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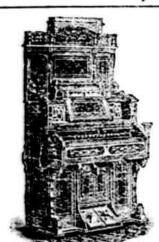
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# Columbus

Southal.

VOL. XVII.--NO. 42.

COLUMBUS, NEB., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1887.

THE CHIEF OF BIRD PESTS.

English Sparrows as Destroyers-Courageous, Hardy and Prolific Creatures. "For downright pluck and perseverance and cleverness give me the English sparrow; he's a hard one to beat."

These were the words of one of those peripatetic guardians of the law-a Central park policeman. The man had been a member of the force for several years and in assiduous pursuit of his calling had walked many miles through the byways and highways of the park, discoursing in his own mind upon the merits and demerits of these little for-

"Now where do you suppose that chap is going to spend the winter," he said to a young man who had found him standing, legs apart and arms akimbo, leisurely observing the toilet of a brown backed. black breasted sparrow of the gentle sex which perched on a swinging limb of a middle aged elm combing its feathers with its bill.

"Somewhere in the south, I reckon," said the person addressed. "Nawp," said the philosopher, "don't

"Don't migrate, eh! Well, in a box in ome tree in the park."

'Nawp, boxes all gone-rotted away or taken down. I'll tell you where that pewee'll bunk this winter; he'll stay right around here in these trees and what time he ain't flyin' about a'huntin' for something to eat he'll be roosting on a limb all puffed up as he is now." "I should think it would freeze to

"So they do sometimes. Many a winter morning, after an unusually cold night, I've seen the ground covered with their dead bodies, frozen hard. Pity. Not much. If we couldn't get rid of some of 'em by freezin' they'd take the town in a year or two. They're the biggest nuisance in New York city." "Yet you admire their pluck"

"So I do: so I do. I admire pluck wherever I see it, and you've got bushels of it in these sparrows. When a few of 'em first came over here we fixed up for 'em in style, built boxes for 'em and fed 'em: but they never would use the boxes, they'd rather look out for themselves, which they've always done since I've known anything about 'em. I haven't \$1.00 and any amount upwards, and will the heart to kill one of 'em, notwithstanding they're such a nuisance."

"What do they feed on?" "Crumbs mostly. So long's there's babies in New York so long'll there be sparrows: somehow they seem to to go together. You'll see babies come toddlin' through the park or ridin' in their carriages amunchin' of crackers and cakes and tarts and all that and scattering crumbs behind 'em. Sparrows always on the lookout, gather up the crumbs as soon as they get a chance. Then like most other birds they like worms and bugs and flies such as they

can find in the grass or weeds or on the bark of the trees." Determined war has not been waged against English sparrows in this state, but in Pennsylvania and perhaps two or three other states bounties are paid for their heads, so much a hundred. Boys made ample pocket change for a time by the use of rubber slings and bowguns, but boylike they soon grew tired of the sport of wholesale murder of the little birds, and the sparrows, left to themselves, continued to increase with remarkable rapidity. Statistics on this point are intresting. The newly organized division of economic ornithology of the department of agriculture is preparing a series of bulletins upon the relations of several common species of birds of this country to agriculture. Among the bird pests which threaten destruction

to valuable branches of farming Dr Merriam, the head of the division, places the English sparrow as chief. This little These organs are first-class in every | creature has so multiplied and developed among its new surroundings as to have become a vastly greater scourge than the caterpillars and worms it was expected to destroy. Its present rate of increase is enormous, and the new territory which it invades is estimated at more than 130, 000 square miles annually. It is essentially a town bird, but it takes long vacations in the fruit growing seasons and 'wreaks its fastidious appetite" upon the largest and juiciest of grapes and the daintiest of tree fruits, in which work of destruction its aggregate of damages is almost incomputable.-New York

> The Wrestlers of Japan. The average Japanese man will weigh 125 pounds. One of the wrestlers will weigh from 200 to 250 pounds, and is head and shoulders above the other people. So marked is the difference fine physical specimens also. This is probably the only instance in the world | patch.

that you see them several blocks away as they tower above the crowds in the streets. The women of this class are where only the best physical specimens of men and women intermarry, and the result is such as to deserve attention. These wrestlers form troupes of fifteen or twenty each and travel from town to town, where they always meet a rival troupe and the two companies give exhibitions. By these means there are no

hippodromes but genuine exhibitions of strength, skill and activity. These exhibitions are generally held of representing Mr. Conkling standing greatly curtailed by a change of fashin large buildings improvised from bam- with his legs well apart, one hand thrust boo poles for the purpose. They will ac- in his breast and his head thrown back, commodate thousands of people and thousands are always there. The rival to assume the poise of a mighty monarch troupes are seated on opposite sides of It is difficult to reconcile these caricathe house and the managers arrange the matches. When it comes to the meeting of the champions of the respective troupes the interest is intense and large amounts are staked on the result. The favorites are stimulated by the offer of large sums of money from their friends in case they win. These entertainments last a whole afternoon, and in the large less pea jacket and a soft felt hat that towns extend through a week or two. These athletic sports are popular and so well patronized that wrestlers of any has given a rounder and fuller look to considerable note accumulate small for- his face. As he moved along briskly he tunes. The production of such a class of might have been taken by the average giants in so short a time from so small a visitor for a sturdy, healthy and vigorrace is proof of what might be done to improve the physique of the human race | merchant, but never for a distinguished and measurably to banish disease and all infirmities.—Japan Letter.

WITH THE DAILY CHICAGO MAIL,

Both Papers One Year. \$4,25.

the superstitious fears, dreads and hopes of the southern negro. It is his guard against all ills of flesh and fortune. In appearance a voodoo bag is a flat, roughly made pouch of cotton cloth. Stitched unskilled hands, its edges are uneven and raw. From being suspended around the neck in its contact with the skin for 365 days of the year, and, in the case of the one which was seen by a reporter for twenty-eight years, the surfaces had become begrimed and greasy. A cord of cotton rudely knotted held the charm in position and was like it soiled from

of the Negroes in Their Virtue.

A voodoo bag is an amulet which calls

up and impresses in its deep significance

It was with some feeling and only in response to repeated and eager inquiry that the lucky possessor of the charm, a negro roustabout, who for many years, 'Sence befo' de wah," had been working on the river, consented to allow its examination. He would not part with it under any consideration.

Without any difficulty the pouch was opened at the top and an inventory of the contents made. A wisp of hair much resembling that used by plasterers, which it was finally decided was from a dog's back, came first, closely followed by a lock which had seen service as the covering of a cat before it became part of the the Gilbert islands and are gaining protector. A little deeper and a chicken's feather, rumpled by contact with a piece of rusty nail and a long, sharp tooth, which had a place in the amulet, was pulled out. A small piece of paper such as one would get by tearing off one corner of a newspaper, devoid of marks by pen or pencil, concluded the inventory, and when each was replaced, the strings readjusted and reswung to its place on the breast of the owner, the charm was to all appearances as good as if it had just left the hands of its maker. Simply these and nothing more could be found

in the bag. Nor were there any evident signs of whole had been jumbled together without thought, the doctor being out of a supply of the other ingredients some-

times found in the amulets. "Deed, boss, I'se reason to know de charm's all rite. I could tell ye of many possible years ago."—New York Sun. times it's saved me. Dar's wunst when I was at Louisville, three of us niggers was runnin' along the gunnel of a barge when de line we was carryin' got cotched and bof de man in front and de man behind me fell into de rivah and war drowned'd. I'se been through lots o' sech things and I always cum out rite. Whar did I git it. Dat's way back i-Mis'sippi. When I war a chile I wuz sickly, and my dad got it foh to make me well. I'se never been rite sick

Such is the faith, superstitious but illimitable, that has taken possession of the minds of those of the colored race who from childhood up have heard such things spoken of in solemn whispers, in the half light of a cabin in the evening, or preached by an old man whose impressive speech was mixed with metaphor and bristling with horrible examples which have made the pickaninny creep to his cot and lie awake half the

night thinking of what he has heard. It is growing to be a wonder to hear of the voodoo belief. With the education of the masses it has died out or been consigned to the the darkest corners of the colonies, where its believers are ever in fear of detection. To the negro whose lineage goes back to an ancestor who came from Africa the idolatrous superstition is more predominant, as he can see and believe more fully that by the

voodoo rites the gods may be placated. The powers of the dcotor are inherited from a father or mother who was so gifted, and in the earliest days only rested with the descendants of one tribe of Africans. Since they have been free these gifted mortals dwelt apart from their brethren and practiced the black the applicant for the exercise of such power. Into the practice entered all the favorite and regulation tools of the magician. The caldron boiling and seething, the mystic wand and the mysterious ingredients were there in abundance. The concoctions were not curealls. but made for a specific purpose which the doctor's modesty claimed was always

By the death a few years ago of the queen of the voodoos, who made her home on the borders of Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana, the most notable figure passed away, and with her many of the rites and observances, such as dances, in which the participants stopped only from complete exhaustion, public invocations and offerings.-Pittsburg Dis-

Pen Picture of Conkling. Strangers do not reocgnize Roscoe Conkling when they see him in the streets nowadays. The accepted portrait of him, made familiar by the pencils of the cartoonists, is that of a man of slim and elegant physique, with a pouter pigeon chest, a slim waist and a iaunty carriage. The papers are fondest after the manner of a bad actor seeking tures of Mr. Conkling with the man himself. He passed me the other day on Fifth avenue at a gait that a professional walker might have envied, but not one stranger out of 500 recognized him as he and low heeled walking shoes, baggy and ill fitting trowsers, a big and shapecame well down over his eyes. The point of his beard has been clipped off, and it ous street contractor or down town retail and famous statesman. - New York Cor.

WEEKLY STATE JOURNAL, Both One Year For \$2.75.

JOHN ON HIS TRAVELS. THE "VOODOO BAG'S" CHARMS. The Chinese Diffusing Themselves Over The Superstitious but Illimitable Faith

Many Parts of the World. "People have little idea," said Mr. A. R. Shattuck, who arrived in this city from Canton recently, "how rapidly the passion for emigrating is growing in China. The whole southeastern Asiatic coast and many of the Pacific islands are filling with Chinese. In spite of our prohibitory law not a few Chinese still manage to smuggle themselves into our country, and they are fairly swarming in many places where nothing is done to keen them out. "In 1871 only a few thousand Chinese

lived in Singapore. To-day the new China town is the feature of the place. Singapore now has 86,000 Chinese residents, and last year 150,000 Chinese landed in the city on their way to other parts of the coast. Cochin China, which is now a French province, is rapidly filling with Chinese. Here, as in all other parts of the southern coast of Asia, the Chinese excel the natives in intelligence, education and business qualifications. They assert their superiority in many ways and treat most of the natives as their inferiors. In Cochin China the Chinese have absorbed most the greater part of the trade. They can beat the

natives selling their own products, and many of them are rich. "In Australia the Chinese are growing in numbers. They control the trade of ground in Hawaii. In many of the Pacific islands, like Fiji, where there is considerable trade, a visitor is likely to see a group of Chinese before his eve lights on a native. The Chinese are overrunning Burmah and there is a large colony of them at Mandalay. A large party of traveling Chinese merchants who were on the road in Burmah a few weeks ago were mistaken by the British troops for dacoits. The soldiers fired upon them and several of the poor fellows were killed.

"This increasing migration among the hordes of China is one of the most interesting signs of the times.

The Mongolians are grad ing themselves over a large part of the world-a fact that deeply concerns many nations and that is also indicative of the great changes going on in China, from which emigration would have been im-

A Boy's Mean Trick. A neighbor's boy-he lived four miles away through the woods-came occasionally to show me some new plan for a trap or snare or to conduct me to some strange nest he had found. He was a genius almost. I say almost: he lacked something, just the smallest something. in his mental make up and so was slightly unbalanced. Ben was his name, and Ben was known far and near as the "owl" on account of his nocturnal wanderings. He was truly a strange fellow. He could not read, but nothing so pleased him as to listen to me as I read aloud to him some story or poem. Scott's "Lady of the Lake" and "Rokeby" delighted him to such a degree that I had to read them over and over for him. His ambi-

tion at times was to become a great rob-

ber or pirate, and at other times he contemplated being a shoemaker. He always had some new scheme in his head when he came to visit me. Once it was to run away and go to Texas. a colored man who practices or preaches and when I refused to join him he proposed a swim on the river from the ferry to the fish weir, a full mile, and we both came near being drowned in the rapids. All the mountain forests were full of chestnut trees, and late in each autumn bushels of the brown, sweet nuts were gathered on the valley slopes and carefully stored for winter use; but boys were not the only busy gatherers of this precious crop. The squirrels and the woodpeckers got their full share. Ben told me of a mean trick he played on an industrious old squirrel. He watched the animal and found out where it was storing its chestnuts in the hollow of a sweet gum tree; then he patiently waited till the work was all done after which art in solitude or in the presence only of he helped himself to the treasure. Somehow I thought less of Ben ever after .-

Maurice Thompson. A. H. Stephens' Mangled Hand. Ben: Perley Poore says in his recent book that Mr. Stephens, in a memorable encounter with Judge Cone, was permanently disabled. He states that "a surgical examination showed that one of Cone's knife stabs had penetrated to within less than the sixteenth of an inch of his heart, while his right hand was so mangled that he was never afterward able to write." This is not a fact. That good right hand was badly mangled, but not permanently hurt so as to prevent the use of a pen. The writer received at least a peck of letters from Mr. Stephens, written by his own hand, and this was the experience of many other persons. We have seen him write thousands of times, and although his chirography was the terror of printers and correspondents it was not any worse than that of numerous statesmen who never had been injured at all.—Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle.

"Perhaps you don't know." said a Detroit physician the other day, "that the practice of our profession has been

"In what" "In wearing false hair. It is still worn, but in sense and moderation. A few years ago, when it was the fashion to load the head down with coils and baids, we had hundreds of patients as

the direct result" "Severe headache, pains in the neck. weak eyes, scalp diseases of various swung along. He wore square, heavy forms and half a dozen other things. I know of several ladies who became bald from the practice of wearing false hair. Keep the feet warm and the head cool is a piece of advice older than the hills, but as good as ever. I'm out of pocket by the change of fashion, and am partly compensated by increased practice among those who use cosmetics. Most of them contain poisons which cause sore eyes and cutaneous diseases, and the doctor has to be called in to give a remedy."-Detroit Free Press.

OWAHA MEEKLY REPUBLICAN Both One Year For \$2.75.

THE DESIRE OF THE STAR.

I am lonely—I call thee—misprising The might of the heavens above; Oh, come to me, thou whom I love! Would I scorch thee as earth lights that beck

The old by the new. The North Star shines cold in its spleudor, The comet in glory sweeps past; They are splendid and strange and untender, And heaven seems lonely and vast; For I long with a passion supernal, A yearning no spell can remove.

From flowers and perfumes and dew!

Come upward, thou dear one, and reckon

To clasp thee in rapture eternal, O, thou whom I love! Through the dark that presages the morning, Ere dawn springs in joy from the sea, Unheeded of silence or scorning, My voice cries aloud unto thee, In my heart will I hold thee, and never Our love shall pass out from the sky,

> Should crumble, should die. -J. K. Wetherill in The Critic.

Though the spheres, fixed and mighty forever,

"THE DAY OF THE DEAD."

Celebrated in Paris-Tombs Celebrated Men. But few of those who have not been in Paris on the 1st of November have any idea of the general manner in which the "Day of the Dead" is celebrated by all

The practice of laying flowers and wreaths of immortelles on the graves of loved ones who have gone before is a pleasing one, and it is creditable to the French, who are generally credited with dispositions so frivolous that the day is rather more than less universally ob

served as the years roll by. I joined the throngs that were taking the direction of the principal cemeteries, found much food for thought in the experiences of the afternoon. The crowd was something enormous, and there was scarcely a grave but that had its wreath, with women piously kneeling or men standing in absorbed contemplation over the spot where reposed all that was left of some one who had been loved and

Of course the tombs of celebrated men Pere la Chaise is a new monument to a husband any day in the 365. Michalet only erected this year. It is by Antoine Mercier and found many admirers. The burying place of the Hugo family was naturally surrounded by crowds of those who revered the great author-and what Frenchman does not? Near the "rond point" of the Avenue Delavigne in the same cemetery are grouped the graves of Balzac, De Nerval, Nodier, Souvestre, Soulie, Buloy, Barve and Delacroix, the latter in a magnificent mausoleum copied from that of Scipio Africanus. It was to the last resting place of these men of genius that the crowd first turned on entering the cemetery after having stopped at the ever

popular tomb of Abelard and Heloise. At Montmartre it is again the men of genius who are most honored. Theophile Gautier, Merv, Goylan, Murger, the Vernets, Halevy, Adam, Nourrit and Delaroche were all remembered by the surging populace. Around the tomb of Offenbach it was difficult to make one's way. The little German composer has lost none of his popularity in the land of his adoption, although his operas may not be heard so often as of yore.

At Montparnasse the graves of military men abound. Here is all that is mortal of Dumont d'Urville, the four sergeants of La Rochelle, Gens. Poncelet, Loverdo, Frinois and Varrean, the student of the Ecole Polytechnique who in 1830 captured the barracks in the Rue de Babylone. That I may not seem to exaggerate the

number that thronged the cemeteries on

the first I append the official figures.

At La Chaise there were 180,000 visitors, at Montmartre 40,000, at Montparnasse 35,000 and at St. Ouen 130,000.-Cor. New York Graphic. Sleep as a Mechanical Operation. A writer on the philosophy of sleep de clares that sleep is prevented by an excess of blood in the brain and proposes as a remedy to pump the blood back

from the brain by a peculiar method of breathing, for which directions are given as follows: Having assumed the usual posture of sleep, the person is to inhale slowly and steadily long breaths, devoting the whole attention to making the inhalations and exhalations exactly the same length—the length to be much greater than that of ordinary breathing. although not sufficient to disturb the circulation by working the lungs to the utmost capacity.

In support of this theory reference i made to the feeling of faintness produced by filling the lungs with all the air they will hold and then expelling it. repeating the operation rapidly three or four times: the resulting faintness is attributd to the withdrawal of the blood from the brain, and the same effect, substantially, follows any sudden and extreme emotion. So violent a disturbance of the system, however, is not advised for the purpose here sought, but a steady and gradual diversion of the blood from the brain to the lungs and body.-Exchange.

The Isle of Man. The Isle of Man is fast becoming a most popular seaside resort. The great natural advantages it possesses, the purity of air and water, the picturesque of sea mist and mountain air, the genral salubrity of climate, its innumerable places of historical interest, a happy and contented people enjoying their "home rule." render the island most desirable for a visit from all Americans.-Cor. Courier Journal.

A Matrimonial Aphorism. They were talking about second marriages when a young woman was moved to enunciate this aphorism: "She who marries a second husband does not deserve to have the good fortune to lose the first."

Much More Difficult. The Chinese code of morality does not say: "Wives, obey your husbands," but 'Wives, respect your husbands." This, it will be seen, is very much more difficult of compliance than the first version. -Lowell Citizen.

PRAIRIE FARMER. Both One Year For

The Cripples of Milan. Men here, as a rule, are rather low

statured. They are, nevertheless, strong and wiry, although the amount of food they individually "put away" is very small and of inferior quality. Sinewy and brawny limbed giants like Artevelo and Caboche, the peasant born cavaliers of the middle ages, seem as utterly extinct as the race of Irish wolf dogs. It is, for instance, a rare sight to see in Milan an individual over six feet in height, while dwarfs waddle up against you at every street corner. Everywhere your eye falls on cripples; hunchbacks and otherwise deformed unfortunates of both sexes—the percentage of such folks

Lombardy to the other. After having made a very minute i quiry into the causes of this anomaly, I am in a position to inform you that it is the result of marriage in the forbidden degrees of kinship. Lombardians are very clannish in their customs. First cousins wed first cousins, and uncles and nieces, unable to get their union offically sanctioned, ignore the law-the result being that the children born of such par ents are, in some way or another, miserable deformities-cripples, dwarfs and hunchbacks, or idiots and lunatics. Gentlemen having the welfare of their nation at heart are doing their best to combat the evil; but I am sorry to say that they have signally failed in their

This moral and material nuisance is furthermore aggravated by the fact that these deformities themselves intermarry, and in the majority of cases beget monsters like themselves. I know that male and female cripples, who are professional beggars, make some money on the high roads of Italy by exhibiting as their own well proportioned children to the tourists' gaze; but most of these mendicants are rank imposters. Girls of stately stature and symmetrical build never espouse dwarfs, although female dwarfs or hunchbacks provided with a fair amount of hard cash can find little diffiattracted the greatest attention. In the culty in securing a good sized pauper for

Of the two sexes, therefore, the male cripple, dwarf or hunchback is the most unfortunate. He may belong to a very honorable family and have thousands of francs to his credit in bank, but neither his gold nor respectability will induce any buxom maid or widow to share her lot with his. Baffled in-his effort to get a decent looking wife he usually weds a diminutive monstrosity like himself and becomes in due course of time the father of a very interesting family. And so the race degenerates. And so the children of Hercules by a gradual weakening and wasting of blood become so many grinning Liliputians-sad and weebegone spectacles alike for gods and men. It is the same old story once more of the painting spoken of by Horace in his epistle to the Pisos. The head is the head of a Venus but the tail is that of a fish.-Milan Cor. San Francisco Chron-

Use of the Cocoa Leaf.

One of the greatest articles of consumption of the Indians is the cocoa leaf. It is universally used by them. Many of them do not even know what tabano is. The Indians only use it. The so called bon ton have cast it aside. It is considered not the thing to chew long. To this I ascribe this invaluable herb not being more known and used abroad. I gave it a thorough test, desiring to study its properties. For five days before starting I took my regular fig. In place of breakfast I consumed about two ounces of cocoa leaves, chewing them and swallowing the saliva. I was astonished at the result. I went all day without eating, traveling on mule back. In the evening I not only felt no bad effect, excepting a little restlessness, but arrived quite fresh. I feel confident that too little attention has been paid to this invaluable natural stimulant. The Quichoas have used it for centuries and have thrived with it. They travel forty and fifty miles a day on foot with no other food than a little cocoa tied round their necks in small pouches. One of these Indians is more grateful to you for a handful of fresh cocoa than for money.

—Bolivia Cor. San Francisco Chronicle. The Conceit of Business Men.

They talk of the conceit of singers, of actors, of literary men and of professional men. But I don't think that any one of those classes who, with the exception of the lawyers and doctors, are more or less despised and can show anything like as much conceit to the square inch as the business man who is making a little money. I don't know that anybody need have any conceit at all. There's precious little to be conceited about when you figure it all down with most of us. But the way a man who buys and sells things will shrug his shoulders and turn up his nose at an artist, the calm assumption of almost pity for a fellow who devotes himself to scribbling, the dignified patronage with which he looks upon all things that do not come in sacks or boxes or tins are

quite worth studying. If he likes a fellow he'll openly express his regret that he is wasting his talents in newspapers. He thinks somehow that all journalists are ne'er-do-weels, liable and romantic scenery, its objects of an- at any moment to strike him for a dollar, uity within easy reach, the blending always hanging about for drinks and never knowing what a good square meal "He's only a reporter," he says. Well when a man's making money in anything he does not want to change his him by the reporter. Le Matin prooccupation, but the fact that so many men keep in business is rather evidence that they are not fit for anything else, just as much, at least, as the fact that a man is a reporter suggests that he is not fit for business. I don't think that the average artist, the average newspaper World. man, the average actor makes less money than the average clerk, and he has a good deal better time.-San Francisco Chronicle.

Seedless and Coreless Pears. In the Trinity college botanic gardens, Dublin, a tree has produced some seedless and coreless pears from a second crop of blossoms, which lacked vitality to form a core with seeds.—Arkansaw Traveler.

If you want to sell or buy or borrow anything if you want a situation or if you

WHOLE NO. 874.

Manufacture of Tobacce There have been a great many changes in the manufacture of tobacco since I began the business, forty-two years ago. In making plug tobacco then hand power presses were used in place of the hydraulic machines now in use. It took six men to work a screw press and nearly twice as much work as they accomplished altogether is done now by a single man running the hydraulic press. Where expert handicraftsmen were formerly necessary boys and girls are now employed; no special skill is required, the only thing needed being attention. Nowadays the process through which the leaf passes before making its appearance as plug tobacco is very different from that being enormously large from one end of of the olden time. To-day the leaf is first stemmed and run through gum rollers of immense size, then laid on a rack and put into dry houses, after which it is steamed, flavored and bulked. After remaining in huge masses for twentyfour hours it is passed through the mold-

ing machines and made into plugs. The old fashioned way was to dampen the leaf just as it came from the hogshead; it was then stemmed and formed into plugs all by hand. There was little or no flavoring, the natural taste of the tobacco being preferred. The introduction of foreign substances began about twenty-five years ago, and has since become general, so that now all plug and fine cut tobacco is more or less adulterated. The burley leaf, named, I believe, after one of the pioneer growers, is now about the only kind of tobacco raised. It is a larger leaf, more spongy and has not as much nicotine as the older and now forgetten varieties, such as the 'Yellow Prior," "Little Frederick" and the "Orinico." The greater part of the burley is raised in Missouri, Kentucky and Ohio. The use of tobacco has increased at a wonderful rate in recent years, and I believe is now better than ever before. At present the market is suffering from overproduction, and as consequence the prices are lower than they have been since the war. I was the first tobacco manufacturer in St. Louis, but since the fire in September Henry Dausman in Globe-Democrat.

Old Rain-in-the-Face. Old Rain-in-the-Face, who claims to have killed Gen. Custer, has been seized with a desire to gain a liberal education, which is quite unusual for a man of his time of life and previous occupation, and has written to the commissioner of Indian affairs asking to be sent to the Indian school at Hampton, Va. Some of the young bucks of his tribe have been to the schoool, and Rain-in-the-Face has evidently been tempted by their stories of the pleasures of civilization. He is one of the ablest Indians in the country and one of the handsomest while his record as a warrior is long and bloody. He got his name from a birthmark that is conspicuous on his cheek and looks as if a few drops of blood had fallen there. When he is angry the blotches stand out with great prominence but are always apparent as far as one can see his eyes. - Washington Capi-

Stheria as a Penal Colony. Statistics just published by the Russian government give some interesting facts bout Siberia as a penal colony. The number of convicts and political exiles sent to Siberia from 1754 to 1884 numbered nearly 1,000,000, men and women. Fifty thousand were sent between 1863 and 1873, while the number sent out during the present reign reaches 146,380. The number of escapes during the past twenty years has amounted to 24 per cent. Women form one fifth of the total number of exiles. As most of them are over 40 years of age very few marry, and to make matters worse marriage is prohibited for the first five years of exile. Two thirds of the crimes committed in Sibria are committed by the exiles, and because of this, of their misery and of the numerous escapes the Russian government is seriously considering the advisability of abolishing the present system of Siberian deportation.—Detroit Free Press.

A Princess' Dainty Appetite. Apropos of the Princess of Wales' appetite few persons have any idea how poor an eater her royal highness is. Only the most delicate dishes tickle her palate and even of these she takes scarcely enough to feed a canary. Sanguinary meat is her special abhorrence. She is also very particular what she drinks, a very small quantity satisfying her. It may interest ladies to know that her royal highness is a devout lover of a cup of tea, but it must be carefully made, "drawn" to a second, creamed to a nicety and sweetened with one moderate sized lump of sparkling white sugar. If it is not all this the princess will not drink it. Curbing the French Press.

French writers have to exercise extreme caution in dealing with men and things. Even if an accident occurs they have no legal right to print the names of the persons concerned—that is to say if they do so and the persons complain the newspapers can be made to pay damages. A curious case was narrated to me in illustration of the somewhat depressing conditions under which French newsgatherers ply their trade. Le Matin, an enterprising morning newspaper, recent-Clemenceau, a well known deputy. The next day M. Clemenceau denied that he had expressed the views attributed to claimed its confidence in its representative. Then M. Clemenceau sued the paper and obtained damages, the editors of Le Matin not being permitted even to offer evidence establishing that an interview had taken place.-New York What is a Fad?

A "fad" is something or somebody that occupies, indeed dominates, the fashionable mind for a few weeks each winter; it may be a skating rink, a Festina Lente or an Englishman gifted with some knack or talent which wins the appreciation of refined idlers. The fad, when it is a man, bears invariably the stamp of British aristocratic approval.-New

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