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Superintendent of Schools Pearse is tility to the limit.

Pulverized rock is said to have been out any effect and it is not probable that New York Pure Food commission. This probably accounts for the weight of some home editions of biscuits.

Women have taken to throwing eggs at the members of the French Chamber of Deputies. With eggs at the present price this smashes the common belief that the French are a frugal people.

he is debating with an editor, any more than the editor can have the last word when he is debating with his better

Omaha is willing to take care of all of South Omaha, Council Bluffs and surrounding towns.

with some proposed changes in its Australlan ballot. In principle the Australian ballot is all right, but in practice it appears to need as frequent tinkering as a wornout watch.

The students of the Colorado School of Mines, who have been out on a strike have agreed to arbitrate, and pending a decision have returned to work. The Colorado school is strictly modern, with its walking delegate and arbitration board.

J. Sterling Morton wants Nebraska to cut the erection of a state building out of Nebraska's part in the Louisiana Purchase exposition. A good idea. No state building can add anything as an advertisement of Nebraska's resources and possibilities.

According to the annual report of the city engineer. Omaha still has twelve and a half miles of streets with remnants of the wooden block era. A year or two more and even this reminiscence of colossal folly and boom-day blindness will be blotted out.

A denial comes from Italy that Prince Victor is coming to this country to secure a wife. If he comes it will be simply to see the country. In spite of this denial, there is no telling what may happen when he meets our American women in their native land.

So far as we can discover, the Lincoln Journal has not yet denounced the municipal administration of its own town for arbitrarily raising salaries all along the line. If this had happened in Omaha that vigilant journal would have thrown seven different kinds of fits.

The call for the primaries and con vention to nominate a republican city ticket for the forthcoming municipal election in South Omaha has been agreed on. It will now be up to the rank and file of South Omaha republicans to see that caudidates are named who really represent the party and who as inside the party.

The industrial commission, which has been investigating the subject, takes a different view of the railroad rate question than the Louisville railroad man who charged all the trouble up to the Interstate Commerce commission. The public will likely coincide with the commission view that the railroad men who make the rates are responsible for rebates to the favored shipper.

PROTECT AGRICULTUBAL SETTLERS. in such a high-handed manner, and with now be had. ask, in the full conviction that they anything which it is to the public interest that they should have. Everybody nopoly of the range,"

There is no question as to the correctthe duty of protecting the agricultural urged. settlers in any plan for leasing public lands and the fact that the bill in congress is defective in this respect should assure its defeat or radical amendment. The importance of the cattle industry is of course recognized by everybody, but it is not necessary to its preservation and encouragement that the agricultural settler should be sacrificed to the demands of the cattle corporations. As the Chronicle well says, the frontier setdone with the ranges until the requirements of agriculture and agricultural settlers are perfectly understood and protected against any possible contingency.

AMERICAN MEAT IN GERMANY. The American consul at Brunswick, Germany, states that the imports of American meat into that country have been reduced since 1898 more than \$5,000,000. There have been no importations of sausage and canned meats since the prohibitory law went into ef- litical plan. fect in 1900 and this, it appears, has tunity to display his marvellous versa- United States. The most earnest protests have been made by these people there for safe keeping, and every cent was to the government, but thus far with- turned over to Mr. Stuefer.

taining. stroy the business of exporting American meat to Germany and indeed it

may be designed for just this purpose. Perhaps the meat producers of that country would profit by this, but it would be very hard on the poorer the unfortunate diseased patients that classes, of whom, however, the governare properly a charge upon it, but it ment seems to take no account. Yet draws the line at caring for the wards such a policy can hardly be very long maintained. Sooner or later the privation of the great body of consumers must be recognized and their protest The Iowa legislature is struggling heeded. Germany does not produce enough meat for her people and it is not probable that her policy of shutting out foreign meats will enable her to do so. When this shall have been demonstrated the government will be com-

pelled to relinquish the restrictions upon

meat importations now in operation.

STRENGTHEN THE INTERSTATE LAW. The Industrial commission, in its final report to congress, urges that the interstate commerce law be revised and strengthened and submits recommendations which will be approved by the supporters of the policy of government regulation of the railroads. The commission has given careful investigation and study to this subject and its conclusion is that the Interstate Commerce commission should be clothed with greater power and material changes made in the law. There should be more stringent regulation regarding the publication of rates, strict adherence to published tariffs required and heavier penalties prescribed with a view to preventing rebates and discrimination. The Interstate Commerce commission should be given a specific grant of power over classification, which would prevent a system now commonly practiced by the railroads. A periodical examination of the accounts of railroad cumpanies is recommended, which might prove useful in preventing rebates. It is true that the system of national bank examinations is not a perfect safeguard

All these recommendations of the industrial commission are wise and should receive the careful attention of congress in connection with the measures for amending the interstate commerce act that have been framed. There is one thing, however, which seems to us to be vitally necessary to the prompt and effective enforcement of the law and that is the creation of a court havcan command strength outside as well ing specific authority in cases arising under the interstate commerce act and whose decisions should be final. There is precedent for such a tribunal in the in the enjoyment of which he should be court of claims. Under present conditions cases appealed to the courts may be prolonged almost indefinitely by the railroad companies and it has not infrequently happened that in this way the purpose of the law has been defeated. One of the earliest reports of await the action of the courts ought to pretty calisthenic drill within walls. the Interstate Commerce commission

against abuses of the national banking

law, but it is not to be doubted that

it has a restraining effect and a like

result would reasonably be expected

from the periodical examination of rall-

that in the management of the public "should be in a measure summary, and domain the one principle to be kept in there must be finality, so far as facts mind is that every foot of land fit for are concerned, in the action of some agricultural purposes should be kept tribunal, leaving only questions of law available for such purposes, and that for review, and these at the instance of the agricultural settler shall be at all the party claiming to be aggrieved." times protected from the aggressions of While it is most desizable that the law the great cattle corporations. No lens- be strengthened as recommended and ing bill, urges that paper, which can be the powers of the commission under it made the slightest hindrance to the ex- enlarged, it appears to us to be equally tension of agriculture should become a important that provision be made for law and adds: "The great cattle cor- more direct and prompt judicial action porations have proceeded on the ranges in cases arising under the law than can

such brutal disregard of the equitable The recommendations of the indusrights of settlers, that the impulse is trial commission will strengthen public always to oppose whatever they may opinion as to the necessity of amending the interstate commerce act. They would make no serious effort to obtain | are a conclusive answer to the contention of some railroad managers that the law is adequate as it stands and knows what they desire. It is the mo- that there is no need of increasing the powers of the Interstate Commerce commission. They should have a decided ness of the Chronicle's view regarding influence favorable to the legislation

#### MR. MESERVE'S DEFENSE.

In an interview published by the Lincoln Journal former Attorney General Smyth, who has volunteered to defend ex-Treasurer J. B. Meserve, recently indicted for embezzling interest collected on deposits of public school funds, is quoted as follows:

We will meet them on the issues. We want an acquittal on the charge and we shall get it. Mr. Meserve is not guilty and tiers are laying the foundations of a we expect to show it. We shall not move civilization infinitely superior to that of to quash the indictment, as has been suga pastoral race and nothing should be gested, but will defend on the merita e the cause.

Mr. Meserve stands charged with appropriating to his own use interest on \$60,000 state funds deposited with the Union Stock Yards National bank of South Omaha, smounting to \$3,000. This indictment was returned without investigating the records of the state. It was returned on information of ex-Bank Examiner McGrew, now connected with an Omaha bank, who gave officer of the South Omaha institution. There was no effort made to secure evidence as to whether or not this interest

the state. That wasn't a part of the po-As to whether or not Mr. Meserve wa worked a special hardship to the poor ing \$60,000 of state funds in a bank that technically guilty of embezzlement by placpeople in Germany, who have been is said not to be a state depository and now in his element. In the role of forced to resort to cheaper meat of a funds that are not authorized to be placed theatrical manager he has an oppor kind not regarded as edible in the in banks, is not in issue. Nothing is said on this subject in the indictment. The money was all returned, if it was placed

The taxpayers of Nebraska who are discovered in baking powder by the the government will soon abandon a deeply concerned in the honest accountpolicy which the agrarian element ing for all public funds will be pleased brought about and will insist upon main- to hear that in the defense of Mr. Meserve no attemy will be made to take This loss in our meat trade with Ger. advantage of tecanicalities or loopholes many is small in comparison with what | that may have been left open by defects will ensue if the intention is carried out in the wording of the indictment. If are decided. In the meantime the comto put into force on April 1 next a law Mr. Meserve can prove that the interest panies are required to file returns, so that requiring that all meats imported into collected by him on the \$60,000 of school Germany shall be examined by an offi- funds placed for safe keeping in the Father Williams is old enough to know that he can't have the last word when cial in that country. This regulation, turned into the state treasury as it was if the suits should go against it. see him acquitted and vindicated. If, however, it turns out that he collected the interest in monthly installments, as charged, and used this money for private purposes, the most successful defense will not clear him in the court of public opinion.

This intimation that the grand jury voted the indictment without investigation and without other proof than hearsay evidence and prompted by political snimus, has no foundation in fact. The grand jury had before it witnesses with whom Mr. Meserve transacted the business and who testified from personal knowledge. The grand jury had ample proof that \$150 was paid to Mr. Meserve at the end of each month for the use of the \$60,000 he had turned over to the bank. This interest was earned on state

money and belonged to the school fund. Why was this interest collected monthly when the interest on state deposits in the regular depository banks is credited quarterly and added to the principal of the deposit? If the \$150 a month was intended to be credited to the state, why should it have been taken out of the bank before the whole deposit was taken out? Why should it not also have been added to the \$60,000 in the bank and allowed to draw interest for the state the same as the \$60. 000? If the \$150 was not taken out by Mr. Meserve for private use why do not the records of the treasury show an entry for \$150 each month? To brush away the indictment the attorneys of Mr. Meserve will have to explain away this divergence from common usage, which points to a deliberate intent to nisappropriate the money.

Under the circumstances it is hardly fair to charge that the grand jury was actuated by political motives rather than tangible proofs to justify its action in voting a bill against Mr. Meserve. The only point on which the grand jury hesitated was the question of jurisdiction raised in Mr. Meserve's behalf by the county attorney, and that doubt was set at rest by a ruling of the court based on the decision of the supreme court in the Bartley case, which Mr. Smyth himself, as one of the prosecutors of Bartley, supported.

In these days when mandamuses and injunctions are flying thick and fast through the air, it might not be inappropriate for the squatters along the railroad extension projected by 'the Elkhorn railroad north of Verdigris to appeal to the courts to compel General Manager Bidwell to establish a town on every quarter section on which the surveyors have set their stakes. This is an inherited right of every American citizen on both sides of the Niobrara river, respected and protected.

Without reference to the merits of the contention over the tax levy, city employes who cannot well afford to have their salaries hung up indefinitely to be provided for in some way without pointed out this difficulty and declared being compelled to hawk assignments of pletely eliminated.

It to be fatal to effective regulation. It their warrants about on the market. The San Francisco Chronicle says was then urged that remedial procedure The city pay roll should be met if a plan to do so can by any way be devised.

> An Iowa police judge has decided that \$25 is about the right penalty to inflict upon a defeated democratic candidate who kicks a democratic editor. Democratic editors in Iowa have trouble enough without being kicked because their candidates are unable to overcome 75,000 republican majority.

The Minnesota Board of Pardons has refused to grant an unconditional pardon to the Youngers to enable one of them to go to Missouri to get married. If Younger still pines for all the comforts of home the Minnesota crop of own automobile. His skill in rounding the ample to meet the emergency.

A new political party has been born in Kansas and the leader, who is to bring the people out of bondage is Moses Gassoway. Just at present the people of Kansas are doing fairly well and no large number of them exhibit symptoms of any desire to follow this Moses into the political wilderness.

### Old Lesson Deep-Rooted.

Washington Star. The forty-four senators who voted against the proposition to increase their salaries merely indicate a desire to remain in public

> Where Was the Money Spent. Philadelphia Ledger.

The appropriation asked for the expenses t senators who attended President Mc-Kinley's funeral is \$6,415. It is asked in a lump sum, probably because an itemized account would not look well in print. How did the senators manage to spend so much money on such a journey?

Baltimore American. Now a state of corruption has been exposed in Buffalo. It is the old story of lower and opportunity leading to temptation, with its extent merely modified by the locality and the amount of the spoils to be looted. The name of the special city afflicted may vary in different exposures, but the system and the methods are the alleged to have been paid was credited to same in all.

#### Salary Grab Snuffed Out.

Philadelphia Record. There was scant courtesy shown in the federal senate to the proposition to iucrease salaries of members of congress by 50 per cent. It was defeated by 44 to 15 when offered as an amendment to the judicial salaries bill. So fades away the nebulous prospect of another salary grabbing scandal in national halls of legis-

#### A Sensible Decision. Buffalo Express.

The commissioner of internal revenue has made a sensible decision in deferring the collection of the federal tax on the undivided profits of banks and trust companies collection may be made if the cases are decided in favor of the government.

#### Peculiar Economic Plea. Indianapolis News,

While we are expending hundreds of millions of deliars to maintain our hold of the Philippines, it is a peculiar economic plea that objects to western irrigation on the ground that it would cost too much. Irrigation would give this country a new tillable area equal to three states like Indiana. The large, intelligent and thrifty population it would support would create trade mands that would amount to more in a year than the requirements of Philippines would amount to in ten. Irrigation is inevitable.

Substantial Fruits of Protection. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

census bureau reports a large in crease in manufactures for 1900 over 1890. The gains were 23 per cent in the amount of wages paid, 25 per cent in the number of wage earners, 39 per cent in value of products, 51 per cent in capital, 42 per cent in cost of materials, and 44 per cent in the number of establishments. In the aggregate of its manufactures the United States is, of course, far ahead of England or any other country, and its lead is constantly This is a result of the lengthening. republican party's protective policy.

A PUBLIC SCHOOL "FAD."

Physical Culture Pronounced a Waste of Public Money.

Chicago Chronicle.

While there may be debate over other subjects in the public schools, there can be none in reason concerning "physical cul-It is simply a "fad."

Ninety-nine per cent of the children in the public schools belong to families which require their assistance in home management. There is no one of these children, whether boy or girl, whose time out of school hours during daylight is not spent MAKING THE WORLD OVER ANEW. largely in assisting in household work or running family errands. Ninety-nine per cent of the children who attend the public schools are so tired physically by night that they can scarcely get to bed soon enough. This great mass of the pupils receive spontaneously and without a cent of cost to the taxpayers all the physical culture they A large proportion of the mass have endure more physical culture than is agreeable to them and some have to endure more than is good for them. Additional physical culture at public expense is for this mass of the pupils a waste of public money and to a considerable extent a waste state of preparation of the articles of of the energy of the children. The entire item for "physical culture" in the public schools ought to be stricken out.

It is true that after several hours' continuous breathing of the same atmosphere In the dry goods realm hundreds of things within an ill-ventilated schoolroom children become languid. In this languor the 'physical culture" fad finds its plausible ology. The proper cure, however, for the languor is not to be sought in an enormous waste of public money, but in scientific plication of the principles of ventilation in the construction of school buildings.

The science of ventilation is a modern one and has only entered upon universal option. The old school buildings have no ventilating appliances except their doors and windows. These, however, can be used with effect if the children are marched out for a few minutes at frequent and regular atervals so that the poisoned air of the inlosure can be completely expelled and invigorating orone let in. During the winter season a little additional time would be required for donning the clothing necessary "physical culture" will dispel mental languer and restore both corporal and intellectual power more thoroughly than any "Physical culture" in the public schools

is an unmitigated fad and ought to be com-

POLITICAL DRIFT.

Dennis Mulvihill, the "stoker mayor" of Bridgeport, Conn., is talked of as a candidate for the governorship of that state on the democratic ticket.

Democrats in the New Jersey legislature voted for a real gold bug for senator Symptoms of platform treason are becom ing shamefully frequent.

Philadelphia holds its municipal election on February 18, New York City holds its election in November, Chicago in April and Boston in December.

St. Louis promises to dispose of a

"horrible examples" of political depravity before formally presenting a model city to the world next year. The task is large enough to produce nervous prestration Congressman Joseph Sibley of Pennsyl-

vania scoots around Washington in his The Connecticut constitutional convention has before it a proposition for woman suffrage, another for minority representa

tion, a third for a radical civil service

clause and a fourth making a member of the legislature ineligible to any other elective or to any appointive office. Virginia's new constitution contains requirement that all municipal franchises save only those for trunk line ratiroads shall be sold to the highest bidder. Franchises are limited to thirty years, and thereafter the plant and property of the

The prohibitionists of Georgia say that outside of four cities in that state, of which Atlanta is the chief, there is no "wet" territory in Georgia. Actually, there are now twenty-eight counties in Georgia in which the sale of liquor is lawful, exclusive of twenty-two countles in which the South Carolina dispensary system has been adopted.

city, "If so provided in the lease or grant."

A representative of Melrosa in the Massa chusetts legislature has introduced a bill for the official catablishment in that state of an "Old Home Week" such as prevails successfully in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont and during which New Englanders who have found homes elsewhere return to the state of their birth for the period of celebration.

Colonel Ed Butler, the democratic bost of St. Louis, candidly admits that he is not in the boss business for his health. He says he was approached by the promoters of the Suburban franchise and urged to through the deal for \$100,000, but he sisted the job could not be done for less than \$145,000. Asked as to what use he given him, Mr. Butler replied: "My fee, my fee." "Nobody accuses Ed Butler of being a briber," he continued. "I simply would have put the \$145,000 had it been lay propositions before the people, then never fail. At the time I was in conference with the company the bill was not up before the house. Had my proposition been accepted the bill would have been introduced and have become a law sixty days afterward."

#### OVERREACHING GREED

Lesson of the Collapse of the Asphalt Trust.

Engineering News.

The old story of killing the goose that laid the golden egg appears to be admirably Illustrated by the recent history of the asphalt trust. Some four or five years ago competition in the business and improve ments in methods of manufacture brought asphalt paving. At about the same time, cial situation was alone responsible for lic demand for asphalt paving; no other street covering so well met the damands of the wheelmen. Engineers, too, at about the same time were brought to regard asphalt with much more favor on account of the development of methods for the ready repair of defective or worn spots in the pave ment without disturbing the foundation or the binding course.

The net result was an enormous increase in the use of asphalt pavements and in the business of the companies laying them. Then came the consolidation of the different companies and a game of hocus pocus with their securities, of which the final outcome was the burdening of the business with huge load of bonds, the interest on which was sufficient to absorb all the profits the companies could make in days of paimiest

To meet these heavy charges it was a tempted to take advantage of the supposed nonopoly and mark up the price of amphalt but the trust managers found to their sorrow-or the sorrow of those who had purchased the trust securities-that there was still active competition in the asphalt busipess, and that higher prices for asphalt paving meant that the public would get along with less asphalt. There are other paving materials than asphalt, and public favor has been turned toward them, not only by the higher prices charged for asphalt, but by the public opposition to the award of contracts for a trust-controlled

It should not be hastily assumed that the public can escape so easily from paying tribute to every trust. There are cases, of course, where a monopoly has much stronger hold upon its market and can endure for a longer time. In general, however, a day of reckoning will come sooner or later, for every concern which attempts to take advantage of the possession of a monopoly to exact exorbitant prices for its product.

Modern Progress Develops Many Notable Economies. Boston Transcript.

While the current bulletins of the census Moe are demonstrating the phenomenal growth of American manufactures some conomic changes which are quite as notable, but do not readily yield to statistical inquiry, are going on before our eyes. long-retired merchant, for example. who looks over the stock of the retail shop of the day is surprised at the complete household trade. Almost everything can now be bought in a condition for immediate use. "Only a little hot water and then serve" seems to be the motto of the times, which the prudent housewife of a generation ago bought in cloth and made up in her own home are now bought ready to wear. The country store has probably shown a more decided change in this respect in a half century than its city rival, for the highly prepared things, when regarded as luxuries, could be obtained in the large centers, but were not a practical invostment for the country. Carpenters and builders, tinsmiths and plumbers might all tell the same story. The things they make are now sold ready for use; formerly they came in the form of stock which the local mechanic or artisan put into the shaps finally desired. What the developments of the future are

to be in the line of greater preparedness of the articles of every-day life can hardly be imagined. We may now buy material for kindling a grate fire in a tablet, where formerly the soft pine came in long sticks and required considerable use of the family ax to get it in shape. Doubtless the American kitchen will lose as time goes on more and more of its serious tasks and its long procceses, just as the sewing room has been re eased from its heaviest burdens.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

As Premier Waldeck-Rousseau truly recauses of the depopulation of France, the question is one of the most vast and complicated that could be conceived. A gen-57,000,000, while the people of the repub-He number but 38,000,000. For many years centage of deaths in that country is comparatively moderate), but of an abnormally small number of births.

The decrease of the birth rate has been marriageable daughters ought to be curves of the capital rivals his agility in 1820 the annual surplus of births over aliding from one political party to another, deaths was nearly six per 1,000 of the population; between 1851 and 1860 it was less than three per 1,000; between 1881 and 1885 about one and a half per 1,000, and now the relation between births and deaths has been reversed. The number of children per marriage was about three during the five years ended 1885; in the succeeding five years the number had declined to two per marriage, and since then has been reduced to a fraction under two. But for the growth of population in the departments of France adjoining Italy, Germany and Belgium, an actual decline in numbers would have become apparent many years ago. The influx of Italians and Flemings. grantee is to become the property of the however, no longer suffices to offset the deficiency of births in France.

Although, as statistics show, it is not

difficult to induce Italians to leave the peninsula for Tripoli, it is hard to get them to settle in the East African possessions of Italy, where their presence in particularly desired by the government in Rome. At length private enterprise has been invoked by the government to develop the Italian territory contiguous to the empire of the Negus. According to recent advices from Rome, the railway from Massowah will shortly be extended to Asmara. The preliminary operations for testing the richness of the gold mines in Eritrea have already given very satisfactory results, and in the course of this year sufficient data will have been obtained to afford some idea of their value. It is confidently anticipated in Rome that the knowledge thus gained will give an impetus to further prospecting, as there is every reason to believe that gold exists throughout Eritrea. The cultivation of cotton has also given very good results and the infurther opening up of Italian Somaliland. home and pray. The result comes. I steamer is to be placed on the Webbi or fail. At the time I was in confer. improved as to make them available for

> day by an interpellation introduced by the national liberal deputy, Count Oriola, on the subject of the law concerning military pensions. The interpellation directed attention to the fact that the necessity of some revision had been repeatedly admitted by the government, and asked whether the ministers were prepared with a scheme which would be laid before the House in the course of the present session. reply it was stated on behalf of the ministry of war that the regulations on the subject of pensions undoubtedly involved he fact that the government was not in a ter. This reply was sharply criticised from various parts of the House, the radical member, Herr Lenzmann, remarking that it was astonishing that no place could be found for a sum of at most 24,000,000 in estimates where thousands of millions were in question. He expressed the opinion that if provision for the private soldiers could not otherwise be made, the state might easily be able to settle the difficulty by cutting off the necessary amount from the appropriations for the pensions of offi-

The approaching visit of President Loubet Russia is already the subject of much discussion in the French press. It cannot take place much before the end of April, as the ice will not have broken up. The naval arrangements are being made by Captain Huguet of the Elysee household, and by Count de Montebello, French ambassador at St. Petersburg. The president will embark upon Massena, which will be fitted in palatial fashion, and accompanied by two cruisers, Montcalm and Guichen. The naval escort will be under the command of Vice Admiral Gourdon of the Northern squadron, and not Admiral de Courthille, who escorted M. Felix Faure. There is no disposition in Paris to minimize the political importance of the coming meeting. The most enthusiastic expect the absorption of Italy into a new triple alliance, but the more sober-minded talk of mutual agreeme concerning affairs in China, Syria, Undoubtedly the French prestdent will be the center of a splendid and avish hospitality, in no whit less costly, if perhaps less artistic, than the Parisian Russophile demonstrations. Some splendid court functions will be held in his honor and he will ride side by side with the czar at a vast inilitary review.

According to the returns of the British Board of Trade fully 65,000 to 75,000 Britishers went to live in the United States durng the last year, against 18,000 or 20,000

to the Cape of Good Hope, 12,000 or 13,000 to Canada, and a smaller number to Australla. The quota of "islanders" furnished marked to the Parliamentary commission the Dominion is considered far from satiswhich is charged with investigation of the factory, and the Hop. J. A. Smart, deputy minister of the interior in the present Canadian administration, is now in London "empowered," according to his own stateeration ago the population of France was ment, "by my government to create an about equal to that of Germany; at the interest in Canadian immigration, to bring present time that of the empire has reached home to the minds of the people, and especially the Apricultural classes of the United Kingdom, the advantages which the birth and death rates in France were Canada offers to settlers." In a published nearly balanced, but of late there has been statement Mr. Smart said that the Doan annual excess of deaths. This is not rinion government was prepared to make t a result of a particularly high death a free grant of 100 acres of land to every rate in France ion the contrary, the per- settler, and he added: "We want British subjects to settle in our country, and we intend to give immigrants every assistance to become prosperous citizens of the Dominion. The land we are offering is progressive in France. Between 1811 and chiefly in Winnipeg and other parts of the Northwest territory.

#### FLOATING FUN.

Philadelphia Press: Miss Passay—When I met him at the ball he said he didn't see how I stood the social whir! so well. I told him I meant to give up dancing when I was Miss Sharpe-And why didn't you?

Chicago Post: "Life," he asserts oracularly, "is nothing but a great big bluff."
"Possibly, possibly," was the reply, "but the bluff is called when you least expect it as a general thing."

Baltimore American: Bobbs—Hagger and Chewer got into a big argument this morn-Dobbs—Who got the better of it? Bobbs—I did. I left as soon as it started.

Chicago Tribune: "Josiah," asked Mrs. Chugwater, "what is a bucket shop?" "It's a place, I suppose," replied Mr. Chugwater, looking impatiently up from his newspaper, "where they empty the water out of stocks."

Washington Star: "I don't believe you could tell the difference between a three-for-a-quarter cigar and one that costs a dollar," said the man who sneers.

"Yes, I could," answered the matter-of-fact person.
"How?"

"By purchasing it myself."

Chicago Post: "Paps." said the small boy, looking up from his book, "what is a curio?"
"A curio," replied the father thoughtfully. "Is something that costs ten times what it's worth."

Chicago Post; "Look pleasant," said the photographer.

"Well, I guess not," replied the man.

"This is being taken for some distant relatives who threaten to visit us and I want to look as savage and mean as possible."

Yonkers Statesman: Sue Brette-I see they have named a cigar after your leading man.

The Manager—Well, I hope to gracious it will draw better than he does! Somerville Journal: Mrs. Whyte—Do you know anything about the people who have moved in next door?

Mrs. Browne—No, it was dark when the furniture wagons brought their goods and they haven't hung out a washing yet."

Detroit Free Press: "What's worrying you?" they asked of the convalescent inwagon traffic.

An animated and significant debate was caused in the German Reichstag the other at a sanitarium or a sanatorium."

Chicago Tribune: "Your vote in favor of this measure," said the lobbyist, "would be worth millions to you-" "Hardly so much as that!" gasped Sena-tor Graphter, his fingers working convulsively.

"—In the consciousness of having done your duty to your countrymen."

The eager light died out of the senator's eyes, and he relapsed into his former

### IN A FRONTIER GRAVEYARD.

James Barton Adams in Denver Post. about a large reduction in the prices for asphalt paving. At about the same time, cial situation was alone responsible for by time, asphalt paving. At about the same time, earth:
Rough men whose lives on earth were black with crime,
Devoid of every mark of honest worth.
In ways unnatural they met with death.
In blood-stained garments they were hid from sight,
A curse clung to each victim's dying breath

breath And hatred lit their eyes till dimmed of With boots yet on their sinful feet they'll Till Gabriel'r trumpet echoes from on high From hand of one who was of quicker fire.

And Tuscarora Sam, whose fund of breath Slipped from him when he called Black Bill a liar.

And here is Poker Frank, who tried to The frayed affection of Sport Daly's dame, And this rude board stands over Brocky Whom drink had made unsteady in his aim with their shooters he and Grizzly When Went cut to hunt each other on the street

Here rests the shot-up frame of Smoky Whose stolen horse lacked necessary speed, And close beside him sleeps old Gresser Jim, Who was by vigilantes roped and treed. Just over there lies Sacramento Joe, Who died with boots too full of wriggling And just beyond they planted Tommy
Lowe,
Who made a fatal play to grab the stakes
From off the table in a game of draw—
"Bit off," the boys said, "more than he
could chaw."

Here's Bob the Methodist and Sleepy Ike And Doughface Henderson and Whisky Mack,
And poor Joe Bowers (not the man from Pike),
And Faro Dick and old Three-Fingered And others, names unknown, lie in this and standing in this border burial

ground, Rude and uncared for, comes the passing thought That when the dead wake at the trump old Gabriel will be filled with mute sur-To see this gang of thoroughbreds arise!



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