A GREAT COMET COMING

Halley's Ancient Visitor Traveling Back at a Lively Gait.

ASTRONOMERS ALREADY PREPARING FOR IT

Previous Visits to the Earth's Orbit and the Terror it Inspired—A Remarkable Celestial Vagrant Viewed at Long Range.

Halley's comet is coming back—the comet which, in the year 1066, shed a celestial splendor over the Norman conquest, and whose terror-inspiring visit was commemorated by the hand of Queen Matilda in the Bayeux Tapestry; the comet that in 1456, the year of the battle of Belgrade, scared Turk and Christian alike, and was anathematized by a bull from the pope; the comet whose strange scimitar form still chilled the marrow of the ignorant and superstitious at its latest return in 1835. It is yet far away, writes Garrett P. Serviss in the New York Sun, but the eye of science sees it, already within the orbit of Neptune, rushing sunward and earthward with constantly increasing velocity as it falls along the steep curve of its orbit. And a call to arms, a call for preparation, has just been issued from one of the chief watch towers of astronomy:

Prof. Glasenapp announces that the computing bureau established by the Russian Astronomical society has undertaken the calculation of the true path of Halley's comet, with a view to predicting the exact date of the next return. He hopes that astronomers acquainted with unpublished observations of the comet will communicate the information to the society.

Halley's comet is not one of the insignificant crowd of little comets, so many of which are discovered by industrious stargazers every year and which nobody outside the observatories ever sees. On the contrary it furnishes, or at least has done so hitherto, a splendid spectacle in the sky. Of course, in speaking of ordinary telescopic comets as insignificant, I refer only to their apparent size and brilliancy; in a scientific sense they frequently possess the highest interest and significance. But Halley's comet is one that when favorably situated commands every eye and does not need to be looked for. During at least eighteen centuries it has periodically astonished the inhabitants of the earth. In 1456 its tail was 60 degrees long. In 1835 it had a tail 20 degrees in length.

It was after its appearance in the time of Newton, in 1682, that the fact came to be recognized that this comet is a regular visitor to the neighborhood of the sun, in other words, that it travels in a long elliptical orbit. When nearest it is about 55,000,000 miles from the sun and far inside the orbit of the earth; when most distant it is about 3,370,000,000 miles from the sun and beyond the known limits of the planetary system.

Edmund Halley discovered the periodical character of the comet. It had made its appearance in the year of his marriage, and it powerfully excited his interest. Upon calculating the elements of its orbit he noticed that they resembled those pertaining to comets which had been seen in the years 1607 and 1531. "Perhaps they are all the same comet," he thought. Finally, after elaborating his calculations, he gathered confidence and ventured to predict that the comet would return in 1759. Halley had been born in 1656, and, in the course of nature, he could hardly hope himself to see the accomplishment of his prediction. But he besought his countrymen, in case the comet did come back, not to allow the world to forget that it was an Englishman who had predicted its return. His countrymen, however, have never allowed the world to forget a fact of that kind. It almost seemed as if nature intended to assist Halley in the fulfillment of what could not but have been a longing wish of his, to see the return of the comet with his own eyes, for he lived to the ripe age of 86 years, dying in 1742, only seventeen years before his comet reappeared, and when it had reached nearly the same point on its return journey which it occupies today.

When the time grew near for the reappearance of the comet, if Halley's bold prediction was to be fulfilled, the astronomers of Europe began to watch for it. They knew that the attraction of the large planets must disturb the comet's motion, and they calculated, as accurately as they were able, what the effect of such disturbance would be upon the period of its return to perihelion, or nearest approach to the sun. Two celebrated French mathematicians, Clairault and Lalande, labored continually for six months, hardly stopping for their meals, to complete the calculations, and they were so effectively assisted by a woman astronomer, Mme. Lepaute, that without her aid they would have probably been unable to finish their work before the comet itself came to interrupt it. Lalande never recovered from the strain of the labor he then performed. The result of their calculation was that having been delayed 518 days by Jupiter and 100 by Saturn, the comet would return to perihelion on the 13th of April, 1759, and that it might at any moment be detected on its way to perihelion. Immediately the astronomers of Europe began to search for the comet, but, singularly enough, they were all beaten by a farmer, John Palitsch, living near Dresden, who, having provided himself with a small telescope, was cultivating astronomy on his own account and obeying the injunction of Virgil:

Nor must the plowman less observe the skies
When the Kids, Dragon, and Arcturus rise.

Palitsch discovered the comet on the night of December 25, 1758. The professional astronomers followed more than three weeks later, and even after they had found the comet at the Observatory of Paris on the 21st of January, 1759, they kept the fact a secret, not knowing that the unpretentious farmer-astronomer had so completely distanced them that they were no longer in the race. It may be said in justice to the astronomers that those at Paris, at any rate, were much troubled by cloudy weather in their search for the comet. The perihelion passage occurred on the 12th of March; one month earlier than the time predicted. But in announcing the result of the calculations made by Lalande, Mme. Lepaute and himself, Clairault had remarked that the comet might come to perihelion a month earlier or a month later than the predicted time, because they had unavoidably neglected in their calculations certain sources of disturbance that would affect the comet's motion. After its perihelion the comet presented a fine appearance.

The next return was due in 1835. As early as 1817 the astronomers began to bestir themselves in order that the moment of perihelion passage might be more accurately foretold than it had been in 1759. Baron Damoiseau won a prize by his calculations, which fixed the return to perihelion for November 4, 1835. Pontecoulant predicted that the return would occur a week later than the time set by Damoiseau. But Prof. Rosenberger of Halle made the most elaborate calculations of all, and his prediction named November 11 as the critical date. Besides allowing for the influence of all the great outer planets except Neptune, which had not then been discovered, Rosenberger found that the attraction of the earth would shorten the comet's inbound journey fifteen and two-third days; that of Venus five and one-third days, and the combined attraction of Mars and Mercury one day. An outlook was begun for the approaching comet nearly a year in advance of the predicted time of its perihelion passage. Sir John Herschel, then at the Cape of Good Hope with his huge telescope, joined in the watch. But the comet did not come into view until the 6th of August, 1835, when it was seen from the observatory at Rome. It became visible to the naked eye late in September; then a tail was developed, and during October it was watched slowly sweeping, with constantly increasing splendor across Ursa Major, Hercules and Ophiuchus, down to its perihelion meeting with the sun. The perihelion passage occurred on November 16, five days later than the time predicted by Prof Rosenberger. The appearance of the head of the comet in October excited the astonishment of all observers. On October 12 Prof. Struve described it as resembling "the stream of fire which issues from the cannon's mouth after discharge, when the sparks are driven backward by a violent wind." Some drawings that were made of the tail show that it assumed at times the most extraordinary forms.

After its perihelion the comet was watched retreating out into space until May, 1836, when it was finally swallowed from sight. It will be in perihelion again about 1911, but with the great telescopes now in existence, and the greater ones that may then have been constructed, it is probable that the comet will be detected coming sunward a year or more earlier than that. The fact that the labor of computing the precise time of its return is already about to begin gives assurance that the next time it will not be a question of how many days, but rather of how many hours, or even minutes, the calculations will be in error.

Halley's comet travels around the sun in a direction contrary to that in which all of the planets move. We can hardly suppose, then, that it originated out of the same nebulous mass from which the sun and the planets were created. We are rather led to believe that it must have come into our system from outer space, and that the influence of Neptune, perhaps, has been effective in making it a permanent member of the retinue of the sun, but still only an adopted member, whose foreign origin is indicated by its independence of the great law of revolution that no planet disobeys.

Now that astronomers have undertaken the prediction of the exact period of its return it will be interesting to see who will first complete his calculations and who will hit nearest to the mark. And those of us who actually see the great comet on its return will surely find it doubly interesting, because it is like a slowly revolving hand upon the dial of history. It passed across the sky twelve years before the birth of Christ. It passed again when Nero was emperor; again when the first of the Antonines had just begun his pacific reign; again when the Goths were preparing to attack Rome, and yet again in the days of Diocletian. The advancing Huns beheld its transit in the year 373; and it was blazing in the sky when their great King Attila was defeated at Chalons in 451. Belisarius may have watched it as it swung across the heavens just after he had begun his victorious career in 530. It passed again while Mohammed was still worshipping the idols of his fathers in 608. The world saw the great Index in the firmament again in 684, in 760, in 837, in 912 and in 989. It was on the noon mark for William the Conqueror in 1066. It returned in 1145; in 1223 it was thought to have predicted the death of Philip Augustus; in 1301 it was watched with astonishment from Iceland to China; in 1378 Chinese and Europeans once more recorded its transit in their annals. We have seen how Islam and Christendom were terrified by it in 1456. It was back again in 1531 and 1607, and when, in 1682, it shone once more in the sky, the man had come who was to read its riddle and solve its mystery.

Is it possible to look forward to the return of a comet having such a history as this without feeling that the proper field of human interest is not limited by the narrow round of this earth?

ETHICS OF YACHT RACING.

Some Features of the Noble Sport from a British Point of View.

LONDON, June 3.—The Field, in its yachting article yesterday, says: "The contention that the Vigilant was not a fair vessel to match against the Valkyrie on account of her flimsy construction will be emphasized by the fact that she is being strengthened for her Atlantic passage. We believe that the committee of the Royal Victoria Yacht club meditated last autumn a clause insuring that the defending yacht for the Victoria gold cup should be built capable of sailing the Atlantic on her own bottom. The clause was not adopted, owing to the difficulty of determining the fitness of building her for the purpose, and because it would most likely result in the challenger getting the match after she had crossed the Atlantic. Still, the point well displays the enormous advantage which the defending yacht has over the challenger.

"The invasion of American built boats this season is likely to try the genius of our naval architects severely. So far as the Vigilant is concerned, we should say that she will be enormously improved by the reduction of her sail plan. It is to be hoped that the Valkyrie will not have her sail plan increased so much as reported. At any rate the Valkyrie had enough cloth last summer.

"The Vigilant's controllers would be wise to accept the view of an experienced British yachtsman, who, talking of the consternation which the Dakotah caused among the ten-raters of the Clyde, where she was regarded as another Wenonah, says that the cry will go forth that these American articles should be taxed or handicapped, because they spoil our racing. The keen sportsmen who import these shell ducks are considered somewhat unpatriotic. Still, for our part, we admire their spirit and enterprise. It is quite plain that we have something to learn so far as small racing yachts go, and the sooner we learn it the better. It is necessary to remember, also, that increased speed means increased cruising qualities.

"With reference to the Valkyrie's getting set days for the yacht meetings, the yachtsman referred to advises that she enter all possible events, as the Navahoe did. If she cannot beat the particular craft in such matches, how on earth can she do so in dual contests, which do little or no good to the general cause of yachting?

"The interest displayed in America's cup races last season would have led the ordinary observer to suppose that every citizen had become possessed of a racing yacht, instead of which we witness the collapse of racing all along the American shores.

"Challenge races," the Field says, in conclusion, "only tend to deteriorate a healthy pastime."

FROM NEW YORK TO PHILADELPHIA.

Tri-State Relay Race Won by New Jersey Riders by Ten Points.

PHILADELPHIA, June 3.—The New Jersey riders yesterday won the tri-state relay race of 150 miles between New York and this city, scoring seventy points. Pennsylvania was second, with sixty points and New York third, fifty points. In the run from Wheatsheaf Inn to Broad and Nicetown lane, the finish, the Pennsylvania rider had hard luck, but showed game. In completing the final relay he had to ride three different wheels. He had gone but a few hundred yards in the last great effort for the coveted honors when his tire was punctured. While waiting for a new machine he was passed by the New Jersey and New York riders. Endeavoring to regain his lost ground, he fell, breaking the handlebar. It was not until he reached Rising Sun lane, a short distance from the finish, that he secured a third wheel. After all these adversities he managed to cross the line only one minute behind the leader. The race was started at 8:52 a. m. The relays were finished as follows:

First relay, New York to Paterson: W. C. Roome, New Jersey, first; F. B. Marriott, Pennsylvania, second; Fred Nagle, New York, third. Time: 10:19½.

Second relay, Patterson to Morristown: Charles Church, Pennsylvania, first; F. J. McMahon, New Jersey, second; C. P. Stanbach, New York, third. Time: 12:18.

Third relay, Morristown to Wheatsheaf Inn, between Elizabeth and Rahway: E. L. Blauvelt, New Jersey, first; G. A. Murray, New York, second; Louis Geylor, Pennsylvania, third. Time: 1:25.

Fourth relay, Wheatsheaf Inn to Franklin Park: J. M. Baldwin, New Jersey, first; U. S. Paige, New York, second; William Hall, Pennsylvania, third. Time: 2:11.

Fifth relay, Franklin park to Wheatsheaf Inn, between Trenton and Bristol: C. W. Kerrick, Pennsylvania, first; M. McGovern, New Jersey, second; R. McDonald, New York, third. Time: 4:38.

Sixth relay, Wheatsheaf Inn to finish: J. W. Davison, New York, first; Charles Measure, Pennsylvania, second; Whitfield Smith, New Jersey, third. Time: 6:15:45.

We's Defe's Work.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., June 3.—The fourth shoot at live pigeons for the Riverton Gun club's challenge plate took place yesterday on the Hollywood park grounds. George Work of New York and R. A. Welch of Philadelphia were the contestants. The latter won with 84 birds to 83 for Work, out of a possible 100.

A Child Enjoys

The pleasant effect and perfect safety with which ladies may use the California liquid laxative, Syrup of Figs, and under all conditions, makes it their favorite remedy. To get the true and genuine article, look for the name of the California Fig Syrup Co., printed near the bottom of the package.

Kelly Still Being Entertained.

ST. LOUIS, June 3.—The last heard from Kelly and his navy was at St. Genevieve, Mo., which point he passed yesterday afternoon. Camp was made seven miles below that town. They were kindly and hospitably treated. The city board appointed a committee to meet Kelly's advance guard and furnish provisions for his men.

Cure indigestion and biliousness with DeWitt's Little Early Risers.

THE CLEARING OF A MYSTERY

Remarkable Episode in the Criminal History of California.

THE WORK OF MALICIOUS GOSSIPERS

Bloody Crimes Charged Against a Ranchman Proven False by the Discovery of the Persons Said to Have Been Murdered—A Strange Story.

One of the most remarkable episodes in the criminal history of California came to an abrupt and satisfactory conclusion a few days ago.

Near the town of Yreka, in Siskiyou county, resides George Decker. Gossiping neighbors hinted that he was a fiend in human form. Although a resident of the neighborhood for thirty years or more, pursuing his daily duties as a rancher unmolested and living the life of a recluse, stories of various crimes alleged to have been committed a generation ago were charged against him. A boy found some bones in a cave. A physician said they were the remains of a woman and babe. A married daughter of George Decker, who was a child twenty-seven years ago, told the district attorney that on the day her father took them all for a drive he led her mother and babe into the woods, screams were heard, and in half an hour her father came back, his hands covered with blood. He drove home with her and her little brother, Benny, and told them that if they ever mentioned their mother's name he would kill them. To the front came another witness, who testified before the grand jury that the document Decker used in securing his divorce was obtained from the wife by force, that he, the witness, entering the Decker home had seen the husband with a whip, and the wife seated at a table had cried, "I'll sign." A man remembered that Decker had told him that his first wife died at sea. A score of people recalled that Decker had not slept alone for twenty years because of fear. A woman told how he screamed at an apparition. An old nurse testified to having seen finger marks on the neck of a baby that had died of strangulation. Witness testified that he would allow no one to visit the bedside of his second wife, but removed her to a strange town. Then San Rafael added to the chain of evidence. Persons there vouched that Mrs. Decker No. 2 had accused her husband of murder with her dying breath; that he had sent her medicine and delicacies, after pertaking of which she became worse. The body, they said, was not embalmed there. Then Yreka took up the story again and told how this corpse had arrived with the stomach missing.

And with each allegation there was a motive coupled. He had killed his first wife that he might marry his second; he had killed the second to secure her property. Children and grandchildren had been murdered either because they knew of his "crimes" or stood in the way of securing that which he coveted.

After being arrested and thrown into jail a fellow prisoner added to the suspicion by declaring that Decker called out to his God at night and cried aloud that ghosts were haunting him.

The district attorney of the county said that evidence seemed conclusive, the grand jury was ready to return an indictment, probably a number of them.

Up to that time—May 14—Decker had no defense. Enough evidence to warrant the hanging of the man had been secured, so lawyers in that town said. The bodies of victims had been found. A relative had connected their disappearance with the prisoner, and the motive was there. In addition the sentiment favored the carrying out of the most severe punishment known in law. One night they came near saving the expense of a trial, and even a woman expressed a desire to "pull on the rope." But Sheriff Walker has much influence in Siskiyou county, and he announced that he would have to be killed before a mob reached Decker.

On the afternoon of May 14 the grand jury announced the prisoner would be given a last chance. He had said that if a certain Benjamin F. Mitchell could be found a new light would be thrown on the mystery. Of course he maintained his innocence of murder, but said he had no idea where his first wife and child were; indeed, he had not heard from them or of them since the separation twenty-seven years ago. So his protestations of innocence, coupled with this assertion, made his case even darker, for it was said that a woman and child couldn't disappear entirely unless they were dead.

Then the San Francisco Examiner undertook the work of clearing the mystery. Telegrams were sent to correspondents in every city in the state, instructing them to locate Ben Mitchell. After three days' search Mitchell was found in Williams, Calusa county, and his identity established. Here, too, was found a domestic, a widow named Nevada Davis, who answered the description of the babe of George Decker, supposed to have been murdered by him. The last link in the chain of innocence was found in the person of a Mrs. Hamilton, who proved to be the mother of Nevada Davis, and Mrs. Decker No. 1.

All these years, twenty-seven in number, Mrs. Decker and Nevada have been living within a radius of 150 miles of Yreka, yet no one in Siskiyou county knew it. When husband and wife separated that day in 1865 they became as dead to one another. The woman thought her husband had gone east or had died. She married again, another Davis, and it was this man's name that Nevada, the child, now bears. He died and then she married a Hamilton. Now she is a pauper supported by Calusa county. She had forgotten all about her first husband and the words of the Examiner correspondent recalling the past at first bore no fruit. Then he touched the cord of motherhood and spoke of the children, the two that had been left behind. That opened the door and memory came in. She recalled her past life and remembered enough to save George Decker from the gallows.

All these years George Decker had thought his wife dead or—well he knew not what. When charged with her murder, all he could say was "Find Ben Mitchell," for the man had no knowledge of his wife. Had she been dead it is doubtful if Ben Mitchell's testimony would have saved Decker, for it would have amounted to little in the scales against the circumstantial evidence at Yreka. And Nevada Davis. It would not have been possible to prove her the babe of a few months who was sent away by her father in 1865—for she remembers nothing.

The woman and babe supposed to have been cruelly murdered by the husband and father were brought to Yreka, and their testimony before the grand jury resulted in the release of Decker.

The case has had enough curious features in the strangely separated family, and the remarkable series of events that has brought them together again, to furnish material to an ambitious novelist. The days of thrilling romance are not altogether in the past.

Free as Air.

Although long and obstinately obstructed, free as air become the bowels when Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is used to relieve and regulate them. Not that the great laxative operates unduly upon them. Quite the contrary. Neither does it cause griping. In both these particulars it is preferable to a violent cathartic. Use the Bitters for malarial and rheumatic ailments, kidney trouble, biliousness, dyspepsia and nervousness.

The Decline of the Lightning Rod.

"What has become of all the lightning rods?" asked a friend of the Buffalo Inquirer. "Have you noticed that of late years you can scarcely find a house in a day's journey which is fitted up with these old-time protections against electric bolts? Why, a few years ago every prosperous farmer would as soon have thought of leaving his stock without water as to neglect protecting his house and barns with lightning rods. Agents coined money traveling around the country in wagons and putting up these contrivances to ward off danger. But their day was soon run. More disasters were created than averted by the use of these so-called protectors. The insulators would become loosened and when the electric fluid began running down the rods instead of being grounded, as was intended, it found an inviting chance to dodge off into the building which the rods were supposed to protect. My old father had the lightning rod business down fine. He never could be persuaded to put one on a house or barn. He used to declare that he'd rather have one good tree in the dooryard as a protection against lightning than to have his house covered with lightning rods."

THEY SHOT TO KILL.

A Fatal Duel the Result of a Remark in Fun to a Pretty Woman.

A pretty Spanish girl sat by the window of her house at El Monte, near Los Angeles, the other evening when a wagon with a number of Mexicans drove by. One of the men, named Juan Orosco, saw the girl. His eyes kindled with admiration and he called to her in Spanish, "Oh, my pretty one." As a consequence to the remark a duel to the death was fought between the pretty girl's husband and the young man and the girl is now a widow. The contest was before witnesses, but surgeons and seconds were omitted.

The wagon had got about a mile away from the house when the sounds of a horse's hoofs were heard, and soon a man was seen to drive up, beating his horse in a vicious manner to increase his speed. The rider of the animal was Garcia, the young woman's husband, and he was gesticulating wildly to the men in the wagon. The wagon was brought to a standstill and Garcia drove up. He berated the men for insulting his wife. The men in the wagon were inclined to regard the matter as a joke, but Garcia was terribly in earnest. He challenged Orosco to get off the wagon and fight him. Orosco, thinking Garcia meant an issue at fisticuffs, jumped from the wagon with alacrity. He was much the younger man and more active and lithe, and as he jumped from the wagon he called to his companions to watch how quickly he would "do" his opponent up.

Scarcely had Orosco gotten a few feet away from the wagon when Garcia pulled a revolver and began shooting at him. Orosco was somewhat dazed at first, but he pulled out a revolver and returned the fire. It is said that Garcia fired four shots and Orosco three, but anyway, after Orosco was through shooting, Garcia was heard to give a cry and fall back in the road. One of the bullets from Orosco's weapon had gone through his head. Orosco was shot through the right hand.

The young Spanish girl, with whom Garcia was living and whom the latter claimed to be his wife, is pretty. She stated that when the wagon passed the house she was sitting at the window, and Orosco was, she noticed, sitting in the rear of the wagon. She said that Orosco spoke to her in Spanish and said: "Oh, you pretty one." She did not respond.

Witnesses stated that when Orosco saw that it was to be a duel a l'outrance he calmly drew his weapon, and, as coolly as if shooting at a mark, making no attempt to protect himself, returned Garcia's fire. Both of the men seemed to understand that one of them must die, and both acted in a straightforward, brave manner. When Garcia fell Orosco expressed his regret, and, with his comrades, drove back to El Monte.

Pills that cure sick headache: DeWitt's Little Early Risers.

MUNICIPAL LEAGUE.

Secretary Describes Plans—Methods of Securing Members—Voters' Pledge.

Rev. Gregory J. Powell, secretary of the Municipal league, says of that organization:

The main purposes of this institution are to awaken the civic patriotism and arouse to their social duties the people of Omaha, to call into an active participation in the affairs of the city its best men, both by their thorough co-operation in the selection and election of good men, and by laying upon good men their responsibility to so serve their city, and by organizing such backing for them that they will be encouraged to take office with the hope of effective service.

Study and oversight will be given to all the affairs and interests of Omaha through the various departments of the league. The plan of the league's organization is patterned closely after the Civic Federation of Chicago, and is in brief as follows:

The central council is the general or city organization and is made up of twenty-seven members at large, and will be increased by two from each ward as fast as they are elected by the ward council. In like manner the ward and precincts are to be organized.

The ward and precinct councils will be instituted by the central council and under its directions. Every one in sympathy with the objects of the league may be a member of his own precinct council.

Those who hold and are candidates for elective municipal offices cannot be members of the ward or central councils.

The league is now fairly organized, with the following members of the central council who have accepted their election:

Central Council—Judge G. W. Doane, Herman Kountze, V. O. Strickler, H. W. Yates, J. H. McCulloch, John A. McShane, Gregory J. Powell, W. A. L. Gibbon, Thomas Kilpatrick, D. Clem Deaver, A. T. Rector, C. A. Starr, Warren Switzler, Howard B. Smith, C. F. Miller, William M. Dodge, Max Meyer, George H. Payne, E. E. Bruce, E. A. Benson, Z. T. Lindsay, Joseph Barker, Dr. Gifford, E. M. Andreesen.

The officers of the league are: Judge G. W. Doane, president; J. H. McCulloch, vice president; Gregory J. Powell, secretary; H. W. Yates, treasurer.

The executive committee is the officers and A. T. Rector, C. A. Starr, E. A. Benson, W. A. L. Gibbon and V. O. Strickler.

Committee on Ways and Means—Herman Kountze, Joseph Barker, John A. McShane, H. W. Yates and E. A. Benson.

Committee on Education—Warren Switzler, Thomas Kilpatrick, Gregory J. Powell, C. A. Starr and D. Clem Deaver.

The other committees and departments will be supplied later.

The executive committee is planning a great public meeting to be held as soon as arrangements can be made for it.

The voters' pledge, here inserted, when signed, is the initial step and entitles to membership in the league. All voters are invited to fill out the blanks and send their names to Rev. Gregory J. Powell, secretary Municipal league. It is hoped by means of this pledge to ascertain very soon those who are in sympathy with, and will co-operate for, good city government. The pledge is:

I pledge myself to endorse for municipal offices only such candidates as I believe to be honest and capable and in sympathy with the principle of absolute separation of municipal from national and state politics, and I also promise to take an active interest in, and attend when possible, all caucuses and primaries of my party.

Name .....
Address .....
Ward ..... Precinct .....

Sweet breath, sweet stomach, sweet temper? Then use DeWitt's Little Early Risers.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Fair Weather and Variable Winds for Nebraska Monday.

WASHINGTON, June 3.—The indications for Monday are:

For Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas—Fair; variable winds.

For South Dakota—Fair; warmer; south winds.

Watchman Foils Burglars.

An attempt was made Saturday night to burglarize the store of the Western Clothing company, 1319 Douglas street.

Block Watchman Fisher had occasion to go through the alley when he noticed a light at a rear window. As the officer approached the light went out and he heard some one scrambling to get away. The place was very dark and he could not see who was there. An examination of the alley and premises by Fisher and Officer Glover revealed a crowbar such as is used to open box cars. Near the crowbar were a couple of loose bricks. The officers then made a further search, and right at the window leading into the basement the iron grating had been removed. Nothing had been taken from the store.

DeWitt's Little Early Risers. Small pills, safe pills, best pills.

Jumped and Broke His Neck.

LONG ISLAND CITY, N. Y., June 3.—The explosion of a lamp early this morning started a fire in a tenement house at 33 Queen street, which was occupied by a number of families. Thomas Brennan was awakened by the flames to find his bedding on fire. He sprang from the second story and his neck was broken. All the other tenants escaped without injury. The building was almost entirely destroyed.

Little pills for great ills: DeWitt's Little Early Risers.

SHORTS SLOWLY COVERING

Wall Street Bears Scent Improvement from Afar Off and Prepare for It.

PASSAGE OF THE TARIFF BILL AT HAND

Reasonable Certainty that it Will Soon Be Enacted is Relieving Restraint—Discussion of the Currency Question Attracts Much Attention.

NEW YORK, June 3.—Henry Clews, head of the banking house of Henry Clews & Co., writes of the situation in Wall street:

"During the past week, notwithstanding the interruption of a holiday, there has been a distinct improvement in the tone of business in Wall street. Its main expression has appeared in the covering of 'shorts,' which has created a demand favorable to prices, while it implies that the 'bears' have discovered symptoms that betoken a coming recovery in the market. The most pessimistic acknowledge that the passage of the tariff bill, viewed as an end of suspense, would have an important effect in the restoration of general confidence; and the present situation of the measure in the senate is generally conceded to be favorable to its final enactment some time during the current month. This view seems to be taken in business circles generally and is having its effect in a more hopeful feeling, though not yet in any marked change in the volume of mercantile transactions. Wall street is quick to perceive this new tendency, and its 'bear' contingent shows its respect for it, and hence the improving tone we are able to record.

"The introduction of the bank note question into the house is attracting much interest in financial circles. Though, for some time, it has been regarded as an impending issue, yet as its introduction at this sitting of congress has not been expected, it has not been counted as a factor affecting immediate interests on the stock exchange. The question, however, is now fairly raised for treatment, and can hardly fail to become an important factor bearing on the future of investments. Its discussion opens with a mere proposal to restore to the state banks their former ability to issue notes under the existing banking laws of the several states, through repealing the existing tax of 10 per cent upon any circulation put out by them; but the bank circulation question is such a broad and burning one that it cannot possibly be treated within this narrow scope. It lies at the basis of any plan of currency that pretends to deal successfully with the inconsistencies, weaknesses and dangers that surround our present monetary arrangements.

PRESENT DISCUSSION'S IMPORTANCE.

"Whether it is sought to keep in check the still remaining drift towards silver inflation, or to defeat the tendency in certain sections towards flat money, or to relieve the national government of the embarrassments growing out of a standing demand indebtedness of $500,000,000—in any of these cases, or for all of them combined, there is no feasible way of accomplishing these objects except through a very material enlargement of the possible issue of bank notes. This will soon be acknowledged to be the real scope and the chief significance of the bank note question; it therefore cannot fail, from this time forward, to attract profound interest in Wall street circles. In view of the great importance of the position which the bank note must in future occupy it becomes a vital question—what shall be its nature, authorization, guarantee, and to what regulation shall it be subject. These are questions not to be lightly disposed of, and their consideration may occupy more time than those now raising them in congress seem to contemplate. Three cardinal questions will center around these points: (1) How far shall federal and state powers respectively be recognized in the construction and administration of the system; (2) shall the guarantee consist of bond collateral, following the precedent of the national bank act, or shall it be provided by pledge of the entire assets of the bank, with special liability of the stockholders added; and (3) what arrangements shall be provided for securing ready, economical and efficient redemption of the notes when their volume is superfluous. So far as this legislation affords a reasonable hope of its providing a wholesome settlement of the currency question, it will prove a most valuable contribution towards the strengthening of confidence in every form of investment.

AUSTRIA IS GETTING THE GOLD.

"The export of gold continues without abatement. It now appears that this extraordinary outflow is chiefly due to the preparations of the Austrian government for the restoration of gold payments, for, although the contracts with bankers for supplying the gold have long been made, it seems that the actual delivery of the metal has been largely deferred until it was required for the act of resumption.

"The various reorganization schemes now in progress will ultimately have an important bearing on the market for the better. At present their progress is slow, because of opposing factions and the depressed condition of railroad traffic. But these are only temporary difficulties, which will quickly disappear with any improvement in business. In this connection it will be well to keep in mind the recent unanimous decision of the supreme court of the United States limiting the power of state railroad commissions and prohibiting them from putting into effect unfair and unprofitable rates. This is one of the most important decisions affecting railroads announced in many years, for some states have been so severe and arbitrary in their restrictions that they practically amounted to confiscation of property, at least so far as profits were concerned. These facts should be remembered by reorganization committees, for the reason that they materially affect the earning of profits by some of the embarrassed roads.

OREGON ELECTION TODAY.

Republicans Confident of Carrying the State and Securing the Legislature.

PORTLAND, Ore., June 3.—Oregon tomorrow will vote for a full state ticket, members of congress and a legislature to choose a successor to Senator Dolph. The republicans have made a thorough canvass of the state during the past six weeks, both in the way of sending out speakers and organizing clubs. The democrats have never had any chance of winning, and have consequently not conducted an aggressive campaign on the state ticket. The populists have not been idle. Governor Pennoyer, who is an avowed candidate for the United States senate, has traversed the state from one end to the other in behalf of the populists, making speeches in almost every county seat. It is believed that the three-cornered contest will result favorably to the republicans, and tonight there seems little doubt that nearly the entire republican state ticket will be elected. The legislature will in all probability be very close. In many counties the democrats and populists have fused on the legislative ticket, and the majority heretofore held by the republicans will surely be reduced, if not overcome.

Hawaii Revived in the House.

WASHINGTON, June 3.—Representative Hitt of Illinois has introduced in the house a resolution on the Hawaiian question similar to that passed by the senate. The resolution was referred to the committee on foreign affairs.

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UPHOLSTERED ROCKERS, finished antique, latest style, worth $6.50. Consignment price	2.58
HALL RACKS, solid oak polish finish, large mirror, usually sells for $12. Consignment price	5.75
LAWN SETTEES, painted, red four feet wide, regular price $3.50. Consignment price	1.69
CHIFFONIERS, extra large size, antique oak, usual price $12.50. Consignment price	6.68
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EASELS, solid oak, polish finish, worth $1.50. Consignment price	42c
CENTER TABLES, solid oak and polish finish, worth $3.50. Consignment price	1.10
PLUSH RECEPTION CHAIRS, oak, finished antique, worth $5. Consignment price	1.95
CHAMBER SUITS, 3 pieces, latest style, large mirror, antique or 16th century finish, worth $30.00. Consignment price	16.90
MRS. POTTS' SAD IRONS, nickle finish, three irons, one handle and stand. Consignment price	64c
ONE LOT BEDROOM SUITS, 3 pieces, finished antique, worth $17.50, consignor says to sell them for	9.10
65 CHENILLE COUCHES, nicely draped, any color, well worth $15.00, consignor allows us to sell for	6.85
140 PARLOR SUITS, five pieces, oak finished antique, mohair crushed plush, worth $50, but the consignor says sell them for	22.50
Over 2000 EXTENSION TABLES, finished antique, latest style, you would say they were cheap at $12.50; they are consigned to sell for	5.75
140 FOLDING BEDS, never retailed for less than $18; if you need one you can get one on account of being consigned for	8.95
356 rolls BRUSSELS CARPET, value $1.00 per yard, consigned to sell for	42½c
204 rolls INGRAINS, latest patterns, full yard wide, regular price 75c, consigned to sell for	39c
1,400 dozen WINDOW SHADES, 7 feet long, best rollers, best cloth, actual value 75c consigned for	23c
865 pairs NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS, full length and width latest style, made to retail for $2.50 consigned to sell for	97c
A lot of GASOLINE STOVES, each one guaranteed worth $6.00. Consignment price	2.78
Good fashionable BABY CARRIAGES, full size, bicycle wheels, cheap at $10. Consignment price	4.87
A big lot of REFRIGERATORS, all modern improvements, well made and worth $13.50. Consignment price	8.45
SOLID OAK SECRETARIES, in antique finish, large writing desk plenty of book room, worth $12.50, the consignor says sell them for	6.98
118 ICE BOXES, lined with best quality zinc, patent locks, hinges best make, worth $7.50. Consignment price	3.78
215 DINNER SETS, best English goods, rich royal blue color, 102 pieces, easily worth $20.00 Consignment price	9.99
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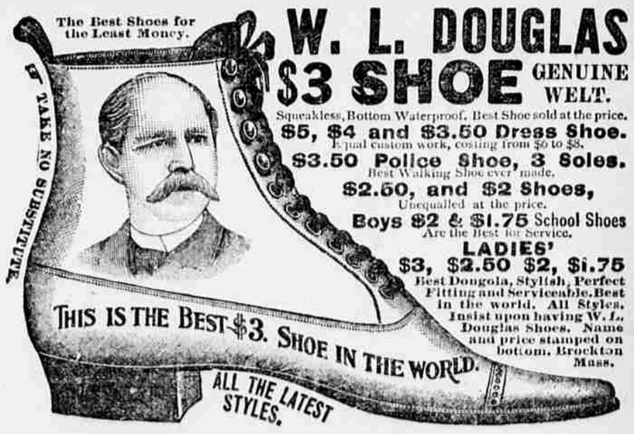

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