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Average 24,350 N. P. FEIL Sworn to before me and subscribed in my Presence this 25th day of March, A. D. 1892. E. P. Rogoen, SEAL.

Average Circulation for February 24,510.

Mr. Erelin Martin is the democratic

poohbah of Douglas county. A VERDICT of murder in five minutes

is so unusual even in a coroner's jury that it excites comment. IF MEETINGS of the national World's fair commission cost \$15,000 each, it is in

order for somebody to move their postponement until May, 1893. AN AMERICAN scandal is bad enough at home, but when it appears in Paris or London it partakes of the local coloring

and becomes simply awful. OMAHA has crimes enough charged to her in the course of the year without going outside of the probabilities to

make out a double murder. SENATOR ROGER Q. MILLS abandoned his purpose to signalize his departure from the house by making a ringing speech against protection. This was very considerate of Mr. Mills.

THE present congress is wasting its time, the people's money and the gray matter of its members in a futile attempt to undo all that the preceding business congress accomplished for the country.

AMERICA can hardly hope for very much consideration from the Italian arbitrator in the Bering sea controversy. However, if the case is made strong enough he may not permit the New Orleans affair to bias his judgment.

Wagon loads of bumcombe speeches on the tariff, silver and economy burdening the mails and wasting public funds are the only tangible results thus far of a congress in session four months having a majority of 148 democrats.

Modus VIVENDI, terræ naturæ, non persona grata, mare clausum, a verbis ad verbera, mala fide, and so on ad finitum are hints to ambitious boys of the present age not to overlook the classics entirely if they expect to be diplomats.

NOTHING political has occurred in years which is quite so full of pathos as the fruitless effort of the free coinage men to secure signatures to a petition for a cloture rule under which to force a vote on the silver bill. It is enough to drive poor old Dick Bland to drink.

SENATOR CULLOM pronounces President Harrison's administration "able, clean, courageous and patriotic." This is high praise from a late competitor in the race for the nomination and it should be gratifying to all friends of the president, especially because it is truth-

ONE by one the roses fall. Shelby M Cullom has withdrawn from the presidential race, without even so much as scoring for a start. General Alger is the sole entry now against Harrison, but the bets on him are so slow and the odds are so heavy that it is reasonably certain he will not be there when the word "go" is said at Minneapolis.

REPUBLICANS are enjoying the contest now being waged between Governor Boyd and Euclid Martin for delegate at large to the national democratic convention. It is just the sort of harmony they most enjoy and it is highly inter esting to read Carroll S. Montgomery's circumstantial history of the difficulty. Mr. Montgomery is favorable to his neighbor and friend Martin, who now enjoys a good many dignities with and without emoluments, among which are the following: President of the Board of Trade, member of the Board of Education, treasurer of the democratic state central committee, member of the Douglas county central committee and World's fair commissioner for Nebraska.

GIVE a dog a bad name and he will always carry it, is illustrated in the case of the Indian agent. A few years ago he earned by his corruption the name which was given him, and from that day to this Indian agent and thief are synonymous to a great many persons. Even Senator Manderson, who has for many years been a member of the senate committee on Indian affairs, deliberately stated that it took only a few years for an Indian agent to become rich on a salary of \$1,800 per year. In view of the fact that an Indian agent is so hedged about with regulations, checks, inspections, inspectors and other detective and proventive agencies as to make theft well nigh impossible, the senator's remark must be taken as referring to the days of the Indian ring.

PRONOUNCING FOR HARRISON. The letter of Senator Cullom of Illinois, announcing his desire that his name shall not be longer used as a candidate for the office of president, and recognizing the popular demand for the renomination of Prosident Harrison, reflocts a feeling that is well nigh universal among republicans. Referring to the alministration, Sanator Cullom says it has been "able, clean, courageous and patriotic" In a recent Interview Governor McKinley of Ohio, who has been talked of as a possible candidate for the presidency, stated that his name would not be presenvel to the Minneapolis convention, and said: "President Harrison has mula a wisa, patriotic, and conservative executive, and I think he should be nominated and re-elected. I shall support him and hope he will be unanimously nominated." Expressions equally pronounced in favor of the president have come from other prominent republicans, and whatever opposition there may be to the nomination of Harrison is not munifesting itself, and very

likely will not do so. The promise is that the national coavention will be entirely harmonious so far as the selection of the ticket is concerned. Only one state, Michigan, now has a "favorite son" whom it proposes to present to the Minneapolis convention, and as he has no support worthy of consideration elsewhere it is more than probable that he will see the wisdom of withdrawing as a possible candidate before the convention meets. The effort that was reported to be making some time ago to push Secretary Rusk into the race apparently has been abandoned, for the very good reason that the sturdy, honest and toval head of the Dapart ment of Agriculture would not permit himself to be used by the malcontents of the party. President Harrison has no more earnest and steadfast supporter than Secretary Rosk, and the people whose confidence the secretary especially enjoys-the farmers of the country-will ask no stronger assurance of the claims of the president to their support. The situation, therefore, warrants but one conclusion. President Harrison will be renominated at Minneapolis, in all probability unanimously and by acclamation. The masses of the republican party desire this, and their representatives in the national convention will not hesitate to comply with the

The popularity and strength of the president are explained in the declaration of Senator Cullom that his administration has been able, clean, courageous and patriotic. It needs no defense. Every duty devolved upon it has been met and discharged faithfully and with reference to the best interests of the government and the people. Every piedge has been kept, every promise fulfilled. It is an administration whose principles and policy have contemplated the highest welfare of the entire nation. It has carefully guarded the finances of the country, standing firmly for an honest and stable currency and the maintenance of the national credit. It has given the country a foreign commercial policy from which large benefits have already come and larger are assured. In our international relations it has maintained the self respect and dignity of the government, showing in all cases equal firmness and courage. There is no stain upon its record and no incident of weakness in its conduct.

The American people understand and appreciate the wise and patriotic services of the Harrison administration, and the republican party desires to give a renewed expression of its confidence in the executive whose ability has given him a prominent place among American statesmen and presidents. The renomination of Benjamin Harrison is assured. His re-election ought to be equally cer-

WHAT ENGLAND COULD DO. Although there is no present danger of a war with England, and it may be a very long time before another danger arises, it is not wholly uninteresting to consider what Great Britain's resources would be in the event of a conflict with this country. The committee on militia of the house of representatives has given this matter very thorough investigation, and in a report recently presented in connection with the new militia bill it offers some very suggestive facts for the consideration of the American people.

The idea of an invasion of the United

States from Canada will very likely be derided by most persons, but the militia committee of the house point out that England can now with her Indian army. owing to the increased facilities of transportation developed in the last few years, threaten the whole northwest, while menacing our St. Lawrence border and lower lake frontier with forces brought across the Atlantic. The report makes the statement that if uninterrupted, which is a very important qualification, Great Britain could place within forty days an army of 100,000 men in the midst of the greatest wheat-producing section of our country. The British army in India numbers over 200,000, and it is estimated by the committee that this force could be landed on the American continent in twentyeight days, and eight days after arriving could be moving on Duluth, St. Paul and Minneapolis. Of course it is to be porne in mind that this would be practicable only in the event of there being

no interruption to the British designs, But this is not all, nor is it the most serious phase of the situation. The greater peril would be to our northern frontier by troops crossing the Atlantic to Halifax and coming up from the West Indies. The report says that Great Britain, by means of her light-draft gunboats, would have control of the great lakes and thus have uninterrupted water communication, except when the ice of winter prevented, between the left wing of the army of occupation of the northwest, resting at Duluth, and the right wing of the army of the northeast, with its right resting probably on Lake Erie. The resources of England for getting these forces into Canada are the regular steamship lines which she has running in almost any required direction, her troop ships, which she has for ordinary peace service, and hired transports. The report of the committee is supported by the authority of Adjutant General

in fifteen days our northern borders there could be landed upon the shores of our lakes and bays, where there are no forts, 120,000 soldiers of all arms of the service in thirty to forty-five days.

Very likely these opinions are substantially correct, and they make a good argument for improved defenses on our northern border and perhaps, also, for a more liberal policy in maintaining a militia force that would be immediately available. But it seems hardly possible that England would attempt to transfer her Indian army or any considerable part of it to this continent, nor is there much probability that in the event of war she would undertake to do any land fighting here, because whatever army she might be able to send over, if it should be safely landed, would certainly be annihilated What the United States would have to fear in case of hostilities with England is an attack on its exposed seaports, and therefore the wise and important thing to do is to pravide adequate seaport defenses. This country will never again, in all probability, be invaded by a British military force.

THE NEW RAILWAY ENTERPRISE. The propositions submitted to the Council and the Board of County Commissioners by the Nebraska Central Railroad organization deserve consideration. In the main, barring a few minor details which may need slight modifications, they are straightforward and businesslike. The corporation is made up of representative citizens of Douglas county who are recognized as upright, enterprising and reliable. They have large private interests in the city. Their proposition amounts simply to a request upon the governing bodies of the city and county that the people may be given an opportunity to determine whether or not they are willing to issue \$750,000 in 5 per cent bonds in aid of the enterprise. There can be no valid objection offered to submitting the question to the voters for their ratification or rejection, always providing that the interests of the county and city are properly protected in the terms of the proposition.

The enterprise, as outlined by the railway people, is of great importance to this community. It is a solution of the local railway problem for all time. It is not an exclusive franchise which can be used to block the entrance of competing rallway lines into Omaha, but a cordial invitation to all to avail themselves of valuable terminal facilities which could be obtained in no other way except at such tremendous expense as would practically shut many lines out. It will give us railway outlets and transportation facilities at once which we would be twenty years in realizing if compelled to wait the pleasure of lines now tending in this direction, but still uncertain as to their Missouri river ter-

Within thirty-six months if the enterprise is carried out we would have a direct line to the northeast for exporting cattle and grain to Europe via Duluth or Green Bay. It would likewise solve the question of a southwest line. In short, the building of the Nebraska Central bridge and railroad would be the signal for the entry of the Santa Fe from both the east and the southwest, the Great Northern now entering Siou City, the Illinois Central and many other systems which at present are interested in carrying the traffic away from Omaha through other railway centers. It would force the present Chicago lines to recognize this city instead of Chicago as their distributing center for the Missouri valley and put an end to the discriminations which have so long

worked to our injury. Should the bonds asked by the company be voted the increased taxation upon the individual property owners would be a mere bagatelle compared with the benefits to accrue. The difference in the cost of a winter's supply of coal would more than pay the tax of the smaller property owner, not to mention reduced cost of lumber and other commodities. The additional annual tax upon \$1,000 at the present rate of valuation would be but \$2. The valuation of the county would, however, be rapidly advanced and it is highly probable it would reach \$40,000,000 within five years, reducing the tax upon \$1,000 to \$1 per annum. Is it worth \$1 a year to a man owning \$1,000 worth of property to have these additional roads, opening up new markets for the city and state? Will not every man paying taxes upon this sum save five times as much on his coal bills alone? The taxpayer who is assessed for \$50,000 worth of property will pay but \$100 a year additional in case these bonds are voted, while his real estate will undoubtedly increase from 10 to 20 per cent in value within

six months or a year. Bonds in the sum of \$750,000 are asked bearing 5 per cent interest, involving an additional tax to pay interest of \$37,500. In return the city and county would derive the inestimable benefits of the investment of over \$2,000,000 in improvements by the corporation to whom the subsidy is voted, to say nothing of the other business enterprises certain to follow. The increased valuation of property by reason of the enterprise would more than meet the interest. Cincinnati spent \$20,000,000 in constructing a railway to Chattanooga and saved the fate of that city. Cleveland expended \$3,000,000 on a viaduet to connect one part of the city with the other. These were costly investments, but they exerted a powerful influence upon the

growth of these cities. Omaha must assert herself. She has sharp and enterprising competitors all around her. Denver is now preparing to subsidize a line of railway running to El Paso, Texas, direct. Only a few years ago she built the Denver & New Orleans, which finally became the Denver, Fort Worth & Gulf, and saved that city from a decadence which had already begun. Cities, like individuals, in taking care of themselves must risk something and help others to successful enterprises in order to realize correlative benefits.

SOMETHING should be done to beautify the school grounds in this city. They are disgracefully unattractive and untidy at present. Children step from the Kelton, who axpressed the aminion that | board walks leading about the yards | of Charleston, vice president of the Citizens

into mud puddlessand quagmires over could be crossed by 36,000 soldie s, and shoe top. There are no lawns worth mentioning and the play grounds are shamefully neglected. The wonder is that the little ones do not suffer more from sickness in view of the conditions under which their recreations are taken. The play grounds should be graveled or made waterproof and little plats of grass, shrubbery and flowers should ornament the premises. We are far behind other cities in this matter and it is time we made an attempt to overtake our more enterprising neigh-

A BILL has been introduced in congress to appropriate \$100,000 to aid in celebrating the annual reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic in Washington next summer. The bill should not pass. Washington won the meeting in contest with several other cities, none of which would have expected government aid to make the occasion memorable. Washington should be ashamed to ask the country at large to help her under these circumstances. Besides, it would be a bad precedent and would lead to annual appropriations.

And Testing the Saw.

Chicago News. Mr. Cleveland's boom appears to be attending strictly and quietly to the business of accumulating a woodpile.

When Porkers Fiv. Chicago Mail. When David Bennett Hill of his own

sweet will withdraws from the presidential race it is time that the good people of this earth donned their ascension robes. Make a Note of It,

Globe-Domocrat. The fact should not be overlooked that

Speaker Crisp is doing a good deal of effective work for the republican party in the silver controversy. Grover's Secret Hopes,

New York Advertiser.

Mr. Cleveland has been made a member of the Sigma Chi society. Meanwhile his consecrated thoughts are with the Get There society, which meets in Chicago June 21.

Glowing Affection. Minneapolis Tribune. A gaudy auroral display was noticed in the heavens over and above Huron, S. D., Friday night. It is supposed to have been caused by the warmth of Senator Pettigrew's newly developed affection for the

Outshines Our Joe.

administration.

Chicago Tribune. The stories about those German balloons that sail out across the Russian trontier, remain stationary long enough to enable the occupants to take accurate military observa tions, and then sail back again, indicate that a star has arisen in Germany destined to out shine our own Joe Mulhatton.

A Foolish Iowa Act.

Chicago Herald. The lower house of the Iowa legislature has passed a oill making silver a full lega tender for all debts in Iowa, contracts to the contrary notwithstanding. The bill applies to existing contracts as well as to such as may be made after its passage. That is, it seeks not only to deny the right of private contract, but to impair the obligation of con-

In the latter respect it is clearly repug nant to the constitution of the United States which, in the platfiest language, provides that no state shall make a law impairing the obligation of contracts.

A Lost Soule, Chicago Post.

Mr. Soule-Frederick A. Soule is the man -increases in interest to this community as his absence grows longer and more dense. Absence makes the heart grow fonder. I Mr. Soule were in Chicago at present and not in Council Bluffs, Keokuk, Oskaloosa Wounded Knee, Medicine Lodge or on the parched banks of the Little Big Horn, he might fall into the hands of the grand jury and by them be interrogated as to at least two interesting topics.

But Mr. Soule-he is not here. If you knew how he pronounces his name you would appreciate the beauties of the following couplet from the pen of the Clybourn avenue

Ob. Mr. Soule. You're nobody's fool-eh? THE DEATH RING OF SILVER.

Philadelphia Times: The ring of the silver dollar is too cracked to please any ear outside of the silver ring. Chicago Post: So, as to Mr. Bland, fare-well for ever; and if forever fare thee well. Thee and thy little bill.

Globe-Democrat: Kaiser William has bandoned the education bill and Czar Crist has dropped the free coinage measure. What is the fun in being a despot, anyhow. St. Paul Globe: Republicans are

mayed at this abrupt termination of what to hem seemed to offer a chance to manufa ture "fiat money" capital against us. They are now thrown back upon other less potent resources, and are, consequently, despon Denyer Republican: The simple truth is

that the cause of silver has nothing good to expect from the democratic party. For thirty years that political organization has been merely an organized protest against every step taken by the country in the march of progress. It has nover formulated a policy on any subject that was designed to occ efft the people and there is no likelihood that during the coming generation it will ever be given an opportunity to manage the federal Denver News (dem.): It is idle to spece

ate upon the influences that have induced this change in democrats who, if put face to face with a square vote on the Bland bill, would not dare to vote against it. Politics are at the bottom of it. Importunities of are at the bottom of it. Importunities of candidates and their friends, threats of dis-aster to the party. Honeyed professions of what the party will-do for silver if it is once again placed in full control of the government, have done the work with weak, vain and despicable democratic members of con gress.

Chicago Inter Ocean: It is too late for the democratic house to attempt to dodge this question. The vote of last week left no room for misunderstanding. There are two positions taken inside the democratic party. one to throw the door wide open to the silve of the whole world and put gold at a promium once more, and the other is to stop the use of any additional silver for monetary pur-poses. Neither is the republican position, out in the shape matters have now taken the republicans have no apportunity to yote upon the latter of these positions. The former alone is in issue. A clear, outspoken and un-mistakable deciaration on that question is the duty of the day.

Another Phase of the Scandal, NEW YORK, March 31 .- Interviews appearance ere with a member of the Royal Arch club of Landon who arrived on the City of Paris vesterday declaring that Borrowe had "gone broke" in London, Mrs. Drayton, as the gossips said, having stopped supplying him with money. It is stated that Borrrowe and Fox, and possibly Millbank, arranged the duel correspondence for publication, and then sold it for \$1,000 just before Borrowe salled from England, with the understanding it should be beld until Borrowe was at sea.

Elected Delegates to Omaha. Boston, Mass., March 31.—The first state convention of the people's party in this state was in session yesterday and elected delegates to attend the convention at Omaha

July 4. There were delegates present from all the districts of the state, E. H. Brown

Industrial alliance, was chairman, Eight delegates at large and district delegates were elected. Following the convention a ratification meeting was held in the hall with speeches by Edward Beliamy and others,

BALLOONING EXTRAORDINARY. Germans Have Solved the Problem of Aerial Navigation.

St. Perenstene, March 31.—The presence of balloons over the forts and encampments in Poland is becoming more frequent than ever, and this fact is causing much indignation among army officers, who are helpless to prevent military secrets from becoming known to the German officers who are known to be taking opservations from a height that places them beyond the reach of any bullets aimed at them. One of these balloons from the German frontier recently appeared at Kovono, and it hovered above the fortress there until the officer in command became so greatly exasperated that he ordered some the soldiers to fire at the balloon and, if pos-sible, to bring it to the ground. Had the solgiers peen able to hit the pig silken bag flost ing so high in the air and made a hole it would have meant a horrible death for it occupants, but the range was too great, and the powder burned in the attempt was use less. The Germans continued their observations in no way bothered by the firing, and when they had concluded they returned whence the came.

The impression grows stronger daily that the Germans have at last solved the long studied problem of aerial navigation. These that have appeared over various places in Poland are under perfect control They move in any desired direction and the wind currents have no perceptible effect on them. In fact, in at least one instance, it is known that the balloon sailed directly against a strong wind. Some of the observers accounted for it on the ground that the upper current in which the balloon was was moving n an opposite direction from the current earer the earth. This argument was rendered fallacious in a very short time by the balloon stopping over the military came, and then maneuvering to obtain positions from which the camp could be studied in detail. The motive power employed and the means adopted for steering are utterly unknown but all the facts in connection with the appearance of these balloons go to show that they are under absolute control.

probabilities of a perfect system of a rial navigation are thoroughly understood by Kussian officers, but they are absolutely helpless to guard against them. It is the fact of their utter helplessness that renders

their indignation more deep and bitter. A few nights ago the innabitants of War were startled by an intensely bright light that fell from the sky upon the city. All eyes were turned upward, but nothing could be seen but a light that ended in a small focus. Many people in their excitement thought it was a comet in close prox imity to the earth, and were greatly fright-ened. Suddenly the ray of light swept in another direction, and when their eyes be came accustomed to the darkness lowed, they could see far up in the sky a balloon. Then it dawned upon the people that it was an aerial search light that had caused the brilliant illumination, and that the Germans were continuing their observa tion of Russian defenses with its aid, and the balloon remained over the city until 1 o'clock in the morning, when the light was extinguished, and the balloon, heading west ward toward the frontier of Prussia, disappeared.

Later, another balloon was seen over the Proushkerof railway station. It remained stationary for a time, and then started in the direction of the fort works, where it hovered awhile, when it returned across the frontier. Reports of similar occurrences have been received from Sosnovitsky and other places along the frontier.

The balloons come from Prussian-Silesia in the night time and project the rays of powerful search lights in every direction. balloons, which were at a great height, re-mained stationary sometimes for the space of forty minutes, and would then proceed in any desired direction. There is no that the steering apparatus, whatever it is, is admirably adapted for its purposes, for the balloons apparently answer to it as readily Russian as does a vessel to her helm. officials hold that with manageable balloon the whole system of warfare will be changed. It is self-ovident that none of the present fortifications would be able to withstand at attack from above them. Shells could be dropped with almost unerring certainty, and no city could defend itself from any enemy far up in the air beyond the reach of y missile. Even modern cannon with eir great range could not be used against balloons, for the reason that gun carriages have not been made that will allow of a perpendicular position.

POINTED AND PLEASANT.

Siftings: A burglar generally makes his Washington Star: "This is a pretty good daze work," said the dentist as he administered gas.

Detroit Free Press: "Give me a plate of hot eans." said the man at the lunch counter. "Pork with it?" asked the waiter. "Yes."

Then he turned to the hole in the wall and

sang out:
"Boston and Chicago limited," and beans
with pork for one came back. DOUBLED UP.

New York Herald New York Heruld.

My wife was once my autocrat,
But now, alas! I've two,
And ail my pride has failen flat
At what I'm bade to do.

For years she ever had her way—
With some rebelllon, may be—
But now just listen to ber say,
"Come, hubby, mind the baby!"

Indianapolis Journal: Jennie—Is there any est to assertain the genuineness of a diamond without consulting a jeweler?
Minnie—Consin Bob says you can find out by booking it, but I never thought to ask him in

Life: Miss Flypp—If we girls had the nom-nating power I know who would be the demo-cratic candidate for president. Miss Elder—Who? Miss Flypp-Boics.

Lowell Courier: This is getting to be "the land of the midnight son," said paterfamilias, as Johnn'e came in from a neighboring copweb party at the stroke of twelve.

Detroit Free Press: She—So you've been out west. Did you have a nice time?
He—Only so so. I went to a party one night in Denver expecting to have a good time, but there was only one familiar face in the room.
She—Whose was it? Some friend's from the

He-Yes; it belonged to a clock made in Judge: Burley—So you're going to make a musician of your son Tommy are you?

Barley—Yes, Indiced. Why, he's got a fortune in that head of hair.

A LUCKY BIT. A LUCKY HIT.

Philidophia Press.

He staked a claim in the Rockies,
And had no luck at ail
Until one day when at the mine
His wife went just to call.
She looked around in wonder,
Ana with a pick struck blind
For fun, and exposed a big "pay lead,"
For "pockets" she could find.

Indianapolis Journal: Sure Cure—Did you of Johann's portrait in the Bugle? "No. What was be cured of?" "Vanity, I guess, after he saw the picture."

Phiradelphia Record: A deaf man was given hearing at the Central police station yester-

Yonker's Statesman: Crimps—Is your business getting on? Bangs—It is. You know I recently opened a riding school. THE DAYS OF APRIL.

Isabel Gordon in L'ppiacott's. "The days of April" they are sweet, so sweet, Flushing with tender green the meadow Where June will dance with her gay, gladsome To music of a thousand warblers' praise.

The days of April" they are fair, so fair, With precious promise in the budding flow-Promise of days all radient fresh and rare. Mellowed by gentle dews and fleeting show-

The days of April" they are green, so green! And maple buds grow brilliant in the sun, to den the brookside with the cowslips sheen. And fragile wind-flowers steal out one by

The days of April" they are dear, so dear.
To hearts grown weary of the winter cold,
Longing for sumy skies all blue and clear.
For birds to pipe, and blossoms to unfold. "The days of April" they are bright and coy; But one glad April, years and years ago. Held more of charmer sope and love and oy Than all my life again can ever know.

ORIGIN OF ALL FOOLS' DAY

Neither the Fools Nor the Wisa Men Able to Solve the Problem.

TRICKS PLAYED IN ANCIENT TIMES

Famous "Sells" Practiced to All Lands and on All Classes of People-Royalty and the Rabble in Fool-Day Pleasantries,

Much curiosity has been expressed at different times as to the origin of Ail Fools' Day, April 1. The beginning of it is wrapped in the misty past, but it is certainly ancient. A writer in the New York Herald finds conjectures about the day in the earliest o printed magazines. The Gentleman's Magazine for July, 1783, suggests that it may be an allusion to the mockery of Christ by his persecutors.

Another old authority says that Noah sent dove out of the ark on that day on a fool's errand.

"Poor Robin's Almanack" for 1769 says: The 1st of April, some do say, is set apart for All Fools day; But why the people call it so Nor I nor they themselves do know.

The Hindocs celebrate the termination of manner, the prevailing idea being to send friends with messages to fancy personages or individuals sure to be absent.

Swift, in his journal to Steele under March 31, 1713, writes about "a lie for the morrow" which Dr. Arbuthnot, Lady Masham and himself had been contriving. The scheme was to circulate a report that one Noble, hanged a few days before, had come to life again and was in the sheriff's bands at the "Black Swan" in Holbern. Swift writes later that the idea was not successfully car ried out. This is probably the earliest allu-sion to fooling.

Dr. Goldsmith, in the "Vicar of Wake

field," says of the rustics that they "showed their wit on the 1st of April."

Servant girls would send a swain to the bookseller's for a "History of Eve's Grand mother," to the chemists for a little pigeon' nilk or to the coboler's for some strap of In the last case the messenger was apt to get hearty taste of the article on his shoulder which lingered in his memory.

Washing the White Lion. In March, 1860, many reputable people re ceived through the post the following card, with the impression of an inverted sixpence on the sealing wax at one of the corners to have an official effect:

TOWER OF LONDON. TOWER OF LONDON.

Admit bearer and friend to view annual ceremony of the washing of the White Lion on Sunday April 1, 1860.

Admitted only at the White Gate. It is particularly requested that no grattuitles be given to Wardens or Assistants.

The trick was so successful that a success ion of cabs was rattling about Tower Hill all the morning searching vainly for the White Gate, which, of course, had no more existence than the White Lion.
Apropos of the day is the following anec-

dote of an incident which happened at Milan Rossini, the great composer, was one of the vainest of men. One day he received a letter which read thus: "A lady who has come from Naples to Mi lan to make the acquaintance of the great maestro whose melodies encircle the globe

and carry his fame into all parts of it will await you this evening at the Scala in box No. 9 of the first tier, to tell you viva voce what she dare not confide to paper. pretty note over in his fingers and re-read it complacently. The writing was fine and ele gant and the envelope crested and with a sweet and delicate perfume. There was no of the world yielding to an irresistible at

"One more conquest," murmured Rossini heaving a sigh of adorable conceit. At that moment the door opened to admit his favor-ite interpreter, the tener David, equally noted for his beautiful voice and his caustic changed some commonplaces. Suddenly:

Fooling the Maestro. "Have you heard the news!" asked lavid. "The ambassadress of France has arrived in Milan-"Is she pretty!" asked Rossini languidly

"Adorable, and wild about your music Her first care was to secure a box for tonight At these words Rossini's interest was

roused.
"For tonight!" he said. "Yes. I was at the theater when her ser-vant came there. He reuted a box in the

"And do you know the number of the box?"
"No. 9, I think." The author of "Semiramide" flushed with leasure. Left alone he began a careful toilet, deluged himself with powerful extracts, had his hair curied, selected his finest cuffs

and his most becoming trousers. Promptly on the hour he repaired to the Scala. His feet skimmed over the ground and his heart bounded with sweet presentiments. He asked for box No. 9 and entered it tremoling with hope and pride. Oh, deception The box was empty, save for six chairs symmetrically arranged. Perhaps he was a little early, he thought,

trying to reassure himself. Ladies of note rarely arrive before the ballet. The first act ended and the second. Gio-

acchine paced the box like a wild beast. He cast furious glances at the door, expecting at each instant to see his Duicinea. At the end of the third act the door opened slightly and an unknown hand offered Rossini a note, which has been seen as the control of the third act the door opened slightly and an unknown hand offered Rossini a note, which has been seen as the control of the transfer of the control of the transfer o which he tore open and read feverishly. It

contained these few lines :

contained these few lines:

My Dear Maestro.—The ambassadress of France has charged the undersigned with her excuses. It is impossible for her to come to the theater tenight for three reasons.

First, she has not left Rome: second, she will probably never come to Milan because, third, she does not exist. The French ambassador has been a willower for three years.

Accept, incomparable maestro, the assurance of the profound esteem with which the undersigned has the honor to be your devoted admirer.

"The lat of April" cried Rossini angrice.

"The 1st of April?" cried Rossini angrily crumpling the unfortunate note. have fooled me, idnot that I am."

He left the box in a rage. At the same instant he heard a burst of nelsy laughter, and perceived the tenor, David, in contor tions of mirth as impertinent as imp Well, illustrious maestro, was the trick

Scotch Pleasantries,

to sumple addition so is Scotch to English April fooling. The excursions of the canny Scot in that line are often the result of profound labor and forethought, Wag No. 1, we shall say, intends to befool a simple Androw, so sends him with a letter two miles distant, professedly desiring some valuable information, but probably containing the following couplet:

It used to be said that what compound is

This is the first day of April, Hunt the gowk another mile. Wag No. 2 grasps the idea readily and gravely tells poor Andrew that he is "quite unable," etc., but he'll give him a note to another man a mile or so further on who will accommodate him.

And so the unfortunate wight will keep this up till some kind soul enlightens him The word 'gowk' or 'gawk' means properly a 'cuckoo.'

In France they indulge in poissons d'avril, and did so at an earlier date than in England. It is told that Francis, Duke of Lorraine, and his wife escaped from captivity at Nantes on April 1. Dressed as peasants they started off-boldly to pass the sentries. Some one, perceiving their identity, ran ahead to warn the guards. They laughed outright, however, and shouted knowingly, "April fool!" So the supposed peasants es-

caped easily. Toreen, a Swedish traveler of the last century, says: "We set sail on April I, but the wind made April fools of us, for we were obliged to return before Shagen. On the Sunday and Monday before Lent the Lisbonese are wont to exercise freely the

ancient and highly esteemed privilege of fooling. It is thought vastly funny there to throw water or a handful of powder in the face of any one passing. To do both raises the author to the highest pinnacle of fame. The Wise Men of Gotham. King John was once marching toward Not-

tingham and intended to pass through Gotham Meadow. The villagers feared that the meadow would become a public road thereafter, so sought means to prevent the passage. The king hearing of this fully sent a messenger to investigate. The king hearing of this wrath-The story goes that when the king's mea-senger arrived he found some of the inhabitants trying to drown an eel, some dragging carts to the top of a tarn to protect adjacent woods from the rays of the sun, some rolling cheeses down hill expecting that they would bring up at Nottingham market, and some

busy hedging in a cuckoo perched on a bush.

village of fools, so it was of no use to inves-

In short, they seemed to the messenger a

tigate. Hence the wise foots of Gotham TRAIN ROBBERS IN ALABAMA.

They Shoot a Postal Clerk and Flagman and Rob the Mails.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 31 .- A passenger train on the Georgia Pacific road was held up by robbers ten miles south of here this morning on a long trestle. The robbers hred into the cars to overawe the passengers and also shot at and wounded a postal clerk and flagman. They then robbed the mail car of registered letters amounting to \$5,000. The express car was unmolested. The robbers are being pursued with bloodhounds.

School Indebtedness.

County Superintendent Hill has notified the officials of the school districts in Douglas county to at once report to him the amount of their bonded indebtedness. In many cases the districts have paid bonds that have been issued and have neglected to county clerk of the act. When such cases exist and no information has been furnished upon the subject, the county commissioners are left in ignorance, and consequently have to levy a tax to pay interest and make provision for the payment of principal.

Chartered a Hotel.

Chicago to engage quarters during the national democratic convention reports having chartered the entire Atlantic hotel. The house has accommodations for 500 men. at the Sherman house for twenty-five persons and at the Midland for fifty. Applications for accommodations will be booked by George Sterusdorff, chairman of the committee

The Jacksonian slub committee sent to

Mimy Danced and Osborne Plunged. New York, March 31 .- The identity of th woman who accompanied Howell Osborne it his recent successful whirl in Wali stree which was announced Tuesday, is know She is no other than the fascinating Mimthe Parisian, whose dancing at the Lycecaught the fancy of gay capitalists. She in companied Osborne to this country, and since their arrival the pair have been inseparable

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KNEE PANT SUITS, \$2.50 83, 84 LONG PANT SUITS, \$4 \$5, \$6.50 up to \$10

Boys' Hats, 50c, 75c, \$1 and up. Shirt Waists 40c, 75c, \$1 up to \$6.50. Boys'

Hose with knee protectors, collars, neckties, all boys' furnishing goods and elegant boys' spring overcoats at special prices for this Vacation week. Pleasant parlors for ladies' and children to rest in or to make purchases. Many new and novel styles.

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