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TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

A CHOICE SELECTION OF INTERESTING ITEMS.

Comments and Criticisms Based Upon the Happenings of the Day—Historical and News Notes.

Two thousand two hundred trains leave London ordinarily every twenty-four hours.

THE report that China is beginning to abandon the cultivation of tea has stirred Boston society from top to bottom.

FLORENCE, Ala., is to have the largest cotton mill of the New South. It will have the remarkable number of 53,500 spindles.

AN American syndicate in Jamaica gets a square mile of good land that will raise coffee for every mile of railroad it lays down; and there is not much digging.

THE fact that "several European courts" regard the intimacy of the Prince of Wales with the *nouveau riche* Baron Hirsch as "a serious scandal" must make the profligate acquaintances of Wales feel eminently respectable.

WHEN a laboring man was drawn on a jury in Chicago his employer threatened to discharge him. The fact was reported to the court, who released the juror, sent for his employer, and compelled him to take his place in the jury box.

A PERSON of the male sex who is popularly known as "Sam Jones" says that the initials "D. D." after a clergyman's name stand for "devil's dude." Mr. Jones seems bent upon establishing the fact that when he took to the platform the world lost a great clown.

IT is now definitely stated that none of the victims in the late Barnegat collision have so far been recovered, and the inference is that these unfortunates have been carried by the tides and scattered to distant shores where they will never be found, and if discovered not recognized.

THE sale of gunpowder is a Government monopoly in Ecuador. Recently the supply ran short, and an order was sent to the United States. By mistake powder in use for the heavy artillery was sent out, and, "as there is no gunpowder in the republic," the Guayaquil *Nacion* reports "squirrels, parrots, and all kinds of birds and small animals are increasing in numbers, and growing fat."

WORK has been begun on the most formidable piece of excavation on the Nicaragua Canal. It is a solid rock cut about thirteen miles from the Atlantic end of the canal. A great deal of dredging has already been done in the low land from the shore inward. The climate is agreeable, the health of the surveying and working parties good, and the progress made this far equals expectations. The engineers confidently predict that the work can be completed in four years.

THE King of Italy is a gentleman as well as a monarch. While his country is in a state of financial distress he refuses to accept the grant offered by his Ministers to the son who has just attained his majority. Within ten days 8,000 Italians have emigrated to the United States and South America, most of them with no property except their hands and the rags on their backs. Yet the army and navy are large enough to place the country among the great powers of Europe.

THE population of England is very largely in cities, as may be expected from its enormous manufacturing industries. But it sounds rather strangely to be told that the rural or agricultural England is very sparsely populated Yet this appears to be the fact. Enormous tracts of fertile land are held for game preserves and in forest, and support comparatively few people. When these acres are made available for cultivation the farm products and farm population of England will largely increase.

OF the woods that are chiefly used in fancy cabinet work, ebony comes mostly from Ceylon and Madagascar, and is sold by importers at eight cents per pound. Satinwood is grown on the island of San Domingo and in Porto Rico. It is one of the beautiful woods and is described as a "canary yellow." In the log it sells at seventy-five cents per foot. Tulip wood is but little used. It is imported more for turning and inlaying than anything else. It is found in Central America, and when brought to New York is sold for eight cents per pound.

NO AMERICAN cattle have shown the slightest traces of pleuro-pneumonia in England since early last March. It is quite likely that the restriction heretofore imposed on our live cattle will soon be removed. In Canada, however, this disease has recently broken out, and though Canadian cattle have heretofore been admitted without quarantine, this can no longer safely be done. The disease has always been more prevalent among English cattle than it has on this side of the Atlantic, either in Canada or the States.

THE comparative scarcity of wheat in the West is best shown by the shipment of a million bushels from California to St. Louis millers within two or three weeks. It shows, too, that the Pacific railroads have greatly reduced their rates, to allow such property to be profitably carried over the mountains. It has taken a long time to get the advantages of competition in Pacific railroad transportation, the enormous fortunes of half a dozen millionaires representing not the service they have done the public, but the millions they have been able to extort from it.

IN most of the States the announcements of farmers' institutes are now being made. Congress has appropriated $15,000 for each State to develop its agriculture. This is a wise appropriation, and its use in conducting institutes in various localities is to be commended. But it is almost inevitable that these institutes shall after a time get into ruts and become less valuable than they were at first. We say nothing against the able and intelligent farmers who go from place to place conducting such institutes. They tell the best they know, but they tell it repeatedly at the different meetings they attend, and the report of one meeting soon becomes very like a report for all. What the institutes need in each locality is the infusion of new blood. One man can never know more than all men, and the practical farmers of each neighborhood where an institute is held ought not only to feel free to express their ideas, but should be encouraged to do so. In this way the ideas advanced will pretty certainly meet the needs of each locality where an institute is held.

FEW of those who fasten their gloves with the ingenious little snap button in use for a few years past, know the history of the contrivance. It was invented by an American, who tried in vain to enlist in his invention the interest of American capitalists. Nobody could see any promise in the tiny bit of mechanism, and the inventor finally betook himself to France. There he found capital, and the invention speedily became popular. Now the inventor and the capitalists interested are getting rich out of the contrivance, and even the American agency is proving a mint of money. The fastener, at first applied chiefly to gloves, is now affixed to umbrellas and to a dozen other articles of daily use. Made of silver, it is put upon ornamental pocket-books, portfolios and the like.

THE wisdom of Congress in passing the anti-lottery law has been justified already by the results. The lottery still is trying to conduct its business, but under the most discouraging circumstances. A vast amount of its fraudulent business has been stopped by its exclusion from the mails. The New Orleans postoffice, which was its principal agency, shows a tremendous falling off in business. District attorneys everywhere have co-operated with the department in the enforcement of the law, and the express companies are doing their part by refusing their facilities to the gamblers. Hemmed in thus on every side, the lottery company has made a desperate effort to secure transmission of its circulars and tickets through the mails by corrupting the postal employes. New York, Philadelphia, and other large cities have been the center of its operations, but the Postoffice Department, by means of its secret-service force, has captured the correspondence and disclosed all the details of the fraudulent scheme. The fact that large sums of money have been expended in corrupting postal employes has been discovered and the remedy will be applied promptly. Where any suspicion exists the employes will be discharged, and where there are positive implications of guilt prosecutions will follow.

The Little Side of Things.

Charlotte Smith was certainly the foremost girl in the Blank Institute. She had a tenacious memory and a quickness and fluency of speech almost appalling to slower-witted girls. Her sister Lucy was especially awed by Charlotte's peculiar ability, for which the word "smartness" is probably the most appropriate name.

Lucy had several friends among the girls, but Charlotte laughed so much at the lisp of one, the ill-fitting clothes of another and the dullness of a third, that Lucy was ashamed of her friendships. Charlotte must be right. The lisp, the ridiculous clothes, the dullness were all there. And yet—

The teacher, too, was especially kind to the shy younger sister. She was a woman of wide experience and noble nature, who could have lifted the child's whole life upward. But Charlotte spoke of her so continually as "a paid school-ma'am," that Lucy soon saw nothing in her but her work and wages.

Lucy had a habit, when tired, of going into the woods near her home. They were like a church, she fancied. The great, friendly trees, the quiet, sloping fields beyond, rested and comforted her. But Charlotte found this out and followed her. She put things in a very different light. The trees were so much uncut lumber, the fields only meant potatoes and potato-bugs.

Lucy began to see that the quiet and comfort which Nature gave her were but a silly fancy of sentimentalism. Charlotte told the truth. The teacher was paid; potatoes and potato-bugs were in the fields.

The things which Charlotte saw in the world were always facts, and always unimportant facts. She could unerringly detect the printer's blunder in a book full of high, glowing thoughts; and the minister's nasal or awkward gesture made more impression on her than his sermon.

No matter what person or subject or thing she approached in life, she saw only the most petty, commonplace side.

She prided herself on her practical common-sense. She urged it upon all who came near her. Were not these all facts which she saw? But the habit of seeing only the little side of things made her narrow-minded, and rendered uncomfortable all those whom she tried in vain to persuade to see things with her eyes.

Louis Fourteenth—so the story goes—was wakened each morning by a servant whose duty it was to say, "Rise, sire! You have great things to do today!"

The "Charlotte" would tell us, "Lie still. There is nothing great to be done on this or any other day."

The fault is ours if we heed or listen to them.—*Youth's Companion.*

Would Help Him.

An editor was sitting in his office when a man rushed in and exclaimed:

"I want to know what you mean, sir?"

"Mean about what?"

"You employed me to canvass for subscriptions, and this morning you denounce me and say that I have nothing to do with your paper?"

"Yes."

"But explain your inconsistent conduct."

"Well, I'll tell you. I did it to help you along."

"Help me along!"

"Yes, help you along. Some time ago we sent out a man. We gave him credentials and a complimentary notice. He went out and didn't do much of anything. Just about that time a fellow who claimed to represent us began to travel through the country. Our office was flooded with complaints of not getting the paper, and we denounced the fellow, but the more we denounced him the more he prospered. We had given our authorized agent authority to draw on us, but he went to a bank and was refused. The next day the fraud came along and drew on us. So now I think that the only way to aid you in your modest but laudable enterprise, is to denounce you."

"You are right," said the canvasser, as he seized the editor's hand. "You are right. I want to make some money out of this thing, and to-morrow I wish you would say that I ought to be arrested."—*Arkansaw Traveler.*

IT seems as though the literary worker ought to have a pension or an ink-um of some kind.—*Binghamton Leader.*

NOAH's ark: The rainbow.

CAPT. ROGET'S DISCOVERIES.

The Entirely Distinct African Peoples Now Living Under the Same Ruler.

The Congo State has recently done some noteworthy thing, and among them is the sending of Capt. Roget far from his post on the Aruwimi River, where he kept the Basoka natives in order, far northwest to the Welle-Makua, the great northern branch of the Congo. There he has established another post among quite a remarkable people. The scene of Roget's discovery is the Sultanate of Djabbir, a ruler who was never heard of before, and whose people are in one respect very noteworthy. The Sultan's territory extends along the north bank of the Welle-Makua for about seventy miles, and is about forty miles in width. It is a little above Ali-kobo, which has been made famous as the furthest point reached by Junker in his descent of the river.

The remarkable feature about the Sultan's subjects is that they comprise two entirely distinct branches of African peoples. The old natives of the country show by their manners, language and tattoo marks, in all of which they closely resemble the Congo tribes, that they belong to the great Bantu family, which covers nearly the whole of Africa south of the Welle-Mauka. These people are quite distinct from the negroes proper, who live in the Soudan and along the coasts, and from whom the most of our African population is derived. The other people who inhabit this country belong to the Nigritan race, and their language has not the least analogy with that of the people among whom they are now living. They come from a country some ways further north, and five years ago Djabbir led them into the new region on the river bank, where they conquered the natives and made themselves new homes.

It is curious to see these two people, so entirely different, living together under the same ruler. A similar spectacle is not seen anywhere in Central Africa. The original inhabitants, for instance, are cannibals, nearly naked, and they do not seem to have any religion. Their principal industries are fishing, the manufacture of palm oil, and working in iron. They have no plantations, but buy the grain and vegetables they require. The intruding people, on the other hand, who are called the Benjas, speak Arabic. While the old residents are almost naked, the intruding people wear shirts and Turkish trousers made of cotton grown in the country. They wear shoes manufactured from the skins of animals killed in the chase, the leather frequently tanned with the aid of bark.

They are not cannibals, but seem to have no religion be ief other than gross superstitions. They are very industrious farmers, and toil hard in their fields during the two months that precede the rainy season. They have large crops, which they keep in conical granaries. They exchange the fruits of their fields for palm oil, native wine, and fish, which they buy from the natives whom they have conquered. Unlike these natives, they do not work in iron and copper. The people they live with have only the ordinary savage weapons of warfare, but the Benjas have double-barreled shotguns which are, to be cure, very poor ones, and, besides these weapons, they have bows and arrows and lances.

Another interesting thing in Capt. Roget's report is the condition of the Welle-Makua in this region. Here is the greatest tributary of the Congo, over 1,500 miles long, exceeding in length all the rivers of Europe except two. We already knew that in two places further down the river there were rapids. It was thought, however, these impediments to navigation might be overcome, and it was hoped the Welle-Makua would furnish a grand highway for trade almost to the Nile. Roget has found, however, that massive rocks, thickly sprinkled over the river bed form such an obstruction to navigation as to render the river hardly passable for small native canoes. The river is also of great width and magnificant depth, and he has no faith that it will ever be possible to utilize the Welle-Mauke in that region for steamboat navigation. The hope, therefore, that this river, throughout nearly its entire length, may become useful in forwarding white enterprises, will probably be abandoned.—*New York Sun.*

A Perfect Philosopher.

"I stopped at a country hotel some time ago," said a well-known traveling man, "and behind the clerk's desk I noticed a rope hanging from a rafter. The rope had a knot on the lower end, and at first I thought that it must be used for lynching purposes. While I was pondering, a man came down stairs, approached the clerk's desk and said:

"'Why in thunder didn't you send that pitcher of water to my room? I ought to maul you.'

"The clerk took the end of the rope in his mouth, chewed it a moment or so and, in a cordial voice, replied:

"'It was an oversight, my dear sir. Will attend to it at once.'

"A few moments later another man came up and said:

"'I want to know if I am to have a fire in my room? If you don't intend to have one made, say so, and I'll waltz you all over this house.'

"The clerk seized the rope again and chewed it. Then, turning to the frowning man, he replied: 'You must really pardon me, sir. I will go up and make the fire myself.'

"'What a strange man your clerk is,' I said to the proprietor of the hotel.

"'He is a great philosopher,' the proprietor replied. 'Do you know what he would have done had he not chewed that rope?'

"'No.'

"'Well, he would have shot those men. When a man gets mad he grits his teeth, and then finding no satisfaction, he adopts violent means. Some time ago, a fellow, just for mischief, slipped behind the desk and cut the rope; and then, before the clerk had noticed his loss, the fellow made some complaint. The clerk wheeled around, grasped the air, and then in a rage jumped over the desk, seized the offender and almost killed him.'

"'He is a remarkable man.'

"'The most consistent and docile man in the world so long as his rope is in working order. Some time ago the proprietor of a large hotel came here, and after witnessing a few performances, offered the clerk a large salary to leave me and go with him, but I raised his salary and succeeded in holding him. Look at him, got the rope in his mouth again. Do you see how much of the rope is wound above? Well, as soon as he chews the knot off the end he lets down the rope and ties another knot. Within the past six months he has worn out three sets of teeth. See that man with that small grip-sack? He is a dentist and has come around to work on the clerk's teeth. I'll tell you what's a fact, that fellow is the most perfect philosopher I ever saw.'"—*Arkansaw Traveler.*

The Prolific Banana.

The banana is one of the best known of commercial fruits and one of the most prolific in increase. Of its nutritive powers, it is enough to say that an acre sown with it will support more than fifty persons, whereas the same amount of land sown with wheat in Europe will only support two persons. As to the exuberance of its growth, it is calculated that, other circumstances remaining the same, its produce is forty-four times greater than that of potatoes and 133 times greater than that of wheat.

THE FISHING PARTY.

Wunst we went a-fishin'—me
An' my pa an' ma—all three.
When they was a picnic, 'way
Out to Hanch's woods, one day.

An' there was a crick out there,
Where the fishes is, an' where
Little boys 't ain't big an' strong
Better have their folks along.

My pa he ist fished an' fished:
An' my ma said she wished
Me an' her was home; an' pa
Said he wished so worse'n ma.

Pa said ef you talk er say
Anythin', er sneeze, er play,
Hain't no fish, ai'e er dead,
Ever go' to bite, he said.

Purt' n'gh dark in town when we
Got back home; and ma, says she,
Now she'll have a fish fer shore:—
An' she buyed one at the store.

Nen, at supper, pa he won't
Eat no fish, an' says he don't
Like 'em. An' he pounded me
When I choked!—Ma, didn't he?

—*James Whitcomb Riley in the Century.*

Something for the New Year.

The world-renowned success of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, and their continued popularity for over a third of a century as a stomachic, is scarcely more wonderful than the welcome that greets the annual appearance of Hostetter's Almanac. This valuable medical treatise is published by The Hostetter Company, Pittsburg, Pa., under their own immediate supervision, employing sixty hands in that department. They are running about eleven months in the year on this work, and the issue of same for 1891 will be more than ten millions, printed in the English, German, French, Welsh, Norwegian, Swedish, Holland, Bohemian, and Spanish languages. Refer to a copy of it for valuable and interesting reading concerning health, and numerous testimonials as to the efficacy of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, amusement, varied information, astronomical calculations and chronological items, etc., which can be depended on for correctness. The Almanac for 1891 can be obtained free of cost, from druggists and general country dealers in all parts of the country.

Taken In.

A Detroiter who deals in real estate, law, insurance, loans, law suits, politics, etc., etc., went over to Chicago the other day. While nearing that city a man came to him and confidentially remarked:

"There's a chap in the car back there trying to get a $20 bill changed. It's a base counterfeit, and I want to put you on your guard."

He was warmly thanked for his kindness, and passed on, and five minutes later a man appeared with a bill in his hand and asked:

"Friend, can you change this twenty?"

"Sorry to say I can't," was the prompt reply.

"Well, let me have ten, and you keep the bill until we get to Chicago."

"Can't do it."

"Can't you let me have five?"

"No."

"Perhaps you are afraid of the bill. I don't claim to know much about money. Is it good or bad?"

"It's a counterfeit."

"No?"

"I'm sure of it."

"It can't be. I'll bet the face value of it that it is a good bill. Lend me $3 on it, won't you?"

"No, sir, but I'll take that bet of yours that the conductor won't accept it as good."

"Well, it will be worth $20 to find out about it," said the stranger, and off they went to the conductor.

"Give me two tens for this?" brusquely queried the stranger as he handed out the bill.

"If I can," replied the conductor, scarcely glancing at it.

He made out a ten and two fives and passed them over, and the Detroiter handed over the amount of his bet, kicked himself into the next car, and he never saw a bit of Lake Michigan as the train made its way into Chicago.—*Detroit Free Press.*

ARE you suffering from Liver or Kidney troubles, and do you want an absolute, positive cure? California Kidney Tea has been tested for years and has never failed in a single case. It will not fail to give you a permanent cure for any Liver or Kidney trouble. Large packages are sold for 50 cts. Ask your druggist for it. Sent postpaid on receipt of price by CALIFORNIA KIDNEY TEA CO., Fairfield, Io.

A SPEAKER at an anti-tobacco meeting in Washington the other day frankly admitted that, under certain circumstances, the use of tobacco resulted in the saving of life. This caused consternation in the meeting, until she—for it was a woman—explained her remark by saying that cannibals will, under no circumstances, eat a missionary who is a tobacco user. To the good ladies present, this was was conclusive, but the argument might work just the other way with a young man who was preparing to go as a missionary among cannibals. He would begin to use the "filthy weed," simply as a measure of self-protection.

A PLEASING SENSE

Of health and strength renewed and of ease and comfort follows the use of Syrup of Figs, as it acts in harmony with nature to effectually cleanse the system when costive or bilious. For sale in 50c and $1 bottles by all leading druggists.

SOME preachers put their listeners asleep with dreary discourses; but the Rev. David Kauffmann, of Indiana, reverses this and puts himself asleep while in the pulpit. While apparently asleep and unconscious, it is said that he delivers sermons of amazing eloquence.

THROAT DISEASES commence with a Cough, Cold or Sore Throat. "*Brown's Bronchial Troches*" give immediate relief. *Sold only in boxes.* Price 25 cts.

THE most dreaded result of the Indian excitement is the revival of all the Sioux-perannuated jokes on the subject

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria,
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria,
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria,
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

A GEORGIA man has raised a Mexican cucumber weighing fifty-three pounds. It resembles a green citron.

St. Jacobs Oil

CURES

BRUISES, FROST-BITES, INFLAMMATIONS

—AND ALL—

HURTS AND ILLS OF MAN AND BEAST.

SHILOH'S CONSUMPTION CURE.

The success of this Great Cough Cure is without a parallel in the history of medicine. All druggists are authorized to sell it on a positive guarantee, a test that no other cure can successfully stand. That it may become known, the Proprietors, at an enormous expense, are placing a Sample Bottle Free into every home in the United States and Canada. If you have a Cough, Sore Throat, or Bronchitis, use it, for it will cure you. If your child has the Croup, or Whooping Cough, use it promptly, and relief is sure. If you dread that insidious disease Consumption, use it. Ask your Druggist for SHILOH'S CURE, Price 10 cts., 50 cts. and $1 00. If your Lungs are sore or Back lame, use Shiloh's Porous Plaster, Price 25 cts.

HOMES WANTED.

We want to find permanent homes for a number of Orphan Babes and Children. Any responsible parties who want to adopt a bright, healthy, well-grown child are invited to correspond with us. CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY, 264 Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.

HIRAM E. WHEELER:

Importer of Percheron and Shire Stallions. Odebolt, Sac County, Iowa.

LARGEST IMPORTATION of draft stallions to America this season. Quality the very best. First-class horse, either breed, $1,000. Two and three year's time, 8 per cent., enabling horse to pay for himself.

A WIFE who knows many wives says: "Some husbands, when they get home at night, tell their wives all about the business of the day, and about their bank account, and about the people they met, and about what was spoken of, and about everything else. Other husbands never tell their wives about their doings during the day, never speak of the state of their finances and never refer to their business in their households. The wife of such a husband knows nothing of his affairs, and is apt to be upset by bad news or crushed by finding out that he is on the road to ruin. From what I have known through my acquaintance with many families for long years, I am ready to say that a husband should always tell his wife about his business and about the affairs of the day."

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by taking Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last fifteen years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by their firm.

WEST & TRUAX, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.
WALDING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

THE method by which the sole searches for food is peculiar. He taps the sandy bottom with his head, guided apparently by sight only; when the tactile filaments find something edible he immediately seizes it with a vigorous and sudden snap of the lower half of the jaws, where the teeth are situated, but never snaps at anything not first localized by his feelers. He eats marine worms, shrimps and very small shellfish.

MILLIONS of women use Dobbins' Electric Soap daily, and say it is the best and cheapest.

WHILE cutting a big cypress tree near Astor, Fla., John Wilson found it occupied by a living alligator seven feet long. As the opening in the tree was not half large enough for the animal to get through, the presumption is that it crawled in while quite young and lived on other animals and reptiles that sought refuge there.

A CHILD cannot tell what ails it. A shrewd mother will not take chances but will try Dr. Bull's Worm Destroyers at once. Don't let your druggist sell you any other kind of worm candy. Bull's is the best.

OF thirty pedestrians injured on the streets of Cincinnati in one month twenty-five owed their injuries to the carelessness of female drivers, and, as a result, there is a call for an ordinance to prevent any woman from driving horses in that city.

IS afflicted with Sore Eyes, use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye Water. Druggists sell it. 25c.

THE wife of a man named Hodges at Carthage, Mo., has given birth to a girl baby who weighed just eight ounces when she made her advent into the world.

THE best cough medicine is Piso's Cure for Consumption. Sold everywhere. 25c.

"DOES the cellar leak?" "No. It's had two feet of water in it ever since I've been in the house. Not a drop has got out!"

BEECHAM'S PILLS cure Bilious and Nervous Ills.

"YOU RE just the man I've been laying for," as the brickmason said to the contractor."

FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

Tutt's Liver Pills act as kindly on the child, the delicate female or infirm old age, as upon the vigorous man.

Tutt's Pills

give tone and strength to the weak stomach, bowels, kidneys and bladder.

August Belmont's Superstitions.

One of the foreigners who came to something was the late August Belmont. He must have had a clear mind and a level head to win and hold his high position in finance, in society and on the turf; but, nevertheless, he was one of the most superstitious of men and allowed himself to be influenced in business by what most people consider trivialities. For example, he told me on the Monmouth race track that his horses would not win, because a flock of blackbirds had crossed his path that morning.

"I saw the blackbirds in the field," he related, "and said to myself, 'If dey fly across, I shall lose.' So I walked my team carefully, carefully. But, no! Just as I came opposite de birds flew in front of me, wheeled about and crossed me again. I shall not go to de stables. I have sent for my trainer to tell him it is of no use trying to win to-day."

Fancy one of the kings of finance, the chairman of the national democratic committee, being thus influenced! At another time he was in radiant spirits because a little bird had flown into his bathroom and allowed itself to be fed.

"I shall have good luck!" he exclaimed; "wait, and you shall see.

That day he won three principal races. Indeed, a curious phase of his superstitions was that they generally turned out to be correct. When he felt that he was going to lose, he did lose; when he imagined that he would win, he did win. This may be explained by coincidence, or by the fact that his trainer and jockeys were shrewd enough to humor his whims, knowing that he would rather justify his superstitions than capture a race. But, whatever the explanation, the fact that such a man should be subject to such caprices is wonderful.

Two soft-shelled eggs connected by ligament of the same material as the shell, were laid the other day by a hen in Paw Paw, Michigan.

From Father

To son, through generation after generation, the taint of scrofula descends through the blood, blighting life and hastening death. The great majority of cases of scrofula and other blood diseases are hereditary, and therefore difficult to cure. But we wish to state in the most positive-emphatic manner that Hood's Sarsaparilla does cure scrofula in every form. The most severe cases, too terrible for description, have yielded to this medicine when all others failed. The greater includes the less—and if you suffer from scrofula, salt rheum, or impure blood in any form, take

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PATRICK O'FARRELL, Attorney at Law, Washington, D.C.

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