long time to wait."

It seems incredible that two men who have been officers any considerable time in a city like Louisville could have been so ignorant of the very elements of the law governing the making of arrests as to cross over to Indiana and undertake to arrest even a fugitive from justice. Yet there is an impression that there is no limit to the jurisdiction of an officer if he calls himself a detective. When stimulated by the offer of a reward, State lines disappear and the official mandate of a court is of no consequence. They seem to assume that a detective, in order to detect, must have autocratic power. It does not yet appear why the Louisville officers shot Rippey, but it is possible that they mistook him for the escaped prisoner whom they were looking after, and, having a gun in his hands, he was shot. Whatever the cause, there was no excuse for it. The Louisville officers had no right to be seeking any sort of a criminal in Indiana, unless they were accompanied by a duly qualified Indiana officer holding a warrant. It seems that officers of every grade should be made to understand this fact when they are first appointed.

Gypsum for Roofing.
Gypsum has been discovered in large quantities in Big Horn County, Wyo., and is being used by the settlers for roofing their houses. Mixed into a thin mortar and spread upon the roof, it soon becomes as hard as adamant, and makes a most excellent protection against the elements.

PULSE of the PRESS

Winter's backbone may be broken, but it is almost sure to be out of the hospital again before spring.—Baltimore Life.

No one will object to the aldermen asking for more money. It is their habit of taking it that is so unpopular.—Chicago News.

It is probably a good thing that pistols, slungshots, clubs and knives are barred under the rules of debate of the Kansas Legislature.—Savannah News.

The United States now produces 36,000,000 chairs annually, and still it is necessary to hang on to straws, while going home at night.—Cleveland Leader.

A legislative weeding machine to pluck out about two-thirds of the bills that get into State Legislatures is one of the needed patents of the day.—Chicago Record.

It is understood that the captain of the Texas has offered to settle the Cuban question by gradually destroying the island with a series of collisions.—Chicago News.

The nation will have taken a long step towards permanent prosperity when every municipality, large and small, regards free baths and sanitary school houses as necessities of life, and insists upon having them.—Baltimore American.

Miss Susan B. Anthony would like to see a general law compelling every husband to give half his earnings to his wife. A great many husbands who have been giving their wives all their earnings will get their utmost to have this law enacted.—Buffalo Courier.

Chicago's Three Hundred.
If Abraham Lincoln's son's father could only know of it he would smile his most serious smile and then put his feet upon the mantel and think.—New York World.
A deliberate and carefully planned movement has been started to segregate Chicago's creme de la creme (should it be oleo de oleo?) from the vulgar herd.—Des Moines Register.

Robert T. Lincoln has been chosen as the dictator in Chicago society. One cannot help but wonder what decision Robert would come to were his father an applicant for social honors in Chicago.—Pittsburg Times.

There has for a long time been an inner circle of Chicagoans, composed of those whose ancestors had settled there before the fire. It is understood that there is now a larger but concentric circle of those whose ancestors arrived before the fair.—New York Times.

The organization of Chicago's "exclusive phalanx" of 600 still goes on. It has not yet been made clear what is the process of natural, or artificial, selection, but the strongest evidence seems to point to residence of ancestors in Chicago "before the fire" as the principal test.—Des Moines Leader.

Grumpy Little Greece.
It takes little Greece to show the powers how to get a move on.—Detroit Free Press.

To Greece we give our shining blades every time. Our hearts to you, Prince George!—Boston Herald.

If the powers had a little of Greece's pluck the Eastern situation would soon be settled.—Baltimore American.

When Greek meets Turk the powers step in and spoil the fun. It's a great mistake.—New York Advertiser.

The Sultan will never cease to feel that Greece has been a trifle niggardly with her ultimatums.—Washington Star.

Little Greece isn't one of the big "Powers," but she has a fund of ginger that puts the rest to shame.—New York Press.

The Turkey egg has been bad for a long time. Greece will do a world of good if she smashes the shell.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

It looks as if the powers hadn't even the courage to let little Greece jump in and do their own fighting for them.—Chicago Record.

Wars and Rumors.
The cause of Cuba will certainly triumph. Another American football player has gone to join the insurgents.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

It is the experience of history that wars do not pay, whether they are between nations, railroads or baseball managers.—Baltimore American.

If there is any respite from war excitement or time hangs heavy on their hands, the English can always give a dinner to Ambassador Bayard.—Chicago Journal.

Judging merely by the pictures that have been printed one would be justified in assuming that the most dangerous weapon of the Greek soldier is his pointed shoe.—Chicago Post.

That Trust Examination.
What Mr. Lexow needs in his business is somebody to assist him in letting go of Sugar Refiner Securities.—New York Advertiser.

It begins to look very much as if some of the trusts would take themselves out of the way if they are only given rope enough.—Boston Herald.

Did Senator Lexow ever consider the feasibility of putting his trust examination on the road as a farce-comedy or a rattling burlesque?—Chicago Times-Herald.

There is something really pitiable about the ignorance of a clever trust representative when he is brought before a legislative investigating committee.—Chicago Record.

The Maternal Congress.
The congress of mothers at Washington seemed to know what it was there for better than the other one.—Boston Transcript.

A convention of fathers left at home to mind the babies might give some inside opinions about that congress of mothers.—Chicago Dispatch.

The national congress of mothers in Washington must not be confounded with the national congress of grandmothers in session in the same city.—New York Advertiser.

Perhaps the congress of mothers could offer a few words of timely advice to the new administration concerning the country's policy with reference to its infant industries.—Washington Star.

At the congress of mothers in Washington Mrs. Helen Gardner of Boston declared that man is a tyrant of the home. It is now in order to hear from Mr. Mary Elizabeth Lease.—New York Press.

THE PEANUT.

Everyone eats peanuts, and scarcely anyone knows anything about them. The peanut crop is one of the most profitable of the South. The yearly production of peanuts in this country is about 4,000,000 bushels of 22 pounds each, the bulk of the crop being produced in Virginia, Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina. These 4,000,000 bushels constitute but a small proportion of the peanut crop of the world, as the exportation from Africa and India to Europe in 1892 amounted to nearly 400,000,000 pounds, half of which went to Marseilles to be made into oil.

The largest amount of the American crop is sold by street vendors, but quantities are used by confectioners, chocolate manufacturers and oilmakers. Peanut oil is used for lubricating and for soap, and is a good substitute for olive oil, lard, cottolene and butter. The residue from oil-making, known as "peanut cake" in Europe, is highly valued as a cattle fodder, and is also ground into fine flour and used as human food.

The Virginia running variety of peanut is the typical American peanut. The vines are large, with spreading branches, growing flat on the ground and bearing pods over their entire length. The pods are large and white. There are many other varieties grown in the other States, some of them being upright bushes instead of vines.

The peanut is sorted in the factory into four grades, the first three being sold to vendors and the fourth sold to confectioners for making "burned almond" and cheap candies. The \$10,000,000 worth of peanuts America uses are not counted in the staple food, but are eaten at all intervals as a luxury. The peanut is used by the planter as a fattener of his hogs.

In the old world millions of bushels are made into oil, in which the nuts are very rich, 30 or 40 per cent. of the shelled nut being oil. It has an agreeable taste, and is more limpid than olive oil. Peanut oil is used as a lighting oil, but does not give a very brilliant flame. The peanut cake left after the oil is extracted is sold for \$30 a ton in Germany, and fed to the cattle and sheep. Experiments were made in Germany on an army biscuit to be made from peanut flour, but they were not successful, though the flour is most nourishing.

Is Hand-shaking Doomed?
"There is far more danger in the custom of shaking hands indiscriminately than most people imagine," says a well-known doctor.

"Contagious diseases may be transmitted in this manner, though the hand-shaking does not necessarily spread the disease. The manner in which the disease would be propagated in a given combination of circumstances is this:

"Suppose a man to be afflicted with typhoid fever. He may be unaware of the nature of the disease germs in his system. He meets a number of other men whose hands he shakes. These men have come in contact with disease, the germs of which their hands retain.

"Now, if one of those men were to light a cigar and smoke, he might draw contagion in his system.

"The germs of disease on the skin of the hand, remaining there, await only inhalation into the system to produce their inevitable effect.

"When contagion is in the air we should guard against it. To refrain from shaking hands with the infected is but ordinary prudence.

"Inhalation is the source of danger. One is more likely to inhale into the system germs on the hand than germs in some other conceivable situation, since the hand is more or less likely to come in contact with the mouth or nose.

"This is the chief danger involved in shaking hands with a patient whose malady is thus capable of transmission, or in being brought in contact with the germs by the means of general hand-shaking."

A Dry Rain.
According to the Kansas City Star there is one place in the United States where a man may be out in a heavy rain and not get wet, even though he has neither mackintosh nor umbrella.

In the Colorado desert they have rain-storms during which not a single drop of water touches the earth. The rain can be seen falling down the clouds high above the desert, but when the water reaches the strata of hot, dry air beneath the clouds it is entirely absorbed before falling half the distance to the ground.

It is a singular sight to witness a heavy downpour of rain, not a drop of which touches the ground. These strange rain-storms occur in regions where the shade temperature often ranges as high as one hundred and twenty-eight degrees Fahrenheit.

Danced in Mourning Costume.
The extraordinary spectacle of a star danseuse performing a leading part in a ballet clad in deep mourning was witnessed in an Italian theater a short time ago. The ballerina, in spite of the recent death of her brother, took part in the first portion of the performance dressed entirely in white, save for a black bow on her corsage. During the interval she changed this attire for one of black, with somberness quite unrelieved, and her appearance in the trappings and the suits of woe was, it seems, greeted most sympathetically by the impressionable spectators.

Vast Destruction of Forest Land.
During 1895 fires burned over 225,000 acres of Pennsylvania forest land.

It seems that a man doesn't get as mad at anybody as he does at a real trifling

POLITICS OF THE DAY

MCKINLEY'S TRIBULATIONS.

Considering that the change of just 20,250 votes in half a dozen States last November would have made William J. Bryan, instead of McKinley, President of the United States, the friends of the latter are acting in a decidedly reckless fashion even before their man, who came so dangerously near defeat, is inaugurated. The cabinet, as far as it has been selected, suits nobody—not even the great Hanna, who finds himself in the most remarkably unexpected quandary of not knowing "where he is at" in the curious deal that has been going on.

John Sherman, who is to be the Secretary of State, resigned his seat in the Senate at the suggestion of McKinley and Hanna, beyond a doubt, the expectation being that Governor Roosevelt would appoint the latter to the vacancy without asking any questions, and now that it is definitely announced that he will not do so unless certain stipulations as to the future management of the Republican party in Ohio are entered into, the President-elect and the man who elected him do not know what to do, and while they are hesitating as to what course to adopt, the political cauldron, stirred by Foraker, threatens to boil over and make the success of the Democrats in the State once again certain.

Then the giving of the second place of importance in the Cabinet to Gage, the Chicago mugwump national banker, has angered the Republican workers, not only in the great State of Illinois, but in the entire West and Northwest. He has, since his selection, too, committed the serious error of talking too much, and the discovery that he was not always a conservative financier has made some of the leaders blurt right out that McKinley was buncoed into giving him the Secretaryship of the Treasury.

Then the picking out of that chronic millionaire office-seeker, Russell A. Alger, for the head of the War Department, has not satisfied either the formidable Republican opposition to him in his own State of Michigan, or the McKinleyites in the neighboring States of Wisconsin, Indiana and Minnesota, where Cabinet timber abounds.

Coming further East the Cabinet selections that are understood to have been made, and to be beyond the likelihood of recall, are scarcely more satisfactory than the Western ones to the party leaders and workers. Ex-Governor Long of Massachusetts, who is supposed to be slated for the naval portfolio, or possibly for the Postmaster Generalship, has been out of politics for quite a long time, and he is not credited with that whole-souled sympathy for those who run party primaries and caucuses "for their health," which the situation is supposed to require.

As for New York, it is putting itself in shape, under Thomas C. Platt's persuasive manipulation, to be the sharpest thorn, next to Ohio, in the flesh of the Republican President-elect. McKinley would like to take somebody from this State into his cabinet, but those whom the Easy Boss is willing to endorse are distasteful to the Strong-Brookfield-Warner-Miller-Milholland crowd, which actually has some influence at Canton, and whoever is satisfactory to the latter is, of course, objectionable to the gentleman who will do business in Senator David B. Hill's seat after the fourth of next month in the Capitol at Washington.

A Southern man and a Pacific coast man are also wanted for the cabinet, but the task of finding them is a hard one. The hunt is still going on and it is evident that no really first-class man will be obtained from either section and the McKinley administration will begin its existence with little strength at its head and with all the conditions favorable for an early inter-cine party row.—New York News.

The Presidential Result.

By the official count McKinley is conceded and declared to have received 271 electoral votes and Bryan 176. Acquiescence in the popular will is the corner stone of our Government, and, much as Democrats may deplore the temporary delusion or panic of last November, they submit as good citizens, though they will try conclusions again in the year 1900. The beginning of the nineteenth century brought good fortune to the Democracy, when Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr, our party leaders, overcame in 1800 the Federal party led by Adams and Hamilton, and it may be that the twentieth century will be ushered in by a similar triumph, won by the intelligence and progressive spirit of our people.

The election of McKinley, in spite of all the agencies that worked for him—the banking power, the newspaper syndicates, the coercion of the poor by the rich, the defection of many of our chiefs, the hostility of the administration—is by a very narrow majority. It is true, it would have required a change of forty-eight electoral votes to have elected Bryan. But most of these forty-eight were given to McKinley by narrow pluralities. Kentucky would have given Bryan thirteen electoral votes had 150 more Democrats there voted for him. One thousand more ballots would have given Bryan nine electors in California. Another thousand would have given him Oregon's four electoral votes. Two thousand more Bryan Democrats would have carried Delaware's three electors. And other States were nearly as close. In fact, a change of

20,000 votes would have defeated McKinley and elected William J. Bryan, of Nebraska.

Cost of a Campaign.
That it costs money to run a red-hot political campaign everyone knows, but it is possible that not one in 10,000 ever stops to think of the great expense attending an exciting election.

Michigan has a law which forbids candidates to spend money for the refreshment or entertainment of the people, to hire carriages to bring voters to the polls, or to offer voters money, either to vote or to stay away from the polls. The law also requires all candidates to file sworn statements of the amount of money actually expended in a campaign. The law has a penalty attached of \$1,000 fine or two years' imprisonment, or both, but it is so crudely framed in many respects that the law does not worry the average candidate or political committee, as its provisions can easily be evaded, and the danger of prosecution in the event of not observing it is not great. The law does not seek to limit the amount of money to be expended, it does not require an itemized statement of money expended, nor does it ask for a statement of the amount expended to secure the nomination. The law, however, has been very generally observed, and it may be that its influence is salutary.

Some one who has made a careful review of the figures, estimates that the November election cost Michigan in the neighborhood of a half million dollars. The tabulated expenditures of the State committees are placed at \$84,481, those of the candidates in the seven Congressional districts were \$19,022.44, while the Legislature and county tickets are placed at over \$50,000. The cost to the State for printing ballots and manning the 250 voting precincts is figured at \$150,000.

These figures do not include the expense of conventions, nor the big sums paid out by the National Committee for speakers, or for the floods of literature which swept through the State, so that the estimate of a half million dollars does not seem exorbitant for the political fun of last year.

But if Michigan reached a half million, what must have been expended in States that have no restriction laws?

About Lyman P. Gage.

The attitude announced by the president of the First National Bank of Chicago, Mr. Lyman P. Gage, as to the redemption of the greenbacks, by putting out a great national loan of from two hundred to six hundred millions of dollars, payable, with interest, in gold, has startled some of those people who voted for "McKinley and Prosperity" in November. It is fixed and settled that this national bank president Gage is to be the Secretary of the Treasury, and much curiosity is felt to know exactly how far he will insist as a member of McKinley's Cabinet on this particular policy. Some of the McKinley organs, such as the New York Sun, think it very unwise, but others applaud the idea, or are discreetly silent.

There has, however, been sufficient attention directed to this particular bank president by the discussion to bring forward an objection to his appointment as Secretary of the Treasury, which is giving some discomfort to the coterie who have been busied at Canton in putting together McKinley's Cabinet. It is in this same vexatious Federal statute of 1789, which declares that "no person appointed to the office of Secretary of the Treasury shall directly or indirectly be concerned in the purchase of any public securities of the United States." Now, Gage, being a bank president, of course is and has been concerned in the purchase of Government bonds, on which the paper money issued by his bank is based. Has he a right to act in the office of Secretary of the Treasury, or has McKinley a right to appoint him?

Now Let Confidence Come.

James Wilson, of Iowa, professor of agriculture in a college of that State, has accepted the portfolio of the Agricultural Bureau. With this announcement should come a return of prosperity. Iowa is a fertile State, and the new Premier of the Crops ought to be fertile in resources. Under his able administration, we can expect larger ears of corn, bigger grains of wheat, fatter pigs, sweeter apples, oleomargarine which even science cannot detect from genuine butter, and persimmons that will pucker up bad times and make this a great and glorious country.

With a prospect that the barns and granaries shall groan beneath the weight of bounteous harvests, how the treasury will be run will be of small importance. We may raise big crops that will delight the farmer—but, unless the people have more money to buy, he is apt to find abundant harvests do not mean bounteous returns.—Philadelphia Item.

Distinguished Names Common.

William Tell stuffs birds for a living now in Berlin; Tannhauser is a butler, Goethe a barber, Kant keeps an employment bureau and Richard Lowenherz (Coeur de Lion) is a chemist amid 30,000 Schulzes. So says the Berlin Directory. There is also a Roland, who boils soap, a Capet, who makes tables, a Valois in the insurance business, a Guise, who shoes horses; Marquis works in brass, Valerius makes dolls, Coecilius is a waiter and Thersites Augustus a postman.