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THE PRIZE PLUMES OF CHINA

Significance of the Decorations Bestowed by the Emperor.

YELLOW JACKETS AND PEACOCK FEATHERS

The Garments, Plumes and Presents of Li Hung Chang-Quaint Costumes of the Nobility-Honors and Arches After Death.

(Copyrighted, 1895, by Frank G. Carpenter.) Li Hung Chang has been given back his yellow jacket and his three-eyed peacock feather. The emperor has called him to b Peking and he should by this time be on his is honeycombed. Li Hung Chang is a selfmade man. His father was a poor scholar scratch around and skimp himself in order to pay for Li's education. Li passed the ex-aminations of his own province and those of the district in which he was located, and when he was still in his teens he went to Peking and wrote his essays in the big ex-amination halls there. Seventeen thousand other students of all ages, from 18 to 80, were being examined at the same time, and Li came out the highest. This gave him his start, and he was put on the staff of one of the generals who were acting against the rebels in the famous Taining rebellion. This war occurred in China about the time Franklin Pierce was president. It cost the coun-

try 10,000,000 of lives, and it was largely through Li that it was put down. Li Hung Chang is a diplomat as well as a statesman, and he worked his way up from one position to another until he got to be commander-in-chief. He took Chinese Gordon into his confidence and made him one of his generals. Confidence and made him one of his generals. Gordon drilled the Chinese according to foreign tactics, and together they vanquished the rebels. The re-sult was that Li became the greatest man in China. He was given one big office after an-China. He was given one big office after another until he became only second to the emperor. This is the position which he holds today. He is superintendent of northern trade, and controls the commercial matters of all North China, numbering more than 170,000,000 of people. He is the governor general of the province of Chili, and is practically the secretary of state. He has for years been the chief medium of communication between the Chinese and foreign nations, and he is the most progressive Chinaman in and he is the most progressive Chinaman in the empire. It was he who introduced the telegraph into China, and the wires that run into his palace at Tiensin connect him with every court of Europe and with every part of the United States. He is said to be a very rich man, and his income ranges between \$50,000 and \$100,000 per year. No one knows how much he has made outside of his offices. I heard it said in Tiensin that he was worth \$50,000,000, and on the other hand his friends claim that he is not worth more than \$2,000,-000 or \$3,000,000. Whatever ne has must come from his own idea of his share of the receipts, for the Chinese government pays small salaries and expects the officials to steal the balance

PEACOCK FEATHERS IN CHINA. Li has risen in rank as well as in power. He is now an earl, and when I saw him last summer at a banquet in his palace his head was decorated with a cap, out of the back of which stuck his three-eyed peocock of the greatest things an emperor can give, The and nobles of the highest degree. feather was about two feet long and was fastened to a big cap with a turned-up brim by a great button, which rested on the cen-ter of the crown of the hat, and which was also a mark of high rank. The feather stuck out behind the hat and quivered as Li Hung Chang put his yellow fists together and bowed low in saluting his guests. There re other peacock feathers upon some of the Chinese high officials among the guests, but Li Hung Chang was the only one who had a three-eyed peacock feather. The doubleeved peacock feather is a much lower honor and the single-eyed peacock feather is worn by many ordinary officials, and it is possible buy the right to use it. Even lower than this is what is known as the blue plume or the crow feather. This is conferred as a reward for services upon officials below the xth degree of rank, and is worn by the Imperial guards.

THE YELLOW JACKET. As to the yellow jacket, this is only to be used when the man who has it is in personal attendance upon the emperor in the field of upon journeys. It is a sort of riding cape and it has been awarded to two Europeans, one of whom was General Gordon and the other a Frenchman named Giquel, who estab lished the arsenal at Foo Chow. Li Hung Chang has been getting all sorts of present from the emperor right along. I have before me a list of the gifts which he received on his seventieth birthday. This was about five years ago, and all the officials gave him presents. He had cart loads of silk, a ton or so of gilt scrolls and jewelry and other stuff valued at more than \$1,000,000. Both the emperor and empress dowager sent him valuable presents. The emperor gave him sixteen pleces of costly satin, one dragon robe, an image of Buddha and a lot of autograph proverbs signifying good wishes and good luck. The empress also wrote him a lot of autographs, and gave him a statue of Buddha. donated him twelve pleces of satin and robe which was made of the throat skins of sables, which are in China considered the most valuable of all furs and can only be by the special permission of the thr At another time the emperor gave Li Hung Chang \$10,000, and he has already received more honors than any other Chinaman who has not noble blood in his viens.

THE NOBILITY OF CHINA.

the officials, and it is generally supposed that offices are only given on account of literary merit. The truth is that the best places intriguers. There is no court in the world about which there is so much plotting as that of Peking, and there is none which has so many nobles and officials of different specific properties. many nobles and officials of different nk. The emperor is, of course, at the top. has a court of its own, which holds secret meetings and regulates matters concerning the family. There is a genealogical record kept in Peking and at Mukden, and this con-tains a record of all the branches of the emperor's family. Each of its members has an allowance from the government, but they have not a great deal of power. The emperor is supposed to be supreme, and he can appoint his own successors, choos-ing which of his children shall succeed him. He is supposed to make this selection in secret and the announcement of his choice is not to be made until his death. The present emperor has a and his long gown was of light yellow satin-number of relatives who are known as He took me through his establishment, which princes, and among these is Prince Ching, who is now at the head of the bureau of foreign affairs, and who is said to be someprogressive in his tendencies, es have their own rank, and are twelve different orders of nobility among the members of the imperial house-hold. The highest princes get about \$13,000 a year, and they each have a retinue of 360 servants and an allowance of rations, so that costs the government about \$75,000 a year apiece for them. These highest princes are the brothers or sons of the emperor. Next to them are his majesty's cousins, who get about \$45,000 a year, and the other relatives et less, until the lowest of the imperial noility are paid about \$4 a month and rations in addition to these there are dukes, counts, sarons and marquises, which ranks are con-

Some of the members of the emperor's family are very poor. I was told of a number of princes who live in Peking and who are chronically hard up. I heard of others who delight in going about through the city in disguise, and who do all sorts of curious things. The emperor's father is now dead. He was a great noble, and when he was alive he was a man of considerable influence. The empress dowager has more power than any way to Japan to aid in the settlement of the war. His career shows the ups and downs of Chinese officials, and a look at it will give some idea of the queer ranks and orders also through his wives. She picked out the women who compose his imperial harem, and the heartest of the women who compose his imperial harem, and the heartest of the women who compose his imperial harem, and the heartest of the women who compose his imperial harem, and the heartest of the women who compose his imperial harem, and the heartest of the women who compose his imperial harem, and the heartest of the women who compose his imperial harem, and the least the whole country under her than any other person in the country. She educated the emperor, and she winds him about her finger. He has not yet been able to cut loose from her apron strings, and she governs him also through his wives. she has the whole court under her long-nalled thumb. She is a strong friend of Li Hung in the province of Anhui, and he had to acratch around and skimp himself in order to have for LU's education. Li passed the exlower behind the throne of the Chinese government.

HOW THE NOBLES DRESS.

Every one has heard of the Chinese buttons and how they indicate rank. A great many people, however, have no idea what the official button is. All Chinamen have buttons about as big as a hickory nut on the tops of their skull caps, and in the case of the common people these buttons are made out of blue or red silk thread, and when a man goes into mourning they are white silk. The average common cap is of the finest black satin, and it surprised me to find that the shapes of these caps change from year to year, and that last year's block is not the proper shape for this year. The Chinese are as particular about the cut of their clothes as we are. They have their favorite colors, and there are just as many dudes and 1329, dandles in Peking and Canton as there are in New York and Washington. The official button is about three times as large as the ordinary silk button. It is about as big as the largest buckeye and its color and matethe Russian navy. These war vessels will be rial indicate the rank of the wearer. It stands straight up on the crown of the cap and it sometimes fastens on the peacock the value of this fuel before other vessels are feather. The highest button is of dark red coral. Members of the second class of nobility wear a coral ball of light red. The third class have a button of light blue, and the fourth of dark blue. A noble or official of the fifth class wears a ball of crystal, and a mandarin of the sixth class has a little round ball made of mother-of-pearl on the top of his cap. Below these come the mandarins of the seventh and eighth classes, who wear big marbles of gold, and members of the ninth class, who have their hats decorated with silver balls.

These official caps or hats fit close to the

head, and have brims which are turned up all around, and extend as high up as the top of the cap. The caps are of black beaver, and they are usually covered with a red silk tassel, which begins at the button and runs out to the edges of the top. The laws provide as to the kind of a hat an official must wear, and his dress is regulated by the statutes. The sleeves of all offi-cials must be very long and come down over the hands, and whenever the nobles and officials call on the emperor they must not have their sleeves rolled up. The idea is that no man can fight well with his arms enveloped in bags, and a would-be assassin, when he is compelled to come in upon feather. This last is even a greater dis-tinction than the yellow jacket. It is one for a foot beyond his hands, would require some time to prepare for action.

DRAGON GOWNS. The laws provide that certain colors shall not be worn by common people, and only the highest nobles and the emperor can wear dresses embroidered with the five-clawed dresses embroidered with the five-clawed dragon. A great many of the officials have their gowns embroidered with dragons, and you can tell the rank of a man by the number of gold dragons he has on his gown, but these dragons must be four-clawed dragon and not five. The laws regulate the length of the gowns. They state how the sleeves must be cut and the number of buttons that an official must use on his underclothes. Their cuffs must be cut in the shape of a horse's hoof, and the man who understands Chinese can tell just how high an official is and what he is by his clothes. Every high noble and many of the officials as well wears a square of embroidery on his breast and his back. This is made of gold or silver thread, and a stork embroidered on a man's breast shows that he is of the first rank, while if the bird be a pheasant, its wearer must be of the second rank. For the other ranks there are peacocks, wild geese and Each of these squares is about the quail. size of a lady's pocket handkerchief, and the work is beautifully done. The military officers have their breasts embroidered in the same way, but they use beasts instead of birds, and lions, tigers and dragons take the places of the quails and the storks. UMBRELLAS ON THE BATTLE FIELD.

One of the funniest things in the eyes of the foreigners during this war has been the fact that the Chinese generals carried um-brellas and fans when they went into battle. This is also a matter of law. Each officer has his own rank, and this is indicated by the number of umbrellas and banners which are carried in front of him when he goes out to ride. Even the smallers mandaring whom I saw going through a Chinese city had one or more dirty red umbrellas carried on a high pole in front of them, while a Falstaff s army of servants carried red banners upon ing their titles. An officer of the first rank has the right to two fans, and every great man as he goes through the country has men in front of him who beat gongs to the common people to get out of the way. These umbrellas and banners are always in red. The fans are of the same color, and officials have carried fans in China from remotest antiquity. It is impossible to enumerate the little things which indicate Few people have any idea of the nobility of China. The country is divided up among official rank in China. has to be just so, and eigner who tries to go about the in style is rank. The emperor is, of course, at the top.
He is the son of heaven, and is supposed to hold communion with the gods. All of his relatives are nobles, and the imperial clan nobles have dragon heads, and below thes come heads of lions, while common citizens must have the ends of the poles perfectly plain. The winter dress of these officials is different from their summer dress, and one of the Tautois of the Hunan province whom I saw had on an official coat lined with fur, while his official boots were of black broadcloth, with soles of white wood fully two inches thick. I met a Chinese noble at Nanking and took a photograph of him. He had on a black fur cap, with a peacock feather sticking out of its back. His blue slik jacket was fastened with buttons of gold and his long gown was of light yellow satin was made up of a number of houses sur

rounding courts.

In one of these courts the family furwere hung out for airing, and there were hundreds of fur-lined garments of all kinds, some of which must have been worth several hundred dollars apiece. One of these big officials always has a lot of lackeys about him, and there is a world of pomp connected with each one of them. In every town there are government offices which are known as Yamens, and the government clerks and subordinates are called Yamen runners. The number of these officeholders are legion, and the office seekers are found everywhere by the thou-sands. Foo Chow contains half a million people, and I have heard it estimated that it had 25,000 men who held office, though a large number of them were probably conferred by the emperor and not a few of which a large number of them were probably con-bre sold. The Manchus or Tartars have a nected with the government of the province

nobility, and the different ranks are confer- in which Foo Chow is located. Supposing red upon the Chinese, as well as the Tar-tars. The empress must be a pure Tartar or to have a family of five, this would make and all the ladies of the imperial harem are a total of 125,000 people to be supported in

tars. The empress must be a pure Tartar and all the ladies of the imperial harem are of Manchu blood. It is not necessary that they be of royal blood, and a pretty Tartar girl, even though her father be a plowman, has a chance of getting into the palace. The mother of the Emperor Hien-Fung was a keeper of a fruit store. She was very beautiful, and one day the prime minister saw her and took her into the palace. She was taken up by the emperor and made his favorite concubine, and in due time became mother of the succeeding emperor.

Some QUEER PRINCES.

Some of the members of the emperor's family are very poor. I was told of a number of princes who live in Peking and who are chronically hard up. I heard of others who as medicine to their dying friends have been

Frank G. Carpenter INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

Americans pay \$10,000,000 a year for pea-

The clothing of the women of the sultan Turkey costs \$7,500,000 a year, so it is said. The entire circulation of the newspaper press of the world is estimated at 19,790,000,-00 copies, and there exists one journal for every 82,600 inhabitants.

Phonographic clocks, which verbally announce the hours of the day, are made in Germany, You can get a clock that will speak in any of the modern languages. In Holland railroad managers are held to a strict personal responsibility for the safety

cidents are rare, and an average of only one death a year results from them. The manufacture of razors by machinery has now become a fixed fact in Germany, and the quality of the article is said to compare favorably with the best Sheffield product, the process being also applicable to scissors mak-

of their passengers. As a result, railroad ac

The title of doctor was invented for the the title of doctor was invented for the especial benefit of the learned Inernius of the twelfth century. The title was conferred by the University of Bologna. The first doctor of medicine was William Gordenio, who received the title from the college at Asti is

By a recent order of the Russian admiralty petroleum will be tried as a fuel under the boilers of the two new armored cruisers, Rostislaff and Rossia, now being built for the Russian navy. These war vessels will be the first to be supplied with petroleum fur-

The effect on labor of the introduction of new machinery forms a chapter in the report of the labor commissioner of New York. According to his estimates the number of men employed as carpenters in New York has been decreased 15 per cent by new ma-chinery, the number of buttonhole makers 50 per cent, of shirt makers 33 per cent, of bakers and confectioners 20 per cent, of furniture workers 35 per cent, printers 41 per cent, typefounders 50 per cent, silk ribbon weavers 40 per cent, wood carvers 62 per cent. Against such decreases caused by new machinery are shown increases ranging from 2 to 33 per cent in the number of employed plumbers, gasfitters, plano makers, plate printers, pressmen and press feeders, con-ductors, motormen, hostlers and embroiderers. There is a new button made, apparently of

wisted wire, with a large stone ball in the

center.

An establishment is now in operation a ipswich, England, where, by means of the newly devised process for the treatment of gold and silver ores, over 95 per cent of the assay value is recovered. The plant comprises one eighteen-horse power engine, five-stamp battery, four-horse power dynamo, electrical amalgamator, pan and settler. The only chemical necessary is a solution of com-mon salt of one-half per cent strength, which is fed into the battery with the ore; the the negative pole; in this way gold is in a finely divided condition, and is chloridized and afterward deposited in the quicksliver.

The sulphides and chlorides of silver are decomposed by the sodium and hydrogen for the condition of the condi ing chlorine at the positive pole, and forming at the negative pole, and the silver is thus liberated in contact with the quicksilver and amalgamated. The process is capable of treating auriferous pyrites and sulphureted silver ores without previous roasting. From the battery a spout carries the pulverized ore and salt solution into a vertical steel cylinder, inside of which is a revolving carbon shaft and a quantity of quicksilver; the pulp passes from this to a revolving horizontal cylinder, and thence to the pan and settler, nearly all the mineral that has es-caped from the cylinders being recovered in

A Slight Mistake. A joke is told on one of our brigadiers, which deserves immortality, eays Life. Brigadjer General Spinola early in the war was stationed in North Carolina, with a brigade under him, and as he was one of those mushroom commanders whom the stress of civil war had called up from civil life, he naturally enough intrusted the routine duty and drilling of the brigade to a major detailed for the purpose. One day Spinola's superior in command made an inspection, after which he bluntly told the brigadier that the men were not sufficiently up in tactics and manual. Spinola summoned the major and questioned him, hinted that he was not doing his duty, and finally, as a test question, asked him if, in the event of a fight, the brigade should capture a number of prisoners, what he would do with them?

The major replied to the effect that he would get them to the rear, and, if possible, to Washington. "There you are all wrong. This book, handing him Scott's 'Infantry Tactics,'

that 'prisoners should be placed fifty paces upon the right—in front.'" The major protested against this, and finally, urged by his superior, took the volume to his quarters to read. The next morning he met the general and stated that nowhere in the volume could he

find it laid down that prisoners should be on the right. The general impatiently seized the volume and pounced upon a passage which he read to himself, and looked up with a puzzled air, ejaculating: -, it is pioneers!"

Crossing City Hall park one day a New

York Sun reporter saw an Italian boy suddenly fall flat on his back on the pavement. Several companions instantly knelt by his side, some slapping the palms of his hands, some rubbing his face. They were all laughing very much, and after a minute or two of this work the boy rose and in two or three more minutes repeated the game, this time all being serious, especially so when they noticed that the same man was watching

The boys who were doing the slapping and rubbing looked out from under their tan-gle of hair and grinned at the reporter, a little at first, and then became serious again "What is the game?" the reporter asked a newsboy who was also watching. "Dem kids is pract'sin' a fake," he re

"A fake?" "Sure, having fits t' work guys. Any old guy takes pity on a kid wid de fits and gives him a nickel. See?"

Private Mints.

There is, of course, quite as great temptation to coin privately American silver dollars as the Spanish peseta, of which 24 .-000,000 are reported to have been put in circulation from private mints. The American inventor of a machine for casting jewelry the matrix by casting several silver dollars, and the result was a coin that seemingly differed in no way from the minted silver dollar save slightly in the ring. The inventor asserted that the casting of a dollar would give a profit of nearly 100 per cent.

BEFORE GRANT WON HIS STARS

The Commander of All the Armies Began His War Service as a Petty Clerk.

CHAPTER NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED

In Four States He Begged for Military Em ployment Only to Be Refused-Poorly Clad and of Meagre Purse He Was Disdained.

(Copyrighted 1895.) We know with a good deal of detail the story of Grant's successes from the time of part of his career, which was uneventfully to do. Suppose you go and see him contained in the few months prior to the outbreak of the civil war and a few weeks after, or until he received his colonelcy, is so

little known that all that can be said of it many times, who went with him to the meet-ing called by the citizens of Galena in answer to Lincoln's proclamation, who had him as a companion from Galena to the Illinois capital, and as his room-mate while Grant was there desperately struggling to gain an entrance into the service, is now living, and entrance into the service, is now living, and can recall those times with vividness. He is General Augustus L. Chetlain, now living in Chicago, known to every member of the Loyal Legion of the United States not only a fighter who knew no fear, although in was the case of the legion of the United States not only a fighter who knew no fear, although in the legion of the United States not only a fighter who knew no fear, although in the legion of the United States not only a legion of many battles, and as the man who was the intimate of Grant in the days when he had few intimates. General Chetlain's ability to speak with truth of Grant in those early



GRANT IN 1863.

is maintained by Colonel Fred D Grant, who said, in answer to a question, "Oh, yes, I know General Chetlain very well, and he was the intimate and faithful friend of my father in the early days of the war."

It is from General Chetlain in the main that this narrative has been obtained, although his precise language is not followed and some of the incidents narrated were collected from other sources of information. CLERK AT \$75 A MONTH.

Captain Grant went to Galena to serve his father as a clerk in the leather store and tannery of J. D. Grant & Co. He gladly accepted such employment a year or two beoutbreak of the electrical current decomposes the salt, liberat- at first \$40 a month, and his pay was afterward raised to \$75. He hired a little cottage, still standing, and paid \$12 a month rent,

Upon stormy days or times when customers were few and idle moments plenty, the young men used to go into the tanner's store, and there they often found young Captain Grant seated upon the counter sometimes, with an old gray coat that cost \$5 on his shoulders, a very rusty felt hat upon his head, and a short pipe in his mouth. He was known also as a clerk who had no special fondness for the counter or for hides, but who would rather sit and chat than sell goods or take

DECLINES A CAPTAINCY. When Lincoln's proclamation calling fo 75,000 volunteers was published he presided at a public meeting at Galena, and was the ost important man in the enlisting company volunteers there. It was the general desire to make him captain of the company but this he declined, and Mr. Chetlain was chosen captain instead. In conversation with Captain Chetlain, just after the company as organized, Captain Grant said: to over-estimate my abilities, don't think I do when I say that I feel that my education at West Point and my service in the army have qualified me to take the clonelcy of a regiment. I feel pretty sure hat I could command a regiment creditably chough, and I suppose that I have a share of military pride which causes me to feel justified in asking the governor to give me

regiment, and I'm going to do it.

GOES TO SPRINGFIELD. On the day that the Galena company was to depart for the state capital patriotic en-thusiasm was most gloriously stirred in that town. The company in its new uniform par-raded the principal streets and then turned toward the railway station. As it was pass leather store of J. D. Grant & Co. Captain Chetlain saw standing in the door-way a short, slender young man, with a rusty \$5 overcoat concealing his well-worn and coarse suit of clothes. Upon his head was the familiar and faded soft felt hat, in his mouth was a short pipe, from which at frequent intervals great puffs of smoke were flercely blown. The captain's eye fell upon an old-fashioned traveling bag made of car-pet, one of those which justified the early name of carpet-bag, a well known and ancient relic of domestic service, and this the man who stood in the doorway of J. D. Grant's leather shop was carrying. Captain Chet lain nodded and received in reply a recognition which was half military salute and half a friendly sign. When the company had passed the young man stepped from the doorway, fell in behind and marched almost like a servant at the rear of the company, bearing his faded carpet-bag and still smok ing his pipe. COLD RECEPTION ON ALL SIDES

Captain Grant carried with him to Springfield nothing excepting the change of linen which was contained in the old carpet bag and a letter of introduction to Governor Yates, written by Elihu D. Washburne, then a member of congress from the Galena dis-The capital was in turmoil. uniformed volunteer officers were proud to display their buttons and their activity.

Two or three days after the Galena con pany reached Springfield Captain Chetlain had some business which called him to the capitol. As he walked down the corridor he saw a man sitting upon a bench smoking a pips and looking almost the picture of de-spair. The gayly dressed young soldiers brushed by, some of them turning for an nstant to glance at this man, who seemed almost like an outcast, so strong was the between his appearance and theirs. Captain Chetlain recognized him, although he had not seen him for a day or two, and going up to him said: "Why, captain, what are you doing here?"
"Well, I am trying to get my letter of

introduction to Governor Yates, and I have been waiting so long that I don't know as it will be of any use. However, I am going to stay here until the building closes." can inventor of a machine for casting jewelry captain Chetiain saw that Grant was a undertook to demonstrate the excellence of little despondent, and suggested to him that the governor was very busy, but that he

luction from Mr. Washburne to the governor, and after a while this messenger re-turned, saying that the governor would see Captain Grant as soon as he had leisure. The governor must have been very busy, for leisure did not come until another hour of two had passed. Grant went into the governor's room with what seemed to be almost a timid manner, and the governor, casting a quick glance at him, and perceiving that he was coarsely dressed and also sky, clearly made up his mind that he would make the interview a short one. So he said: "Ah, you are Captain Grant. What can I do for you?"

"Well, governor. I have come to see if I can be of any service to you, and I hope that by and by you will be able to give me a commission." He added that he was willing to do anything that would help the governor in those trying times, and then very briefly alluded to his experience as an officer n the regular army.

When he had finished Governor Yates said:
"Well, I don't know that there is anything Belmont to the day when he delivered over the white house to his successor. But the may have something that he can give you SECURES A PETTY CLERKSHIP.

Upon him the adjutant general also put the critical eye, and seemed like all the others to be disposed to measure this unassuming man by his clothes rather than by his rec by almost everyone is that it was a period and his intelligence. He, too, said to Capof trial, of hard luck, and, at times, almost tain Grant: "Well, I don't know as there is of despair. It is possible, however, now to anything you can do to help us. We are give something of detailed narrative of that pretty well organized. Hold on, you must time, because one who was near Grant in of such reports as we make up; you certainly know how to rule blanks for the making ou Galena, who saw him in the tanner's store learned how to do that when you were in the army.

"Oh, yes," replied Captain Grant, "I know how those blanks should be ruled." "Well, you see," continued the adjutan-The department at Washington cannot for

was not permitted to have a desk in the great room where the subordinates of the ad jutant general's office worked. In that room were handsome desks, convenient furniture comfortable carpet, and, in fact, it was a well appointed office. Just outside of it was a little ante room. The floor was bare. Its furniture was a plain table and a hard bot tomed chair. There they put Captain Gran and set him to work ruling blanks, and thus in that almost menial work of ruling blanks he who was a few years later to rule the na tion began his formal service in the war. A sion to go to the adjutant general's office and to get there he must pass as every one did, through the little ante room. He say he thought was a familiar figure "What are you doing, captain?" said Chet

"Oh, I'm ruling blanks and some othe work upon minor reports, such as any clerk can do. I can't do it any longer. There's no place for me here, no chance, and I'm going back to Galena." "No, I would not do that, captain," cried Chetlain; "be patient. Everything is in turmoil here. Even if you give up this work, don't go back to Galena. I am sure some

chance will come for you very soon. Saying nothing, Grant turned back to his work. That evening he met Captain Chetlain and told him that he had decided to remain a little while longer, but that he had got to practice the strictest economy in order to support himself. Then he made a suggestion. Said he:
"I can't live at the hotel any longer; it

costs too much. But I have found a room right across the street. It is of good size and has a double bed in it. The price is \$3 week. Now, if you will come and share the room, it will cost us only a dollar and a half a week apiece and we can get out meals where we can find them."

GRANT'S MONEY GIVES OUT aptain Chetlain agree Grant must have lived very plainly at that time. He did not complain, but there is some reason to believe that he now and then skipped a meal, and when he did eat he bought the plainest food. He went to the state capital every day, and returned every evening more and more despondent. Twice he decided to go to Galena. Once he determined to go by the next train, and it was only after the most urgent pleading of Chetlain that he changed his mind and decided

remain a few days longer. At last one day he came to Captain Chetin camp and said to him: asked me to go down to Mattoon and look after a regiment which is going into camp there," and then he also confessed that his oney had so completely given out that he would be unable to take the trip unless some friend would advance him no more than \$15. That little sum was found, and Grant went down to Mattoon and spent a day or two with the new regiment, giving its officers such advantage as his own experience enabled him to do. He returned to Springfield and again there was a time of delay. But after a little, owing to some disappointment or inefficiency somewhere, it was found neces-sary to send some one competent to do the work to Mattoon again to muster that regiment in, and Captain Grant was sent upon that service. He came back from Mattoon eeling somewhat encouraged, but found that his service had entitled him to no recogni-

GRANT'S SERVICES DECLINED. Thinking that there might be an oppor turity in St. Louis, he went there, and al-though he met one or two old army comrades and even rode with them when they were sent out to disperse a hostile demonstra-tion, nevertheless he found no encouragement that Missouri would accept his services. Re-turning to Springfield, and again almost determined to go to his home, he happened to think of McClelland, who was then in Cincinnati preparing to leave for the front. But in Cincinnati he faced the same indifference and bad luck. McClellan had just gone to Washington, but his brilliantly uniformed staff were in and about the hotel, and there was no offer of comradeship when Captain Grant timidly introduced himself to two or three of them. There was nothing to do but to return to Springfield, and on his way to return to Springleid, and on his way thither he stopped over for a day at Indian-apolis, thinking that perhaps his services might be accepted by Governor Morton. A few hours there showed him plainly that the political colonels and political influences were quite as strong in Indiana as they were in Illinois. Then his mind was made up. He went to Springfield, bade Captain Chetlain odby, and then returned a despondent man to his home in Galena, believing that, for the time at least, there was no chance for an obscure military man, since the politicians were making the officers for the regiments and brigades.

A COLONEL AT LAST. The opportunity came more quickly than he expected. He had sown good seed at Mattoon. The ability, energy and thorough understanding of himself and his duties which he displayed when mustering in the Twenty-first regiment of Illinois volunteers made a deep impression upon some of the officers and many of the men. For some reason the first appointed colonel of that regiment resigned, and at that time the officers of a regiment had the privilege of designat-ing by vote their wishes as to the colonelcy. These officers met, and among them was a Captain Patterson, who afterward was an able judge in one of the Illinois districts. During the discussion Captain Patterson suggested that they vote for the election of that Captain Grant, who had mustered the regi-ment in, and the idea was received with instant favor. A vote was taken and the proposition was carried, and a petition setting forth these facts was sent to Governor Yates A few days later Captain Grant, sitting in his father's leather store, received a tele gram from Governor Yates asking him if he would accept an appointment as colonel of the Twenty-first regiment. Accept the appoint-ment! Would an eagle fly if it had the chance? Grant telegraphed back instantly

ent. Yet Grant was not freed from humilia-tion. He had been unable to procure any better clothes than those which he were when he first went to Springfield, and while those served him well enough, having upon the shoulders of his coat the straps which were the only indications of his authority, when

his discipline was immediately made appar-

he was drilling the regiment, yet of course he could not appear upon dress parade unless in full uniform, and he did not possess the money to buy a uniform, a sword or a horse Therefore for more than two weeks he left to Lieutenant Colonel Alexander the duty of appearing upon dress parade, no man in that regiment then knowing that the only reason why he himself did not take command was because his clothing would not permit him

to do so.

In that emergency Colonel Grant wrote his father and asked for the lean of \$100, the money to be used in buying uniform, sword and horse. Colonel Grant's father did not and horse. Colonel Grant's father and not see his way clear to advance him this money, but "Ulyss." as he was always known in the store, had a good friend in the Junior partner of the house, Mr. Collins. He knew of this request for a loan, and he procured the money at the bank, sent it to Colonel Grant, not even indicating at the time that it was sent by the junior partner and not by the father. In the enclosure containing the draft for \$400 was a promissory note, put in draft for \$400 was a promissory note, put in out of motives of delicacy, so that Colonel Grant would feel that he had borrowed the money, whereas Mr. Collins looked upon that sum as a contribution to the cause of the union. With a part of the money Colonel Grant bought the famous yellow which became afterward known as horse Claybank," and as soon as he could have the uniform made he appeared upon dress

SPEED OF TYPEWRITERS.

Inman Capacity Cannot Attain the Top Speed of the Leading Machines. The speed of typewriters is a vexed and much discussed question, says the New York Sun. A few years ago manufacturers used to get up contests to test the speed of the various machines. The competition grew very keen, and the number of words written in a minute became so high (about 150) that a record was established. Then, as the un-successful machines were hurt more than the successful ones were benefited, the race was dropped, as the game was not worth the candle. As a matter of fact, the only thing settled by such contests was which concern could produce the most expert operator. The races were contests of skill among the oper-ators, and had little, if anything, to do with the actual merit of the machines. Indeed, the only material difference between the leading machines as regards speed is the size of the keyboard or number of keys to be operated. Some have more than seventy or as many keys as there are characters, while others have less than forty, each key actuating several characters that are brought into alignment by shifting the mechanism. Naturally, both systems have adherents, but, owing to the inability of either side to prove any superiority, it may fairly be concluded that no advantage exists.

A truer test than the contests referred to is

to set the several machines on a lathe, and construct a cylinder or barrel similar to that of a music box, which shall depress the several keys required to produce words and sentences, and in that way reach the actual mit to which each would respond by in creasing the speed of rotations of the barrel. This has actually been done, and the result was so far ahead of what is possible for human capacity to perform with the fingers, that there seems no doubt that even the poorst typewriter will respond far beyond the capabilities of any operator.

capabilities of any operator.

Since every machine is capable of more rapidity than the human operator can get out of it, the next point to be considered is the speed an expert operator can keep up for a short space of time. As stated, the limit so far reached is in the neighborhood of 150 words a minute, but it must be understood. words a minute, but it must be understood that this record was made by writing a sentence which had been long practiced. The ular se and practicing it is very simple. The Grant's roommate, and remained with him of letters whose keys are close together, until the company was mustered into the service and joined its regiment. Captain the hands, greatly assists the speed, and the more a particular sentence is practised the more rapidly can it be typewritten. Take the very operator who has shown a speed of, say, 150 words, and get him to write a sentence composed of the same letters, but made up of different words, so that the letters are in a different order, and the speed will fall very materially. The loss may be, perhaps, one third. It is possible for a comparativ povice to practice a well-selected sentence and in a short time reach about the same speed as the expert, but in the case of the novice the speed would fall tremendously on new matter. The strain on the eyes and mind increases with the speed until a point is reached where it cannot be kept up for any length of time, and it is worthy of note that some operators have had the keys blank, without any characters marked, in order to

relieve the strain on the eyes.
In considering the speed of the average operator considerable difficulty is experienced in arriving at any accurate conclusions, owing to the tendency of all operators to put on extra steam when timed or watched. By far the greater part of the work done on type-writers is copying, either from stenogrampic notes or other manuscript, and a fair average

would be below forty words a minute, There is, of course, some time lost in reading from the copy, when no writing is done, and the practice of a good many operators of continually reading over what they have written to see that it is correct. The time required to correct mistakes has been figured as high as 15 per cent of the entire time. Another reason for the tremendous fall in speed is probably the strain on the eyes which are constantly dancing over the characters marked on the keys. This strain should not be underestimated, as the eyes of many operators have been affected by it, and t is further evidenced by the experts, who if they could be brought into the schools it prefer blank keys, so as to avoid the blurring

caused in rapid writing.
It is interesting to note the number of trokes each minute that the hands are capable of, if depressed alternately. More than 700 strokes can be made in a minute, and more than 400 can be performed without undue exertion or effort. Now, taking five strokes to a word (which is about the average), that would mean eighty words in a minute comfortably, and after making due allowance for the time occupied in entering the paper and returning the paper carriage after regular officer, acting under the direction of paper and returning the paper carriage and each line, it would still be about double what is done ordinarily on a typewriter. The police powers and be required to make a regular canvass of the city during the next regular canvas can be considered to the city during the next regular canvas can be considered to the city during the next regular canvas can be considered to the city during the next regular canvas can be considered to the city during the next regular canvas can be considered to the city during the next regular canvas can be considered to the city during the city during the next regular canvas can be considered to the city during th is done ordinarily on a typewriter, the fault for the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the fault for the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the fault for the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss fault for the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss fault for the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss fault for the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of the loss of speed appears to lie in regular canvass of the city ouring the loss of the loss that could be readily memorized the eyes great extent by the regular police, but it would be relieved and the speed increased especially in copying, when the eyes could be kept on the copy and would not have to keep shifting them from the keys to the Such a keyboard would necessarily have to be compact, and with a very limited number of keys, but for that very reason of the hands required to select the required key. If, furthermore, such a keyboard could allow an alternate motion of the hands without deviation, the speed would be increased without extra exertion. Then, concerning the mistakes that occur from depressing the wrong key, and which are realized the instant they are made, but too late to avoid the wrong impression, they could be partially avoided if the printing did not occur till the next depression. That would mean that the machine would always be one letter be It may be that the typewriting machine

has reached its highest perfection, but in view of these facts it seems strange that there has been no radical improvement for fifteen years.

She Sigh d. Indianapolis Journal: She sighed.

and been looking into the mirror, but still ne sighed.
"Yes," she admitted, "I have reached the age when I must expect to stand up in a crowded car. I can neither get a seat on

account of my youthful beauty nor by reason of my helpless old age." The sting of a bee, when compared with that he would gladly command the regi-ment, and as soon as possible went again to microscope, is hardly discernible. The point Springfield. He received his commission and of the needle appears to be about an inch in joined the regiment, and the firm impulse of diameter.

GROWING GERMS OF CRIME

Contention that Many Children Are Kept Out of School.

EMEDY THAT IS SUGGESTED FOR THE EVIL

superintendent Marble and Chief of Police Seavey Go Upon the Theory that Compulsory Education is a Failure Under the Present System.

Compulsory education is a dead letter in Omaha. This is the opinion that Dr. Marble has formed since he assumed the superinendency of the local schools, and the returns of the school census, as compared with the registration in the schools, indicate that his position is correct.

While the school age in Nebraska is from 5 to 21 years, the law makes school attendance compulsory on children whose ages range from 8 to 14 years.. The last school census shows that there are 12,800 children in Omaha who come in the latter class, though only 7,000 are registered as pupils in the public schools. This shows that nearly half of the Omaha children who, under the law, should be compelled to attend school never see the inside of a school building. A few of these children are attending private schools, but these constitute only a small proportion, as compared with those who are receiving no instruction whatever. The conreceiving no instruction whatever, clusion is that the majority are growing up clusion is that the majority are growing up street, preparing themselves to criminals rather than educated and honorable

citizens.
Dr. Marble expresses surprise that this condition of affairs has not received more attention. Nearly one-half the children, he declares, are neglecting the benefits of a public school education and no effort is being made to apply a remedy. wonder, he thinks, that the records of the police court are encumbered with criminal cases in which the defendants are only chil-

dren, who had been taught in their life on the street to steal and beg.

A large percentage of the petty thieving in Omaha during the past few years has been by boys between the ages of 12 and 20. Several organized gangs of these young culprits have been by the past few years has been by boys between the ages of 12 and 20. culprits have been broken up by the police after they had successfully evaded detection for several months. Some of these boys have been reclaimed, but others have been sent to the reform school, where their continued association with criminals will be likely to complete the education which they began when they should have been in receiving an education of a far different

A REMEDY SUGGESTED. As to what methods may be adopted to remedy the existing situation there is some difference of opinion. There is a legal question involved and some difficulty would be encountered by reason of the insufficient information afforded by the school census. The list submitted by the census takers shows the names of all children of school age in the city, but as they are taken at random, it would be impracticable to hunt out names of those who are not in school. It has been suggested by Secretary Gillan that in the future the census takers be provided with cards, each of which shall contain the names of all the children of one family. The cards may then be arranged alphabetically and an alphabetical list will be obtainable, through which it would be easy to ascertain just which children were in school by com-paring it with the registration list.

Either this or some similar scheme will no doubt be adopted when the next census is taken, but in the meantime Dr. Marble is considering some means of immediate action. He favors the idea of having a truant officer appointed by the Board of Education whose duty it shall be to look up all children be-tween the ages of 8 and 14 who are not in school and see that their attendance is se-cured. He is also considering the advisability of asking the police authorities to instruct the patrolmen to report the names of all children not in school, who may come under their notice.

Just what powers the Board of Education has to compel attendance under the present law is a debatable question. The statute de-clares that children between the ages of 8 and 14 years shall be compelled to attend school for at least twelve weeks during each year, and it provides that each parent or guardian who shall neglect to comply with this provision may be fined from \$10 to \$50 for each offense. Nothing is said as to the manner in which the law shall be enforced, and no provision is made for the appointment of a truant officer, as is provided for in the statutes of many of the eastern states IDLENESS THE MOTHER OF CRIME.

A bill was introduced by Representative

Sutton of this county at the present session of the legislature which more clearly provided for this emergency. It was introduced at the united solicitation of the four educational societies of Nebraska, but was neverquently whatever is done will have to be within the contemplations of the old law. Chief of Police Seavey was asked what he thought of the idea of securing a more gen-eral attendance of children in the public schools, and he became at once an enthusiastic advocate. That idleness was mother of crime was the experience of every police officer, and this was especially true in the case of children. The idle boys who were allowed to grow up in the streets were a great source of trouble to the police, and of the present, as well as the future genera-

tion.

Chief Seavey was not in favor of the plan of having the patrolmen attend to the matter. The question was a delicate one when it was connected with the police department, and if should try to interfere with the children of a citizen of a certain other religious tendency there would be a protest from the start. would not be advisable to have the men take any open part in the matter.

Detroit Free Press: It isn't what we think we are that other people think we are. It ign't always the man who has money who has a smiling countenance; it's the man who wants to borrow it.

It is easier to be polite to our creditors than t is to our debtors. There is not a wide margin between saying mean thing and doing a mean thing.

A woman sets her mind to do a thing without thinking whether other people's minds are set that way or not. So few women are great geniuses because so many women are so nearly that. Some men would rather not pray than to have their trousers bag at the knees.

Temptation is the beautiful doorway to a wretched interior. A man will follow a word with a blow, while a woman will follow a blow with a

great many words.

Something more than finite power is needed to prepare mankind for an infinite condition.

Sure Beath to Hair.

The influence of diet on the growth of hair has often been discussed. It has been shown that starchy mixtures, milk and many other foods recognized as being highly tricious, are, in fact, sure death to the growth of hair. Chemical analysis proven that the hair is composed of 5 per cent of sulphur and its ash; of 20 per cent of silicon and 10 per cent of iron and manganese. The foods which contain the larger per cent of the above named elements are meat, oatmeal and graham. "Nations which cat most heat have the most