

The Valentine Democrat

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VALENTINE, NEBRASKA

The announcement of a stamp collector that he has for sale about \$20,000 worth of the original unused issue of the Columbian \$2 stamps at \$1.75 each looks as if Uncle Sam had got the better of this little speculation.

The Alabama statesman who has brought in a bill forbidding women to wear any article resembling masculine clothing, including bloomers, tight, divided skirts and shirt waists, is rather an iconoclast than an old foggy, so much have times and fashions changed.

Women are going ahead in France. The Minister of Fine Arts has submitted to the Chamber of Deputies a proposal to admit women on terms of equality with men to the Beaux Arts, as they are already admitted to the Sorbonne and to the law and medical schools.

Prof. Arlo Bates, of the Institute of Technology, addressing the grammar school teachers in Boston Friday, expressed a solid truth when he said "the literature best for adults is the literature best for children." This is just being rediscovered, says the Springfield Republican. The old school readers were all made up of masterpieces of literature.

A Baltimore minister has declared that all ministers who are spiritually alive must denounce from their pulpits dancing, card-playing, theater-going and bicycle riding. This pastor is evidently pained at the sight of seeing others happy. We think it was Macaulay who said that the puritans abolished bear-baiting in England, not because it hurt the bears, but because it gave pleasure to the spectators.

Herr Altwald, a member of the German Reichstag, was an interested and enthusiastic visitor to the pig-sticking establishments in Kansas City, Mo., the other day. But when he looked into the Government offices and saw a number of young women examining with microscopes pork which was to be exported to Germany, he grew strangely silent, and evidently thought that some sort of a joke was being played on him.

Many colored persons have held office from time to time in Boston, but probably the first colored woman to be so honored is Mrs. Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin. The municipal convention of the silver wing of the Boston Democrats headed their ticket for school committee with her name. She is well known in Boston, where she has taken great interest in educational matters. She is well educated and has done much toward elevating the condition of the people of her race in Boston. She is said to be possessed of practical ideas of school work and would be a valuable addition to the school committee.

It is the third generation that suffers most for the sins of progenitors. Latest Massachusetts insanity statistics show that "in 383 instances, or 21 per cent. of all, the intemperance of the person led to his insanity. In very few cases could the insanity be traced to the intemperance of parents; but in 354 cases where the facts as to grandparents could be learned, 184 cases were found where the intemperance of grandparents was considered to have led to the insanity of the person." These are discouraging figures for grandchildren, but may help them to guard against the tendency to mental disease. The man who knows the habits of his grandfather will know whether or not to take especial care of himself.

A very curious point has been submitted to the Derbyshire Football Association for decision. It is as to whether artificial limbs are to be permitted in the play. It seems that the Buxton Football Club had several members of its team severely injured in consequence of a member of the Matlock eleven having played with an artificial arm. It was reported that in Derbyshire alone there are a number of football players who, owing to the loss of an arm, use artificial limbs. They are described as "regular terrorists" on the football field, since when once they get "on" to the ball they swing their dummy arms around with such force as to either fracture skulls or cause concussion of the brain. It has now been determined by the association that artificial limbs are henceforth to be barred in all football games.

The New York Sun states that: A new appointment has been made from Waterford to the chair of professor of Gaelic in Maynooth College, Ireland. The new appointee is a member of the Gaelic League of Dublin, and was the first editor of the Archeological Journal of Waterford. The opinion is very general that Gaelic is an extinct language, or one nearly extinct, and the labor of the Gaelic Society in New York to revive its use have lent some color to that opinion. Nevertheless, as figures show, the Gaelic tongue is most tenacious, and, according to the last reports, is spoken, though not exclusively, by 1,000,000 persons in the British Isles—600,000 in Ireland, 350,000 in Wales, and 220,000 in Scotland. Though English is the official language of all these countries, the popularity of English increases slowly despite the disadvantage under which those who use Gaelic labor, that of having no established grammar and no recognition in an official way. Gaelic fulfills the colloquial requirements of the farmers and fishermen in the counties remote from the large cities, somewhat as the

Basque language continues to be popular in the northern provinces of Spain. In this country Gaelic has made little headway, though many patriotic Irishmen have by various methods endeavored to acquaint others less patriotic with its advantages. While the use of most European languages has about doubled in seventy-five years, five times as many persons speak English as did in 1820.

The Boston Watchman publishes interesting information regarding Formosa from the Rev. John L. Dearing: Among other improvements proposed are those with reference to the condition of the cities. Chinese cities are proverbial for their uncleanness. Within a few weeks the government has had the condition of most of the larger towns examined by foreign and native experts with reference to providing a water supply and sewerage system, and the report has been most favorable, and it is likely that at once steps are to be taken to make the conditions more healthful and cleanly. In one case they propose nothing less than to build a new city of Taiwan in South Formosa. The new city has been properly laid out and water supply and drainage arranged for, and now it is intended that the old city, with its crumbling mud walls, its filth and abominations, shall be left. If Japan succeeds in removing from her Chinese cities in Formosa those features which are a disgrace to every city of China, Peking and Tientsin not excepted, she will deserve praise. An interesting problem is at least on her hands.

One of the strange things about the "collecting" habit is that which some book collectors have of gathering all the editions of the Bible rendered rare or curious by misprints or errors due to imperfect translation. There are said to be nearly a hundred such Bibles. Among them are the "breeches" Bible, in which our first parents are represented as sewing fig leaves together to make themselves "breeches"; the "vinegar" Bible, wherein that word is substituted for vinegar in the parable; the "placemakers" Bible, where that word takes the place of peacemaker; the "wicked" Bible, which omits "not" from the seventh commandment, and the "bug" Bible, in which we find this phrase in the ninety-first psalm: "Thou shalt not need to be afraid for any bugs by night." This in reality does not mean insects, as at first supposed, but bogies, or terror, as it was later translated. This edition, which is memorable for more than the modern misconception of the word referred to, was first printed in 1549 at Antwerp and reissued in 1551. Another curious thing is the sixteenth century idea of family discipline exemplified in the translation of the first epistle of St. Peter: "And if she (the wife) be not obedient and helpful unto him (the husband) endeavor to beat the fear of God into her head, that thereby she may be compelled to learn her duty and to do it."

The determination of several leading theatrical managers to stop poster advertising and depend wholly upon the newspapers to reach the public has revived the question of the relative merits of the poster and the newspaper for advertising purposes. The subject of the relative merits of the two is hardly debatable, because in this age and country of universal newspaper reading the superiority of the newspaper to every other form of advertising will be readily admitted. As a medium of advertising the ordinary poster on the wall or the fence compares with the newspaper about as the old mail coach compares with the express train as a means of transportation. The truth is, the crude lithographs belong to the childhood of civilization. They appeal to curiosity and credulity in their rawest forms. To ascribe any great influence to the colored portraits of players and pictorial representation of impossible figures and scenes which make up the bulk of poster advertising is to reflect on the intelligence of the people. There has been happily some effort to improve poster art and the work of a few artists has developed a standard which is having a wholesome effect on all poster artists and printers. But the high art poster is still something of a curiosity and its cost will bar the way to the general use of the best work of artists and printers in that line. The question whether there is any value at all in poster advertising is one that the theatrical managers have not yet settled, but there is a very general impression that it is obsolete in cities, at least, and that it is a somewhat unnecessary supplement to newspaper advertising, which offers all the opportunity needed for the enlightenment of the public with regard to theatrical wares.

They Will Know the Rest.
Congressman Joseph Washington, of Tennessee, wants to get through Congress a claim for \$100,000 made by the Methodist Publishing House, of Nashville, whose building was destroyed by troops during the war. Speaker Reed's policy against morganizing the next administration with large appropriations is well known. Mr. Washington had pleaded several times for recognition in vain, and the speaker had listened attentively. Finally Mr. Washington said:

"Mr. Speaker, what can I tell my constituents to show that I am doing something in their behalf?"

The speaker looked at the genial Tennessee member for a moment and drawled: "Joseph, just tell them that you saw me."

Argentina Growing.
Argentina's population, according to the census recently taken, is 4,000,000, nearly double its population in 1869, the date of the first census. The city of Buenos Ayres has 663,850 inhabitants.

DAY WITH M'KINLEY.

PRESIDENT'S BUSY LIFE IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

One Day Would Make Many a Man Crazy—Every Moment of His Time Occupied—Has Less Time than He Who Digs Sewers.

Leads a Busy Life.
Washington correspondence:
The office of the President of the United States is no sinecure. It is one of the hardest in the gift of the nation to fill, as a sample day lived by President McKinley will suffice to show.

President McKinley rises at 7 o'clock and breakfasts with his family at 8:30. For half an hour after breakfast he lounges around with the family, a half hour which is probably the pleasantest of all the day. By 10 o'clock the President gets into his office. His special mail is all laid out for him to glance over. Here is where the secretary of the President, Mr. Porter, gets in his fine work. He gets to his desk at least an hour before the President, and with the stenographer, goes through the three or four hundred letters that are the advance guard of the avalanche that comes during the day. The President does not see much of that mail, however. It is carefully culled, applications for office going into the proper bureau, political tirades into the waste basket; begging letters, crank letters and letters of unsolicited advice are all consigned to the same cavernous maw, which yawns for them handily. It would doubtless astonish the writers of this class of letters to know that the President never sees one of them. In the nature of things he could not, because life is short and time is fleeting.

The Raid of Visitors.
From among the hundreds, yes, thousands, of letters that come to the White House bearing the name of the President,



LOOKING OVER HIS MAIL.

perhaps a dozen or two are found worthy of his special attention, and these are on his desk for his perusal. He also finds a lot of documents ready for his signature. These disposed of, he talks for a few moments with the private secretary about the business of the day, and by that time the great American public is clamoring to be turned in on him. At 10 o'clock the raid begins. The waiting room is a study at this time. There are legions and armless veterans, in "faded blouse of blue," and in the nattiest of spring attire, but the bit of bronze button on the lapel of each is often associated with a tiny knot of ribbon, which means a "medal of honor" man. There are cranks who have inventions that they want the President to see and recommend. There are other cranks who have presents for the President, which they desire to present in person. There are myriads of curious people who want to shake hands with the President in his own office. Instead of performing that ceremony down stairs in the East room, as they would have an opportunity to do each afternoon. The women have schemes all their own. It is not often that they are after office, though some women who want postoffice privilege chances by coming to make a special plea of the President, "because they are women." Many of them have sons whom they want appointed to cadetships at West Point or Annapolis. Dozens of them have schemes for raising money, which they are sure will go like hot cakes if the President will just endorse them. Others work the charity racket. They have concerts, or fairs, or plays, or something equally as frivolous, which they desire the President and his wife to "patron" with their names.

Lessons of Office-Seekers.
Among the waiters will be found aspirants for foreign consulships and the under offices, those who are seeking preferment in this country, and those who come to give timely protest against certain appointments. Each and every one of them has an ax to grind and they use the President's nerves for a grindstone. This Senator has a candidate for a berth abroad, and he rings the changes on his right to have this appointment, day in and day out, day after day, while his colleague, who is at his heels, urges some other man with just as much persistence for the very same place. Here is a political "boss" who wants to "place" one of his lieutenants in political work. He talks and argues and all but tries to browbeat the President into appointing the ward heeler. There is an all-around good fellow, who has friends everywhere, to all of whom he feels under obligation, and he comes in with pockets and hands filled with recommendations for half a dozen or more. He urges the claims of each, and in effect tells the President that his place in the House or Senate, as the case may be, depends upon his getting just these particular offices. For two long hours this sort of thing keeps up, the President listening, always listening, never talking much, except to ask a few pointed questions, and then at noon the common herd is run through into the secretary's room, and from there is out into the bunched and crowded in the President's room, where he gives a few moments to each. This is perhaps the most trying hour of all.

Among the cranks who slip in at such times are women who are "slaving" themselves to death to pay off the mortgage on the homestead, so they inform the President, and they have come to him, as he is rich, because he draws such an enormous salary, and ask him to give them a hundred dollars, or fifty, or five, as the case may be, toward that desirable end. Others want him to endorse notes for them. The

autograph fiend is always there in force, and the bric-a-brac hunter is omnipresent. One hour is given up to this class of callers, and at 1 o'clock the President goes to lunch with his wife. One hour is given to lunch and to family gossip, then he goes back to his desk.

At 4 o'clock promptly he flings care and business aside and goes out for an hour. Sometimes he walks, sometimes he rides a horse, sometimes goes in a carriage. On returning the President glances over the daily papers and rests until dinner time. Dinner is served at 7 o'clock promptly, and the President dons evening dress for it. He often invites friends to this meal informally, and it is very seldom indeed that the President and his wife sit down to a meal by themselves. After dinner, if there are men to entertain, the President takes them into the little room off the hall, where they smoke and tell stories.

There's No Let-up.
In the evening there is very often music at the White House, and music of the best character, and there are always callers. It would seem as though public men might respect the evenings of the President and leave him to his family, unless specially invited, but they don't. They invade his home life, and talk consulships, secretaries, ministers, revenue collectors, appraisers, commissioners, and so on through the list, till 10 o'clock or after, when they go to look at the bushel of telegrams, the two bushels of letters, the half a ton of documents to sign, all of which must be cleaned up before he goes to bed, else one day's work would soon cover another, and he would never get through. By the time the last paper is attended to the President is as tired as though he had been working in the harvest field all day.

Three days in the week he gives an hour to shaking hands with the general public in the East room. This time is 3 o'clock, and it is a motley assembly that greets his eyes. There are old men and young ones, old women and young ones, all colors, classes and conditions of humanity, and little children make a large contingent.

Two days a week are given over to cabinet meetings, from 11 to 1, and it is then that affairs of national importance are considered. These days are particularly hard upon the President, because he must consider conflicting interests and harmonize them, he must keep his finger on the pulse of the people through all his cabinet officials, and decide firmly and wisely the questions that are brought to him.

All this work is crowded upon the President, and he has one state dinner a week, to say nothing of the dinners he must attend, the state receptions and other society functions which demand the time and presence of the President; with bills of Congress to read and sign, and messages to write, it will be seen that the man who digs cellars has much the best of it as to time; he works eight, and the President nearer eighteen hours of the twenty-four.

WRECKED BY BANK PRESIDENT.

Reports Received at Washington on the Logansport Failure.
Reports received at the Treasury Department tend to show that the failure of the State National Bank at Logansport, Ind., was caused by the dishonesty of John F. Johnson, the president of the institution, who, it is claimed, appropriated not only the capital stock of the bank, \$200,000, but also the undivided profits, amounting to \$100,000 more, and falsified the records so that the extent of his peculations cannot be determined at present. The bank examiner in charge believes that \$100,000 can be realized for



JOHN F. JOHNSON.

the benefit of creditors from the sale of property which Johnson has surrendered. The directors of the bank do not seem to have taken any interest in the management, but permitted the president to conduct the business to suit himself. The liability on deposits is reported at \$300,000, but an examination is necessary to determine whether an assessment will be made on the capital stock.

Johnson was taken to Indianapolis, and now occupies a cell at the jail. He went in the custody of United States Commissioner Funk and Deputy United States Marshal Clark. In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. George W. Prescott of Terre Haute, father-in-law and mother-in-law of the prisoner, arrived. They were accompanied by Mr. Johnson's 9-year-old daughter, who was visiting them when the crash came, and who does not yet know of her father's disgrace. Johnson was taken to jail at 6 o'clock in the evening, and there parted with his wife. Both were perfectly self-possessed, even to the point of exciting comment. Johnson will plead guilty to some of the charges against him, but others he will fight. Commissioner Funk says that if the Logansport bank is promptly reorganized it will be able to pay out.

Telegraphic Brevities.
The president of the British Iron and Steel Institute, in his annual address, called attention to the remarkable growth of American competition.

The Agricultural Department has sent out 10,000 pounds of beet seed to farmers in various parts of the country and the supply is now exhausted.

Cardinal Camillo Siciliano di Rendi, archbishop of Benevento, is dead at Rome. He was born in 1847, and received the red hat in 1887.

The Spanish Government has made another loan of \$50,000,000 from the Bank of Spain to pay troops in Cuba. Foreign financiers refused to lend.

President Errazuriz of Chili and the Chilean minister to Rio, Janeiro declare that though the Chilean populace wants war with Argentina, the better classes in Chili are opposed to it.

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 passed a measure appropriating \$50,000 for the relief of American citizens in Cuba, in accordance with the suggestion contained in a message from President McKinley. Several members of the House insisted upon amending to incorporate a recognition of Cuban belligerency, and the matter was hung up temporarily. The House resumed consideration of the Indian appropriation bill.

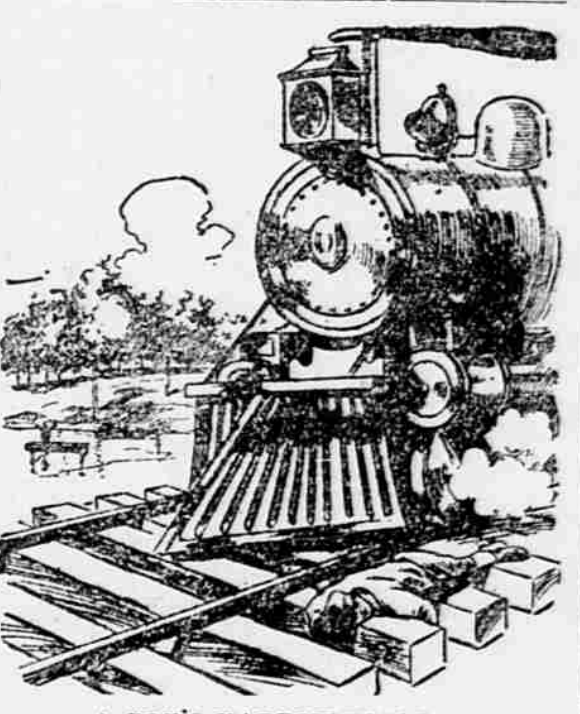
The Senate was occupied Tuesday chiefly by the Cuban question. Mr. Mason spoke in favor of the Morgan resolution, and Messrs. Hoar and Hale opposed. The debate was bitter. Among the bills passed by the Senate were those authorizing the construction of bridges across the Missouri River between its mouth and the mouth of the Dakota or James River, and across the Illinois and Des Plaines Rivers between the mouth of the Illinois and Joliet, Ill., and to prescribe the character, location and dimensions of the same; also for a bridge across the Red River of the North at Drayton, N. D. The conference report on the Indian appropriation bill was presented and agreed to. The House did nothing of importance.

Another stirring debate on Cuba occurred in the Senate Wednesday. The main speeches of the day were made by Senators Foraker, Cannon, Lindsay and Hoar. Mr. Foraker spoke in favor of a reference of the resolution to the committee, but on the general question declared his purpose of supporting the resolution recognizing Cuban belligerency when it should be reported by the committee. Mr. Cannon was bitter in his denunciation of Spanish atrocity. Mr. Lindsay declared if the information furnished by United States consuls was so shocking as to subject them to danger of assassination if their names were disclosed it was time to send warships to Cuba and to terminate all diplomatic relations with that country. It was developed in the course of a colloquy between Senators Foraker, Morgan and Vest that the State Department had withheld the names of United States consuls reporting on the serious condition of affairs in Cuba because it might lead to their murder. No action on the resolution was taken.

The Senate Thursday passed the Morgan-Cuban-belligerency resolutions, by a vote of 41 to 14, after a most exciting debate in which Messrs. Mason, Morgan, Gallinger, Hall, Fairbanks and Hoar participated. In the House the resolution appropriating \$50,000 for relief of destitute American citizens in Cuba passed without a dissenting vote. An attempt to incorporate the Morgan resolution failed, but the debate was sharp and exciting. Both houses adjourned until Monday.

BOY'S PLUCK SAVES HIS LIFE.

Fred Lawson, Five Years Old, Clings to the Ribs of a Railroad Trestle.
Fred Lawson, 5 years old, the son of a resident of Edgewater Park, Ill., was crossing the Northern Pacific railroad bridge at that point the other day when the sharp whistle of an express train caused him to stop short in alarm. Turning



A BOY'S NARROW ESCAPE.

his head, he beheld a swiftly moving train approaching, the ties beneath his feet quivering as the engine thundered on to the trestlework.

Escape seemed impossible, and for a second the boy was stricken with the terror of impending death. Acting upon sudden impulse, however, he threw himself flat upon the ends of the ties outside the rails and clung desperately to the projecting timber. The whole bridge vibrated as the train sped on its way, but the child clung to his position until the last car had passed. Spectators of the incident were horrified at the boy's peril, for the projecting gear of the car axles almost brushed his back as he lay upon the ties. The danger passed, they came to his assistance and led him in triumph to his home.

Told in a Few Lines.
Spain has in the last two years sent 272,282 soldiers to Cuba.

The French brigantine Croisne went ashore near Lamaline, Newfoundland. The crew was rescued with the greatest difficulty.

Major Henry McNamara, prominent in Fenian and Clan-na-Gael circles, killed himself at Kansas City rather than suffer the disgrace of being sued for \$20 debt.

A corps of the most skilled detectives of continental Europe are already in London to watch anarchist refugees from their respective countries during the jubilee celebration.

The American Ticket Brokers' Association is holding its nineteenth annual convention at Pittsburg. About 200 of the 500 members in the association are in attendance.

The battleships Maine and Indiana and the cruiser Brooklyn will be sent to England to represent the United States at the queen's jubilee. Rear Admiral J. N. Miller will command.

The gossip about the State Department is that Assistant Secretary of State Rockhill, who is soon to be succeeded by Judge Day, may be nominated for minister to China, to succeed Minister Denby.

DANGERS FROM GAS.

Its Poisonous Nature Should Be More Generally Known.

Gas for heating or lighting is known to almost everybody who inhabits or visits large towns or cities, but it is not as generally known as it should be that gas is sometimes very poisonous.

"Natural gas," derived very much as well-water is, from natural subterranean reservoirs, though not good to breathe is not especially poisonous. The same is true of gas derived from oil, including gasoline, and also of that common variety of illuminating gas made by simply distilling soft coal, and known as "coal gas."

But there is another common kind, called "water gas," which is exceedingly poisonous. This is made by passing water-vapor (steam) over hard coal, previously raised to a white heat. In this case the white-hot coal (carbon) first decomposes the steam (water) into its elements (oxygen and hydrogen), and then unites with one of them (oxygen) to form a deadly gas known as carbonic oxide.

When coal is burned in a stove with an abundant air supply it unites freely with the oxygen of the air to form carbon dioxide, or carbonic acid gas. But if the air supply is for any reason insufficient the far more poisonous gas, carbonic oxide, may be formed instead; and we read occasionally of cases of poisoning from this "coal gas" which has escaped from stoves. This form of "coal gas" is not an illuminating gas, and is really more like the "water gas" than it is like the "coal gas" above described. It is formed only accidentally; never, like the other gas of the same name, intentionally or for sale. It can be avoided in stoves and furnaces by making sure that the draughts are good and the air supply abundant.

The important dangerous substance in all these gases is the carbonic oxide, which has a peculiar action on the red blood-cells of the animal body. It is the duty of these red cells to carry oxygen from the air to every nook and corner of the body. Carbonic oxide turns out the oxygen within the cells, and rides up and down the blood-vessels in its stead. But carbonic oxide cannot feed the tissues, and so a kind of internal suffocation takes place leading, if continued, to the death and destruction of the body.

The most remarkable cases of gas poisoning are those in which persons in houses not supplied with gas have been found dead or dying; the gas which killed them having worked its way from a leaky main in the street into the cellar, and thence upward through the house. It is also believed by physicians that many headaches and other ailments of obscure origin are due to small and unnoticed leaks of gas long continued.

So long as any kind of gas remains in the pipes, or is completely burned on its escape from a burner, it can do no harm; but unburned gas, whether from leaky pipes in the house or street, or from defective fixtures, or escaping from a burner after the flame has been accidentally or intentionally "blown out," is exceedingly dangerous to human life.—Youth's Companion.

John Sherman as a Business Man.

This is a business man's administration, and John Sherman is a business man. He has been very fortunate, or very skillful, in his business ventures. The only unsuccessful one which is recorded of him was away back in the early days of Ohio, when he was a boy of fifteen. He had been working with a party of surveyors during the summer and when winter came on he took it into his head to go and see his brother Sampson, who was at work on a Cincinnati paper. He had not much money, a failing common to most heroes in their youthful days, and as a means of paying for the trip he bought a barge and loaded it up with barrels of salt and apples, thinking that before the river froze over he would get to Cincinnati and sell his salt and his apples at a good price. Salt was dear in those days, and the price went up like a rocket after the river froze, so that if young Sherman had reached Cincinnati before the other boats were detained by the ice, he would have realized several hundred per cent. on his investment. But he didn't. He got caught in the ice and had to wait for the January thaw, so that when he and his salt reached Cincinnati the price of the latter was away down and the cargo sold at a loss of \$100. One of his father's friends, however, seemed much pleased with young Sherman, expressing the opinion that if the boy had the pluck and the perseverance to go into such an enterprise and carry it out it did not so much matter whether he made anything on it or not. In this he was probably right. But for a long time after that, when he seemed to be embarking in some wildcat scheme, the family would remark: "John, that is one of your salt speculations."—Washington Capital.

The Greatest Murderer.

Aqua Tofana, the poisoner, who lived in the latter part of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth centuries, was probably the greatest murderer the world has ever known. It is estimated her victims numbered nearly 700, mostly men. The poison was a colorless liquid, devoid of taste, and put up in small bottles bearing the image of St. Nicholas, a martyr, who is said to have been boiled in oil. The illness produced by the poison resembled cholera. Among the noted victims was Pope Clement XIV. In 1700 the arch-poisoner was arrested, and it was given out that she had been secretly strangled, but some historians insist that she lived until the year 1730, the Naples authorities making good use of her abilities as a poison-maker.

In breaking himself of a bad habit a man usually accumulates the bad habit of boasting about it.