

The Valentine Democrat

ROBERT GOOD, Editor and Prop.

VALENTINE, NEBRASKA

An Arkansas preacher declares that he "has just discovered that the devil is a lawyer." If he is living in Arkansas he is getting his just deserts.

Nansen already has made \$150,000 out of his failure to bring home the north pole. In his case a miss apparently was as good as several miles.

A goat entered the office of a town clerk in Willets, Kan., and chewed up a ledger before the intrusion was discovered. The county officials think this looks suspicious and are trying to get at the inside facts.

The reminder that this is the season for tree-planting is a timely one, and should be widely acted upon. Few things would contribute more to the attractiveness of streets and roads than rows of thrifty shade trees.

Philadelphia Record: The kindergarten lies at the bottom of the public school system. It is a little nearer to bed rock than our system of education has ever before attained. Congressman Barrett, of Massachusetts, is right when he insists that more kindergartens should be established, even if the high schools should have to be abandoned. We are expending too much money on the roof and too little on the underpinning of our schools.

An English actress called her company together the other night, took leave of it, gave the members her jewelry and dresses and announced that she had joined the Salvation Army. The woman was Ada Ward, not unknown in this country, and her conversion appears to be sincere. There has been nothing similar to her change of heart since James Sheridan Knowles, actor and playwright, abandoned the theater to become an extreme evangelist and preacher at Exeter Hall.

A singular omission in the matter of legal formalities is the failure of the Federal laws to provide for notifying a President-elect of his election. The electoral votes are counted, and the result of the enumeration is recorded in the journals of both Houses of Congress; but it is left for the President-elect to find out the result in whatever way he can and to present himself for inauguration on the next succeeding fourth day of March. As a matter of fact the person elected to the highest office in the republic gets his notification from the newspapers.

The State of Washington is proceeding systematically in the work of reclaiming its arid lands, the operations being under the direction of an Arid Land Commissioner. A recent report by this officer says that by the process of irrigation over 1,000,000 acres in the State may be made fertile. The work in hand is the reclamation of some 850,000 acres, which have been withdrawn from the public domain at a cost, mostly for personal service, of about \$7,000. Abundant water for this large tract can be had from the Natchez River, re-enforced by a series of reservoirs, the water to be supplied by a canal 150 miles in length.

The English newspapers are becoming venturesome. One of them has sent a correspondent on a secret mission, of which it speaks in the following mysterious terms: "We cannot indicate his destination, for the journey that lies before him is one of the most perilous kind, and a whisper of his identity or the purpose of his mission would seal his death warrant. He purposes to tread a path that has never known the foot of a white man, and will travel with such a following as no newspaper correspondent has ever mustered for his private ends. Hundreds of men and scores of horses will follow his banner and every man of the party will carry his life in his hand." Whew!

Trusts are destroying themselves. They are engaged in every line in a systematic suicide. Nature abhors monopoly as it abhors a vacuum. There is something in human nature and human conditions which prevents the formation or the continuance of partial formation is had of a combination in restraint of trade. Some one will break away from the imperfect union and war will result. On every hand is evidence of the truth of this assertion. Grapling each other, trusts are everywhere destroying themselves. The latest felo de se is the United States Rubber Company, which has been endeavoring to rid itself of its rival, the Boston Rubber Shoe Company, and in the war which has succeeded is well-nigh at death's door itself. Its stock is rapidly declining, and before the war ends the price will probably be next to nothing.

New York Tribune: The Mafia Society in New Orleans does not seem to have been pulled up by the roots in the massacre of its members which took place there a few years ago. It is still active and apparently quite capable of its old murderous exploits. The Papal delegate, who recently visited that city, came immediately under its ban and was forced to flee before its wrath. His offense was that in a sermon he had declared that the Italian immigrants came largely from the criminal classes of that country and did not represent either the middle class or the industrious poor. So far as the New Orleans contingent of that population is concerned, its conduct in the past affords considerable justification of the delegate's affirmations. The Mafia, which is merely a society of murderers, has

had one sharp lesson there which it has obviously not laid sufficiently to heart, and it is just possible that it is preparing itself for another, an incident to be more deplored than the forcible deportation of every Italian in the commonwealth.

The United States Consulates at London, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, Liverpool, Shanghai, Calcutta and Hong Kong pay \$5,000 a year. Melbourne pays \$4,500 and Berlin, Montreal, Yokohama, Panama and Mexico City \$4,000. Halifax, Vienna, Amoy, Canton, Tientsin, Havre and Calao are worth \$3,500, and the Samoan Islands, Constantinople, Dresden, Guyaquil, Frankfurt, Ottawa, Rome, St. Petersburg, Singapore, Cape Town, St. Gall (Switzerland), Prague, Antwerp, Valparaiso, Colon, Chin Kiang, Fuchau, Hankow, Bordeaux, Barmen, Nuremberg, Belfast, Bradford, Demerara, Glasgow, Kingston, Manchester, Nagasaki, Osaka, Kobe, Vera Cruz, Matanzas (Cuba), Basle (Switzerland), and Montevideo pay \$3,000 each. Thirty-one Consulates in different parts of the world pay \$2,500, and sixty-two pay \$2,000 each. The remainder pay \$1,500 and \$1,000.

It was inevitable that the great power which for countless ages went to waste over the mighty falls of the Niagara River should sooner or later be harnessed and utilized for the purposes of man. But it would surely have been much later had it not been for the indomitable courage of one young man, Mr. William B. Rankine. He did not originate the scheme which has been successfully carried out; but he carried it through in the face of difficulties and discouragements that would have baffled ninety-nine men out of a hundred. The engineering and mechanical difficulties were tremendous, and to overcome them the greatest practical scientists in the world were consulted. But the financial difficulties seemed quite insurmountable. The undertaking was so gigantic and the sum required so great that the boldest financiers turned away. But Mr. Rankine would not be denied. With an unflinching faith in the feasibility of the scheme he met each new discouragement with the serenity of a strong nature, and at last achieved one of the greatest business successes of the age. Mr. Rankine is a lawyer by profession, and not yet 40.

A woman took lodging at an English hotel in November, 1895. In August, 1896, she was still there. This long residence at a hotel amazed the proprietor and he requested her to move. It does not appear that she acted offensively or that she was objectionable in any way. She paid her board regularly and refused to leave. The proprietor, in her absence one day, locked the door and set her luggage in the hall. She sued for damages, holding that she came to the hotel as a traveler, and as such was entitled to remain. The court held that she had ceased to be a traveler by her long stay, and it denied her claim. The London newspapers uphold this decision, the Daily News saying: "It would clearly be monstrous absurdity that a person should be able to compel admittance to a hotel by virtue of an ancient rule devised in favor of wayfarers, and then retain his footing, whether his presence was welcome or not, for life. Mine host, without having anything against the character of the guest, may naturally shrink from carrying on his business upon such terms." Neither the court nor the press explained when a person ceased to be a traveler and became a boarder. And we are left in ignorance as to why the innkeeper should "shrink" from entertaining inoffensive persons who pay with regularity.

That gentle, succulent bivalve, the oyster, has furnished many a text for lay sermons in the past, and one would think the subject had been exhausted, but an event which took place recently at Jacksonville, Ohio, recently calls for further mention. At this little village a well-known physician was quietly eating his evening meal, which began with a plateful of raw oysters. Dr. Louis is in the habit of biting his oysters in two as he eats them, and in doing so, on the third tasty mouthful, he came down with four teeth at least upon a round, hard substance, which, on investigation, proved to be a pearl. It not only proved to be this, but, as it was discovered in that portion of the oyster's anatomy known as the stomach, and as it had not been ruined by the heat of cooking the monetary value of the find was placed by an expert at \$500. This is encouraging. For a long time bacteriologists, those disagreeable people who go about sizing up the number of germ of bacilli in one's composition and telling about it, have asserted all sorts of horrible things about the oyster, such as the fact that the ordinary restaurant brand contains between 44,000 and 888,000 germs to the oyster, and when a man takes a plate of half a dozen he must masticate somewhere between 264,000 and over 2,000,000 of bacilli—but all this will end now. If a man can be reasonably sure of finding a \$500 pearl in a raw oyster, in the interior of the State of Ohio, he will brave even that multitude of fierce animalcules and crunch their bones with joy. Germs—what are they when every ten million may bring two big pearls or more? Why, such a prospect tempts one to go into oyster-eating for a living!

A Success.
Man of family—That burglar alarm is a grand success; wouldn't part with it for a mint of money. It went off at 1 o'clock this morning.
Dealer—Eh? Did you catch a burglar trying to get in?
"No; but it caught my daughter's young man trying to get out?"—New York Weekly.
A boy never expresses the love he feels for his mother, and seldom feels the love he expresses for other women.

FLOOD VICTIMS AIDED

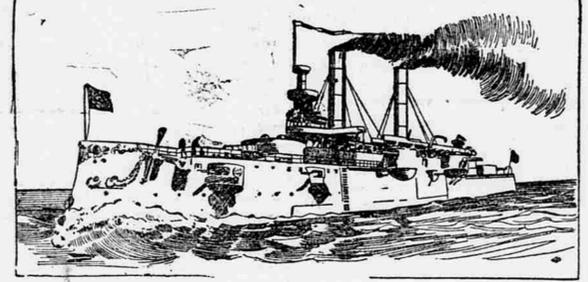
PRESIDENT M'KINLEY'S APPEAL IS HEEDED.

He Asks Congress to Act at Once in the Matter of Relief, and in a Very Brief Time \$200,000 Is Appropriated.

Message from the President. President McKinley appealed to Congress Wednesday for relief for Southern flood sufferers, and Congress was quick to respond. Here is the text of the message:

Information which has recently come to me from the governors of Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana, and from prominent citizens of these States and Tennessee, warrants the conclusion that widespread distress, involving the destruction of a large amount of property and loss of human life, has resulted from the floods which have been submerging that section of the country. These are stated, on reliable authority, to be the most destructive floods that have ever devastated the Mississippi Valley, the water being much higher than the highest stage it has reached before. From Marion, Ark., north of Memphis, to Greenville, Miss., a distance of more than 250 miles by river, it is reported there are now at least fifty towns and villages under water, and a territory extending from ten miles north of Memphis to 200 miles south, and from five to forty miles wide, is submerged. Hundreds of thousands of acres of cultivated soil, with growing crops, are included in the submerged territory. In this section alone there are from 50,000 to 60,000 people whose property has been destroyed and whose business has been ruined. Growing crops have been ruined, thousands of cattle have been drowned, and the inhabitants of certain areas threatened with starvation.

BATTLESHIP IOWA IS THE QUEEN OF AMERICAN WAR VESSELS.



The battleship Iowa is the queen of the American navy. By her grand work Wednesday in her speed trial she proved herself to be the superior of the Indiana or Massachusetts. Incidentally she earned a premium of \$200,000 for her builders, William Cramp & Sons, of Philadelphia, by making an average of seventeen knots an hour over the regular Government course off the Massachusetts coast in the four hours' trial required by the Government under the contract. The Iowa just did it, and that was all. In fact, so narrow was the margin that all the reckoners had to carry out their figures to the fourth decimal point in order to make the speed for the whole course average seventeen knots an hour.

A great majority of the sufferers are small farmers, they have been left entirely destitute and will be unprepared for work even after the floods have subsided. The entire Mississippi Valley in Arkansas is flooded and communication with many points cut off. In Mississippi a like condition exists. In Louisiana, with a single exception, have held, but the water is rising and the situation there is reported as being extremely critical.

Under such circumstances the citizens of these States look for the co-operation and support of the national government in relieving the pressing cases of destitution for food, clothing and shelter, which are beyond the reach of local efforts. The authorities who have communicated with the Executive recognize that their first and most energetic duty is to provide, so far as possible, the means of caring for their own citizens, but nearly all of them agree in the opinion that after their resources have been exhausted a sum aggregating at least \$150,000, and possibly \$200,000, will be required for immediate use.

Precedents are not wanting that in such emergencies as this Congress has taken prompt, generous and intelligent action, involving the expenditure of considerable sums of money, with satisfactory results. In 1874 \$500,000 was appropriated, and in 1882 \$500,000 was also appropriated for relief in the same direction, besides large sums in other years.

The citizens' relief committee of Memphis, which has taken prompt action, has already cared for from 6,000 to 7,000 refugees from the flooded districts, and they are still arriving in that city in large numbers daily. Supplies and provisions have been sent to the various points in Arkansas and Mississippi by this committee, but the most that can be done by these efforts is to merely relieve the most acute cases of suffering. No action has yet been taken for the great majority of the inhabitants living in the interior, whose condition has already been described.

Under these conditions, and having fully exerted themselves to the fullest extent, the local authorities have reluctantly confessed their inability to further cope with this distressing situation unaided by relief from the Government.

It has, therefore, seemed to me that the representatives of the people should be promptly informed of the nature and extent of the suffering and needs of these stricken people, and have communicated these facts in the hope and belief that the legislative branch of the Government will promptly re-enforce the work of the local authorities in the States named.

BREAK IN THE LEVEE BELOW MEMPHIS.



A resolution was at once passed by the House appropriating \$200,000 for the sufferers and, the Senate giving it speedy sanction, the resolution was carried to the White House, where the President gladly signed it.

News of Minor Note.
Gov. Adams has signed the bill abolishing capital punishment in Colorado.
Madrid is gaily decorated with flags in honor of the victories of the Spanish troops in the Philippine islands.
William G. Fisher, a millionaire dry goods merchant of Denver, Colo., died at New York. He was 53 years old.
Henry Struive and two sons were drowned on Gus Bull's farm, six miles south of Frankfort, S. D. This makes six deaths from drowning within two weeks.

DRAPER DID THE DEED.

Confesses to the Murder of Charles L. Hastings at Jacksonville, Ill.

Charles L. Draper has made to his pastor, Rev. Dr. Morey, a complete confession of the murder of Charles L. Hastings in the abstract office of Judge Kirby at Jacksonville, Ill., March 31. He said that he had been in the employ of Judge Kirby for some time, when Hastings came back to the city without means and in despair over losing his property. Draper said he interceded for Hastings with Judge Kirby and secured him a position. They went to work together and from that time the trouble began. Draper claimed that he had shown Hastings every kindness only to be rebuffed. He would do a great amount of work preparing papers and Hastings would label them with his name and take the credit of preparing them.

The trouble culminated when Draper pressed Hastings for a reason why he was so cool and was answered with an oath that he wanted nothing more to do with him. An appeal to Judge Kirby had no effect and Draper resigned and then began business for himself. In order to get through with his work he had to have access to the books he had helped to prepare. He had kept a key to the door, and decided to see if the combination on the vault door had been changed and found it had not. He went there night after night to take off the abstracts of titles. He was suspected and was shadowed by a detective for over a month, but he held off until the detective went off duty and a day or two after made his last visit to the office. Hastings unexpectedly entered and Draper says at

STORY OF THE WATERS.

10,000 Square Miles Flooded, and 200 Lives Lost.

Ten thousand square miles of flooded farm lands, 200 lives lost, and \$100,000,000 worth of property destroyed. This is the record of the huge yellow monster that coils its length like the slow spreading tentacle of an octopus from the British line to the Mexican gulf. It is the record of the insatiate Mississippi. Seven States are wailing and wallowing and floundering in the muddy torrent, and thousands of people have gone sailing over their farms and into the flooded forests on logs, on rafts, on the roofs of their houses. On the small knolls that yet rise above the deluged lands in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana, little groups of half-starved men are gathered with their families and farm animals, waiting for the rescue that comes so slowly.

And still the tide rises and swells and widens and sings its long song of death and disaster through the broken levees, and still the six-foot snows of Minnesota and the Dakotas melt and pour their

WORK OF CONGRESS.

THE WEEK'S DOINGS IN SENATE AND HOUSE.

A Comprehensive Digest of the Proceedings in the Legislative Chambers at Washington—Matters that Concern the People.

Lawmakers at Labor.

The Senate Monday by unanimous vote adopted a resolution reciting the reports that Gen. Ruiz Rivera, the Cuban commander, is about to be tried by drumhead court martial and shot, and expressing the judgment of the Senate that if these reports are true the President of the United States should protest to the Spanish Government against such a violation of the rules of civilized warfare. This resolution was not sent to the House of Representatives, but became effective as a measure of advice to the President by its adoption. After the disposal of the Cuban question the day was given to speeches, Mr. Elkins speaking for two hours on the development of the American merchant marine and Mr. Lindsay advocating the passage of the Torrey bankruptcy bill. A joint resolution was agreed to directing the Surgeon General of the Marine Hospital service to aid the Mississippi River flood sufferers by the distribution of tents, blankets, food and medicine under the epidemic fund of 1893, and to purchase further supplies under the present epidemic fund for distribution.

The Senate Tuesday was occupied by discussion of Cuban affairs and the bankruptcy bill. The President sent to the Senate the following nominations: Treasury—Alonso J. Tyler of Tennessee, to be collector of internal revenue for the second district of Tennessee; Park Agnew of Virginia, to be collector of internal revenue for the sixth district of Virginia. Navy—Theodore Roosevelt of New York, to be assistant secretary of the navy; Captain A. S. Crowninshield, United States navy, to be chief of the bureau of navigation in the department of the navy; Rev. William G. Cassard of Maryland, to be chaplain in the navy. Postmaster—William Barrett Ridgely at Springfield, Ill.

The House acted promptly Wednesday on the President's message and adopted a joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of War to expend \$200,000 for the relief of the flood sufferers of the Mississippi Valley. Adjournment was taken until Saturday. Cuba and the flood sufferers divided attention in the Senate. The reading of the President's message urging Congressional relief for the devastated regions of the Mississippi River was followed by the passage of a joint resolution offered by Senator Jones of Arkansas, appropriating \$150,000, to be immediately available for the flood sufferers. It was passed by the unanimous vote of the Senate. The plans were changed, however, when the House resolution appropriating \$200,000 for the Mississippi River and Red River of the North was received. This was accepted in lieu of the former resolution and was passed unanimously. Mr. Morgan of Alabama resumed his speech in support of the resolution on declaring that a state of war exists in Cuba.

The Senate Thursday heard Mr. Morgan of Alabama for the third successive day on his resolution declaring that a state of war exists in Cuba. Mr. Nelson of Minnesota spoke for two hours on the bankruptcy bill, opposing the pending Torrey bill. Mr. Chandler offered a resolution, which was agreed to, as follows: "Resolved, That the Committee on Interstate Commerce be directed to investigate the payments made or agreed to be made by the interstate commerce commission for attorneys' fees, and also to inquire whether in any cases the attorneys of the commission have also been employed by railroad companies in similar cases, and further whether any additional authority from Congress is required for the employment of counsel in any pending proceedings which have been instituted by or on motion of the commission." The House gave no evidence of life.

A LUCKY YOUNG MAN.

Charles U. Gordon, Chicago's New Postmaster. The resignation of Washington Hesing, postmaster of Chicago, made a vacancy which President McKinley lost little time in filling. A young man got the plum. His name is Charles U. Gordon, and he is not yet 32 years of age. Since his 19th



year he has been engaged in real estate business and has made money fast. He has been president of the Marquette Club, a social-political organization with a great influence in Republican affairs. In last fall's campaign he was a leader for McKinley.

Sparks from the Wires.

Richard Dudley of Erie, Pa., and Cincinnati, died in London.
Marshall Russell, Maria Snoden and Maggie Short were drowned at Allensville, Ky., while out boat riding on a pond.
Hugh Miller, the fire-bug who was convicted of arson twenty-four hours after his arrest at New York, was sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment.
An alien labor bill, modeled on the existing law in the United States, and a bill to amend the immigration laws have been introduced in the Canadian parliament.
Levi Samuels has been appointed receiver for Marx & Frenkel, clothing manufacturers at New York, in proceedings for a dissolution of the firm. The liabilities are placed at \$70,000. Assets consist of outstanding accounts and stock.

HOUSEKEEPING.

A Phase of Modern City Life Which Will Amaze Many in the Country.

The time is approaching when house-keeping, as our grandmothers understood it, will become a lost art, says the San Francisco Argonaut. There was a day when the model housewife spun her own linen and dipped her own candles. Then she advanced to the stage of a frivolous disregard of these accomplishments, and bought her linen and her candles, but knit her children's stockings and had a still-room full of jams and pickles of her own making. To-day she would no more make her pickles than she would undertake to build the bed she sleeps on. The craft of housekeeping, which in the eyes of our grandfathers was our grandmothers' most considerable attraction, is to-day almost extinct.

In the great cities things are so arranged that it is possible to live comfortably in your own apartment without any of the friction of household management which has turned so many heads white and ruffled the peace of so many hearths. In any city an apartment of from three rooms up can be hired for from twenty to two hundred dollars a month. This can be made habitable by furniture jobbers at twenty-four hours' notice. The janitor, the laundryman, and the livery-stable keeper are at hand, ready to proffer their services. Each apartment-house has its own corps of these supernumeraries, who are willing, for a consideration, to lighten the burden of the housewife. Close at hand, if not in the building itself, is a cafe, where good meals are served at all hours. When there are few children in the family, the cafe is generally patronized. If the household consists of only Darby and Joan, and they happen to be young and active, they dispense with the services of this convenient caterer, make their own breakfast in their rooms, and go out to different restaurants for lunch and dinner. Those who wish to have the privacy of home life at their meals can find a waiting crowd of butchers, bakers, and grocers, who eagerly offer price-lists and pass-books, and will undertake to procure and serve whatever may be desired, if the objects of their attentions will undertake to pay the bills they send in. Even that toughest of housekeeping problems, the servant-girl question, is reduced to its smallest possible importance, for in such a style of living few servants are needed. In fact, where the family is small, it is possible to dispense with them entirely, as the janitor and elevator-boy attend to the outside work, and any house-cleaning association will furnish a reliable charwoman as often and as early as can be required.

Altogether, the modern woman is having things made as easy for her as possible. In ten years she will no more think of dusting her own room than of making her own shoes. Even that most unanswerable problem, what shall she do with her children? is rapidly solved. There are now day nurseries for the children of working women, where a child is taken care of for from ten to twenty cents a day. The time is at hand when institutions of this kind, well-run and high-priced, will be on every block, superseding the old nursery of the domestic regime. In all probability the child will be better cared for than it was when left to the charge of an ignorant mother and an Irish nurse-girl. Whether, however, the arrangement will be satisfactory to the mother herself is another side of the matter. It will take a good deal of civilization to transfer the maternal instinct from the individual to the race.

Unchristian Names.

It is curious how inconsistent are the prejudices of people in regard to the use of heathen names. Mr. Fayn, in his "Gleams of Memory," tells an amusing story of the late Dean Burgon, who objected to the name of the goddess of beauty, but found no fault with that of the god of the woods. An infant was brought to the church for christening, and the name proposed for it was "Vanus." "Vanus?" repeated the dean. "I suppose you mean Venus. Do you imagine I am going to call a Christian child by that name, and least of all a male child?" The father of the infant urged that he only wished to name it after his grandfather. "Your grandfather?" cried the dean. "I don't believe it. Where is your grandfather?" He was produced: a poor old soul of eighty or so, bent double, and certainly not looking in the least like the goddess in question. "Do you mean to tell me, sir, that any clergyman ever christened you 'Vanus,' as you call it?" "Well, no, sir; I was christened Sylvanus, but they always called me 'Vanus.'"

The Way of It.

"I heard your minister resigned from his charge." "Well, no, not edacally." "How was it then?" "Why, you see, we'd been resigned ter him as long as we could stand it and we thought it wuz time for him to reciprocate. He didn't resign. We resigned him."—Washington Times.

Found His Calling.

Editor-in-Chief (to applicant for position on the Daily Distress)—Do you have fits?
Applicant—Alas, yes!
Editor—All right, you can commence here Monday. We want such a man as you seem to be to edit our Cuban war news.—Cleveland Leader.

Literary Thrift.

Of course we write light literature. And people really should expect it. We thus save postage in sending our stuff to the publishers who reject it.—Trot Journal.
Among some women a certain distinction is given the woman who takes a death so hard her physician forbids her to attend the funeral.