RAILROAD HORROR.

A Collision Followed by a Fire in Ohio.

Thirteen People Were Killed and Three Seriously Injured.

What will undoubtedly prove to be the most disastrous accident that has ever occurred in the history of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago railway, which is operated by the Pennsylvania railroad, took place at 3 o'clock in the morning in what is known as Brown's Cut, one mile and a-half west of the village of Shreve, Wayne county, O.

Train No. 8, the fast east-bound passenger and express train, collided at that point with the first section of freight No. 75, west-bound. The Passenger train was about one hour late and was running at the rate of sixty miles an hour.

It is stated that the engineer and firemen on the freight while standing on the side track at Shreve, fell asleep and were awakened by hearing a train rushing by. Thinking that it was No. 8, the engineer pulled out on the main track and had just got under way when the trains met. The collision occurred on a sharp curve and in the cut, where neither crew were able to see the other train approaching.

The engines came together with such awful force that the mail car and smoking car of the express were thrown on top of the passenger engine and a freight car filled with printing presses was thrown over the freight engine. Passengers and trainmen who escaped say the accident had hardly taken place before flames burst forth, and they believe that but two or three persons were killed outright, the others having been pinned down in the cars and slowly roasted to death. Twelve burned and blackened trunks have been taken from the wreck.

Jacob Weltman, of Shreve, who was a passenger on the train, said that he was half asleep when he was aroused by the shock of the collision. He said there was a terrible rumbling noise and almost instantly the air was filled with cries and screams for help. He was pinned to the floor of the car by wreckage, but with great difficulty he finally freed himself and went with others to the aid of a lady, who, with her child, was held by the heavy timbers. They worked with might and main to rescue the two, but were finally driven back by the flames and compelled to leave the woman and child to their fate.

Mr. Weltman said the cries that came from the imprisoned people were such as he can never forget. The fireman on the freight train must have had a horrible death, as he was caught in the cab and his frightfully burned body dangled in the air in the view of the hundreds who visited the scene, the wreckers being unable to get at it because of the heat. The poor postal clerks, imprisoned in the mail cars, which were thrown upon the passenger engine, had no chance to escape, and they were doubtless all burned to death.

All the fatalities occurred in the two locomotives, the postal and smoking cars and the day coach. The sleepers did not leave the track, and the passengers, beyond a shaking escaped injury.

Ducks as Carriers.

Major Allatt, who is himself a practical pigeon flyer, states that the Italians employ pigeons very considerably in the Mediterranean in connection with their ships of war. The French also use them regularly and systematically in the Mediterranean during their naval maneuvers. This officer, however, is of the opinion that if we are going to use birds to fly over water for naval purposes, ducks would be better than pigeons, because when a duck gets tired he drops and sits on the water until he is rested, and then goes on again. Ducks, moreover, can fly by night, while pigeons cannot. Major Allatt thinks that seagulls might be trained also for message-bearing purposes.

Major Allatt warns us against some stories regarding long flights by trained pigeons which have been put forth on high authority. It was at his suggestion that an apocryphal tale of pigeons sent out to and returning from the Arctic regions, which has even imposed upon Yarrell, was expunged from the last edition of that writer's "British Birds." An equally false account of a pigeon flying 1500 miles in America is also extant.

Major Allatt believes the greatest distance pigeons have flown of which we have any accurate record is in the races which have taken place two or three times from Rome to Belgium, a distance of between 800 and 900 miles. But in every one of these cases a very large proportion of the birds have been lost.—London News.

Perfectly preserved salt fish, probably 10,000 years old, are found in Nevada, Utah and Arizona, where salt strata are often struck in making excavations a hundred yards beneath the surface. These fish resemble the pike and pickerel, and are wholly unlike the living fish found in the same region.

Houses of Russian Peasants.

There is little difference in the houses of a Russian village, says Frank G. Carpenter. They are all one story, and the average hut is not more than twenty feet square. Their log huts are about eight feet from the ground at the top where they meet the ridge roof of brown thatch, and this thatch is of straw and is often eighteen inches thick. It is put on so well that it will last for years. The average Russian hut has one door and two little windows at the front, with sometimes a second window in the rear. The front door is much like a rude door such as is sometimes knocked up by our farmers, and it leads not into the living room of the hut, but into a little storeroom or sort of vestibule which forms one end of the cabin.

This room is usually without any flooring but that of the ground. You may see the chickens or other animals belonging to the family in it, and some of the farming tools of the establishment stand about its walls. In the center of one side of it is a door reached by one or two low steps leading into the house proper and forming the entrance to the only room in the cabin. In it the family sleep, eat, cook and live, and when it is remembered that fully half of the year in Russia is made up of bitter winter, when the days are short and the nights long, it will be seen that the greater part of the peasant's existence is passed here. I visited a living room of this kind near Petroffskoi in the midst of the great black plain of Russia, where the land is as rich as the valley of the Nile and where the farmer should live as well as anywhere in the world, for he is working on the world's richest lands. This hut is that of a well to do peasant. It is if anything better than the average. Its living room was not more than ten by twelve feet in size, and one-fourth of this space was taken up by the great chimney, which formed the oven, the cooking stove and the heating arrangement of the hut. This chimney was fully six feet wide and about eight feet long, and its front, in which were holes for fuel and an oven, rose from the floor to the ceiling.

In the side facing the room, leaving about two feet for the chimney, there was a cut out under the ceiling ledge about three feet high and of the depth of the stove. This was, in fact, the top of the stove, and it formed, I was told the bed of the family in the winter time.

Fishing in the Northwest.

Whoever passes along the main retail street of Seattle and happens to notice the counters on the principal fish store will be astonished. In the chromatic display of the captive creatures of the sea is the text for another chapter on future wealth for Washington. They have the salmon, though that catch is credited to Oregon and Alaska. There are in the northern waters cod banks thousands of miles in extent; halibut, codfish, rock cod, sole, sea bass, smelts, shrimps, herrings, and oysters are all abundant. Apparently the fisheries outweigh those of the east as the timber belt excels that which once enclosed the great lakes. Candor compels me to say that the Pacific fish, with one exception, are inferior to the same kinds of fish in the East, yet they are not wanting in fine qualities. The halibut of Washington and the north is, I believe, the finest sea fish for the table that is known in America. The tiny muddy oysters, the size of a dime or quarter, are the meanest product of that sea, but they find a ready sale and are admired. Since that is so, hope for all the rest should be rampant. Their crabs, on the contrary, are not mere samples; they are wholesale products, regular marine monsters; and all the better for that, since they make good food. The fishing that must in a few years fleck the waters of the Pacific with sails is scarcely begun. There is only a million invested in it, and only a million a year is produced by it.—Harper's Magazine.

No Waste of Steam.

British papers state that an engineer living in Glasgow has lately completed, after nineteen years' experimenting, a device for steam engines by which all steam is returned back to the boiler after doing its work in the cylinders. In several cases, it is said, he has installed his engine and it is at work with extraordinary results. In one case, in a textile factory, the engine with his device is doing as much work with one ton of coal as it formerly did with ten tons. The problem of how to make use of the vast amount of steam everywhere blown off into the air after doing certain work has long occupied engineers, and its thorough solution would be worth many millions of dollars, in many ways.—Chicago Times.

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HOUSEHOLD MATTERS.

COOKING APPLES IN THE SKIN.

Whoever eats apples raw knows that much of the flavor is lost by peeling them. It is in the skin or so near it that the skin cannot be removed without losing it. Most housewives know that to cook apples by slicing without peeling secures a much richer flavor to the sauce than can be got in the usual way. The worm holes, as the slicing is done, can be found and cut out, and after the fruit is cooked the skins will separate so that it will not be at all difficult to remove them. The only objection to swallowing the skins is that they are harder of digestion. But the stomach, like every other organ of the body, grows stronger the harder work it has to do, provided it is not at any time so overloaded as to be unable to do it.—Boston Cultivator.

HOW TO RENOVATE WALL PAPER.

In cleansing wall paper, first remove all the grease spots by placing folds of blotting paper over them and ironing with a moderately warm iron, after which brush all the dust from the paper, and clean and brighten it with fuller's earth, mixed with water, to form a hard paste. It must be hard enough to handle, like bread dough. To clean the paper, take a small lump of the clay, and, commencing at the top of the room, wipe it lightly downward, about half a yard at each stroke, till the upper part of the paper is clean, then around again, with the same sweeping stroke, always commencing each successive course a little higher than the upper stroke had extended, until the walls are finished. This operation, if carefully performed, will make old paper as bright as new. Great caution must be used, however, not to rub the paper too hard, or to attempt cleaning it horizontally. The soiled part of fuller's earth must be cut off each time, and the pieces renewed as often as necessary. To remove the torn parts, which usually occur near the bottom, buy some ingrain paper, which comes in all shades and is of one color, to match the predominating shade in the wall paper. This paper is almost a yard wide, and may be used as a dado, full width. A narrow border in metallic green and silver, or some other desirable molding, should be used to divide it from the upper wall.—American Agriculturist.

HINTS ABOUT FISH.

To those who would enjoy the full and delicious flavor of fish in their perfection a few words as to the selection of the fish will not come amiss. Fish must be fresh and in season to be palatable. When selecting them at the market see that the eye is bright and the gills of a bright red color. The flesh should be firm and yet be very elastic to the touch, and, above all, there should be no disagreeable odor. If these marks are reversed the fish is unfit for food.

If in very warm weather the fish has been kept too long chloride of soda will restore it to an eatable condition—that is if it is not too far gone. But fish thus treated will not be equal in quality to the fresh article.

The fish should be carefully gutted after scaling and thoroughly cleaned. Every appearance of blood should be carefully removed, particularly that which lies in the spaces between the backbones. The fish should be cut open almost to the tail. This is seldom done properly unless cleaned by the dealer, for the common cook is very likely not to slit it far enough. The dealer is very apt to wash the fish too much, thus robbing it of a great portion of the delicate flavor.

It should not be handled a particle more than is absolutely necessary, and never left in the water a moment after it is washed. After washing dry it with a towel or hang it up to drain. Some kinds of fish are firmer in the flesh if salt is placed under the gills and they are allowed to hang a few moments before cooking.

In boiling any kind of fish salt should be put in the water, and if salt sea water can be had they are of even better flavor. After the water has come to a boil allow it to simmer and take the scum from the water as fast as it rises. Another way is to soak the fish in salt and water for five or ten minutes before boiling. By this method salt need not be put in the water, and there is consequently not so much scum on the water. The fish should be about half covered by the water and when it boils cover with a lid and leave it to simmer. It will be firmer and of much better flavor than if it is drowned in water.

A quarter of an ounce of saltpetre in the water will make the flesh of the fish very firm.—New York Herald.

RECIPES.

Apple Water—Cut two large apples into slices and pour a quart of boiling water on them, or on roasted apples; strain in two or three hours and sweeten slightly.

Lemon Sauce—The yolks of two eggs, one cup of sugar, one-half cup of butter, one tablespoonful of corn starch. Beat the eggs and sugar until light; add the grated rind and juice of one lemon. Stir the whole into three gills of boiling water, and cook until it thickens sufficiently for the table.

Biscuits—A beaten biscuit is a Southern dish. It takes two quarts of flour, a teaspoonful of salt and two heaping tablespoonsful of lard, and milk enough to make a stiff dough. Flour it and roll it out, then lay it on a stone slab or firm wooden board and pound it with a mallet or large rolling pin. The dough must be pounded one hour, until it rises in blisters and cleaves from the board.

Tomatoes and Onions—This dish will please those who are fond of onions. Slice two large onions and fry them in butter or fresh dripping. Stew one quart ripe tomatoes, and add a spoonful of water in which has been dissolved a saltspoonful of soda; also a large spoonful of sugar and an ounce of butter, with pepper and salt to taste. Have both hot and mix, but do not boil after mixing.

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BLAINE'S VIEWS.

DEMOCRATS SHOULD BE ARRAIGNED UPON M'KINLEY TARIFF, RECIPROCITY AND CURRENCY—A MASTERLY LETTER.

James G. Blaine has written a letter to Chairman Manley, of the Maine Republican State Committee, in which he defines very clearly the three main issues upon which to meet the Democrats in the pending contest. It is a masterly presentation of the Republican argument and a telling expose of the unpatriotic Democratic attitude on the questions of the McKinley tariff, reciprocity and the National currency. Following is the full text of the letter:

BAR HARBOR, Sept. 3, 1892.

Hon. Joseph H. Manley, Chairman, Etc., Augusta, Me.:

MY DEAR SIR—Not being able, for reasons which I have explained to you, to deliver public speeches in this present campaign, I take the liberty of submitting my views on the issues which I regard as being the strongest for the Republicans to urge before the people.

THE STRONGEST ISSUES.

1. The issue of the greatest consequence is the tariff on imports, and it will continue to be until a settlement is effected by a majority so large that it will be tantamount to general acquiescence. The Republicans are aggressive on this subject. Two years ago they passed a general enactment known as the McKinley tariff, which for a time failed to meet with popular approval, and was regarded with a certain degree of distrust by those who had always upheld the protective system.

But a powerful reaction has come in consequence of the vindication of the McKinley tariff by experience. It is found to have worked admirably, and within the last year has produced a greater volume of business, internal and external, and export and import, than the United States ever transacted before. Notwithstanding the character and the extent of the opposition to it, agriculture is remunerative, manufactures are prosperous, and commerce is more flourishing than at any previous time, thus vindicating the McKinley tariff by an impressive and undeniable series of facts.

THE DEMOCRATIC POSITION.

Against this tariff the Democratic Party has taken a position almost without parallel in the history of the country. They reject entirely the doctrine of protection, pronounce it a fraud and anathemize it generally. A resolution to this effect was adopted by the Democratic Convention, against the report of the Committee on Resolutions, by a two-thirds vote, thus manifesting the intelligent participation of every man in the convention.

Sometimes a resolution may be adopted in haste, or just when the convention is adjourning it may fail to receive the attention of the members; but this resolution was debated, pro and con, adopted after a contest and was perfectly understood by the members of the convention. It is contained in these words:

"We denounce the Republican protection as a fraud upon the labor of the great majority of the American people for the benefit of a few. We declare it a fundamental principle of the Democratic Party that the Federal Government has no constitutional power to impose and collect tariff duties, except for the purpose of revenue only. We demand that the collection of such taxes be limited to the necessities of the Government when honestly and economically administered."

CALHOUN'S NULLIFICATION SCHEME.

If any one will take the trouble to read the resolutions by which Mr. Calhoun sought to defend his Nullification scheme in 1833, he will find the tariff platform of the Democratic Party in general harmony therewith, and if he examines the subject further he will discover that the duties in the compromise tariff which reconciled Mr. Calhoun and appeased his angry followers in South Carolina were of a more comprehensive character than those contemplated in the Democratic resolution of 1892.

The Democrats are in the habit of naming Jefferson as the founder of their party; and yet on the subject of tariff they are in radical opposition to the principles laid down by Jefferson. Toward the close of his administration the revenue from the tariff on imports produced a considerable surplus, and the question was, What should be done? Should the tariff be reduced or should this surplus be maintained?

JEFFERSON WANTED IMPOSTS.

Jefferson pointedly asked: "Shall we suppress the imposts and give that advantage to foreign over domestic manufacturers?"

For himself he recommended that "the imposts be maintained," and the surplus created "should be appropriated to the improvement of the roads, canals, rivers and education."

If the Constitution did not give sufficient power to warrant these appropriations, Jefferson went so far as to recommend that it be amended. This presents the strongest condition of affairs upon which a protective tariff can be justified, and Jefferson did not hesitate to recommend it. The Democrats of the present day, it is needless to say, are the direct opponents of the policy which Jefferson thus outlined and adhered to.

DEMOCRATS ONCE PROTECTIONISTS.

2. When the principle of reciprocal trade was first proposed to be introduced into the tariff system the Democrats showed a most generous appreciation of the question, and gave it their support so long as the Republicans refused to accept it; but when the Republicans came to approve it the Democratic support vanished, and instead of favoring we find the Democratic National Convention passing a resolution hostile to the system.

But in spite of Democratic opposition we have attained through reciprocity a new and valuable trade, and the system has demonstrated its many advantages. We were about to declare sugar, molasses, coffee and hides free of all duties in the McKinley bill, but instead of that we passed a law by which we asked the several Nations interested what they would give to have these articles made free.

We found that the privileges which we were about to give without cost and without charge would secure a large trade in Brazil, in Cuba and Porto Rico, in the Windward and Leeward Islands, in British Guiana and Jamaica, San Domingo and the five Central American States, and to a minor degree in Austria, France and Germany—all in exchange for the articles which we had intended to gratuitously admit.

WAGE EARNERS' TARIFF FREE LIST.

The free list of the McKinley tariff is larger in the number of articles and in the aggregate amount of their import value than the dutiable list. What would have been the result to the United States if every article, before it was put on the free list, had been made the subject of inquiry to see what we could get in exchange for it? We omitted to do so for many years.

And that neglect has cost the Government advantages in trade which would have amounted to tens of millions of dollars.

This is the whole of the reciprocity scheme. It is very plain and very simple. It secures a valuable trade in exchange for articles otherwise destined to be put on the free list. The Democratic Party think they can discredit it, and they make the effort, apparently for the unpatriotic reason that they did not originate it.

NATIONAL CURRENCY.

3. With all its calamities, the war brought us one great blessing—National currency. There are many who will say that it was worth the cost of the war to bring about so auspicious a result to capital and labor. Prior to the war we had the worst currency system of any enlightened Nation in the world. The State banks, with some exceptions, were thoroughly irresponsible. They existed by thousands throughout the United States.

Whenever one of them failed the result was a large loss and great distress among the people. No one was responsible for their bills, and they were generally found scattered in the pockets of the laboring man, to whom they were a total loss without any redemption whatever. Of the State banks it was often and truly said that their debts were the measure of their profits.

They have caused an aggregate loss of hundreds of millions of dollars among the poor. Since the close of the war all this is different. Every paper dollar that circulates among the people has the United States behind it as guarantee. All the banks that exist are under the control of the National Government, and if they fail as financial institutions the Government has taken care that their bills shall be paid by securities deposited in Government vaults.

SURPRISING CONDUCT OF DEMOCRATS.

Under these circumstances it is a matter of extraordinary surprise that the Democratic Convention should deliberately pass resolutions for the revival of State banks. The palpable effect of this policy, it carried out, would be to cheat the poor man out of his daily bread. If State banks be adopted, and their circulation attain a large issue, no device could be more deadly for the deception and despoilment of all the commercial and laboring classes.

How the Democratic Convention came to make such a declaration, who was its author, what intelligent purpose was in it will remain a mystery. I have heard the argument adduced that we would keep the money at home if State banks were instituted; but we should keep it at home because it would be so worthless that nobody would take it abroad.

EVIL OF STATE BANKS.

Were the system of State banks revived we would again have discounts at the State lines, large charges for drafts on financial centers, and general suspension of every bill offered in payment, with a liquidation every few years that would be a destructive loss to the innocent holders of bills and a corresponding profit to the parties owning the banks.

The three issues which I have given are the issues on which I would arraign the Democratic Party. I would not multiply issues nor be diverted by our opponents from a steadfast adherence to and constant presentation of these questions before the people until every voter is made to know and understand their true and weighty significance.

Very sincerely yours,

JAMES G. BLAINE.

Protection For Our Farmers Found in the McKinley Tariff Law.

At various times since the passage of the McKinley tariff law, we have given facts and figures showing the beneficial influence that law has had on American agriculture; how, by decreasing importations of competing farm products it has increased the demand for our own productions, while at the same time still further extending the farmer's market by opening up new opportunities for employment to our people in manufacturing industries, and thus creating a larger consuming class for the farmer's products. But those figures have necessarily been incomplete owing to the short period of time during which the new law had been in operation. Now, however, that an entire fiscal year has elapsed since the enactment of the tariff of 1890, it is possible to make a fairly accurate calculation as to the larger value of the farmer's market due to McKinley protection. This we have done by comparing imports of competing agricultural products—or products which in some form or other compete with those of our farmers—during the years ending June 30, 1890, and June 30, 1892, the two years immediately preceding and succeeding the passage of the McKinley act. The statistics are taken from the "Summary Statement of Imports and Exports" issued by the Treasury Department, and they show clearly the benefits of the new law to agriculture:

PROTECTION FOR OUR FARMERS.

Articles.	Imports, 1890.	Imports, 1892.
Animals	$3,270,277	$2,575,813
Breadstuffs	6,034,272	4,631,809
Eggs	2,074,912	522,249
Flax and hemp	9,529,977	2,645,972
Fruits, other than tropical	4,520,793	2,210,405
Hay	1,143,445	715,151
Hops	1,053,616	883,701
Provisions (meat and dairy products)	2,011,314	1,795,096
Seeds (linseed or flaxseed)	2,839,057	319,418
Tobacco leaf	17,605,193	10,331,174
Tobacco manufactured	4,105,262	2,928,851
Vegetables	4,455,374	2,883,227
Totals	$58,613,491	$32,443,857
Larger market for American farmers		$26,199,634

It requires neither theoretical knowledge nor broad philosophy to understand the meaning of this table. One fact stands out strong and clear: The McKinley law has decreased the importation of articles competing with the products of American farms by $26,199,634. In other words, in the first fiscal year of its operation, it has made the farmer's home market more valuable by exactly that amount. This, however, is but a small part of its work. When we remember the new industries established, the old ones expanded, the larger number of laborers employed, the wages increased and the greater purchasing power on the part of all classes of our people which so prominent a free-trade statistician as Edward Atkinson says exists, it is safe to say that double that figure scarcely measures the value of the McKinley tariff to our agriculturists. And the effects of this larger market, of this stimulated industry, we see all around us. Not for a long time have our farmers been so prosperous and contented. There is no kind of a chance for calamity howlers in the great agricultural sections of the West; and the farmers of those great and growing districts can be depended on to roll up their usual large majority for the farmer's policy and the farmer's candidates on the 8th day of the coming November.—American Economist.

The Beginning of a Great Era.

The Nation has entered upon a wonderful career of prosperity. We have laid the foundation of a policy which will give us a greatness beyond our most sanguine dreams. To continue the present administration is to realize its fruits. To overthrow it is to arrest the advance and plunge into uncertainty. With such a choice the people cannot hestiate.—Philadelphia (Penn.) Press.

Why the Tariff Does Not Tax.

If the tariff is a tax, the average citizen doesn't pay a cent of it, because the average citizen uses only American-made goods, upon which there is no tariff, and he buys them cheaper than he ever did under free trade or low tariff administration.—Kansas City (Mo.) Journal.

A Musical Watch.

A musical watch about the size of an egg is now exhibited in St. Petersburg which performs a religious chant, with scenic accompaniments. Within is a representation of Christ with the Roman sentinels. On pressing a spring the stone rolls from the tomb, the sentinels fall down, the angels appear, and the holy women enter the sepulchre, and the same chant which is sung in the Greek Church on Easter Eve is actually performed. The watch was made by an ingenious peasant during the reign of Catharine of Russia.

REV. DR. TALMAGE.

The Eminent Brooklyn Divine's Sunday Sermon.

Subject: "Heaven's Glories."—(Farewell Sermon in London.)

TEXT: *"The spider taketh hold with her hands and is in kings' palaces."*—Proverbs xxx., 28.

Permitted as I was a few days ago to attend the meeting of the British Scientific Association at Edinburgh, I found that no paper read had excited more interest than that by Rev. Dr. McCook, of American, on the subject of spiders. It seems that my talented countryman, banished from his pulpit for a short time by ill health, had in the fields and forest given himself to the study of insects. And surely if it is not beneath the dignity of God to make spiders it is not beneath the dignity of man to study them.

We are all watching for phenomena. A sky full of stars shining from January to January calls out not so many remarks as the blazing of one meteor. A whole flock of robins take not so much of our attention as one blundering bat darting into the window on a summer eve. Things of ordinary sound and sight and occurrence fail to reach us, and yet no grasshopper ever springs upon our path, no moth ever dashes into the evening candle, no mote ever floats in the sunbeam that pours through the crack of the window shutter, no barnacle on ship's hull, no burr on a chestnut, no limpet clinging to a rock, no rind of an artichoke but would teach us a lesson if we were not so stupid. God in His Bible sets forth for our consideration the lily, and the snowflake, and the locust, and the stork's nest, and the hind's foot, and the aurora borealis, and the ant hills.

In my text inspiration opens before us the gate of a palace, and we are inducted amid the pomp of the throne and the courtier, and while we are looking around upon the magnificence inspiration points us to a spider plying its shuttle and weaving its net on the wall. It does not call us to regard the grand surroundings of the palace, but to a solemn and earnest consideration of the fact that "The spider taketh hold with her hands and is in kings' palaces."

It is not very certain what was the particular species of insect spoken of in the text, but I shall proceed to learn from it the exquisiteness of the divine mechanism. The king's chamberlain comes into the palace and looks around and sees the spider on the wall and says, "Away with that intruder," and the servant of Solomon's palace comes with his broom and dashes down the insect, saying, "What a loathsome thing it is." But under the microscopic inspection I find it more wondrous of construction than the embroideries on the palace wall and the upholstery about the windows.

All the machinery of the earth could not make anything so delicate and beautiful as the prehensile with which that spider clutches its prey, or as any of its eight eyes. We do not have to go so far up to see the power of God in the tapestry hanging around the windows of heaven, or in the horses or chariots of fire with which the dying day departs, or to look at the mountain swinging out its sword arm from under the mantle of darkness until it can strike with its scimeter of the lightning.

I love better to study God in the shape of a fly's wing, in the formation of a fish's scale, in the snowy whiteness of a pond lily. I love to track His footsteps in the mountain moss, and to hear His voice in the hum of the rye fields, and discover the rustle of His robe of light in the south wind. Oh, this wonder of divine power that can build a habitation for God in an apple blossom, and tune a bee's voice until it is fit for the eternal orchestra, and can say to a firefly, "Let there be light;" and from holding an ocean in the hollow of His hand, goes forth to find heights and depths and length and breadth of omnipotency in a dewdrop, and dismounts from the chariot of midnight hurricane to cross over on the suspension bridge of a spider's web

You may take your telescope and sweep it across the heavens in order to behold the glory of God, but I shall take the leaf holding the spider and the spider's web, and I shall bring the microscope to my eye, and while I gaze and look and study and am confounded I will kneel down in the grass and cry, "Great and marvelous are Thy works, Lord God Almighty!"

Again, my text teaches me that insignificance is no excuse for inaction. This spider that Solomon saw on the wall might have said: "I can't weave a web worthy of this great palace; what can I do amid all this gold embroidery? I am not able to make anything fit for so grand a place, and so I will not work my spinning jenny." Not so said the spider. "The spider taketh hold with her hands." Oh, what a lesson that is for you and me! You say if you had some great sermon to preach, if you only had a great audience to talk to, if you had a great army to marshal, if you only had a constitution to write, if there was some tremendous thing in the world for you to do—then you would show us. Yes, you would show us!

What if the Levite in the ancient temple had refused to snuff the candle because he could not be a high priest? What if the humming bird should refuse to sing its songs into the ear of the honeysuckle because it cannot, like the eagle, dash its wing into the sun? What is the raindrop should refuse to descend because it is not a Niagara? What if the spider of the text should refuse to move its shuttle because it cannot weave a Solomon's robe? Away with such folly! If you are lazy with the one talent, you would be lazy with the ten talents. If Milo cannot lift the calf he never will have strength to lift the ox. In the Lord's army there is order for promotion, but you cannot be a general until you have been a captain, a lieutenant and a colonel. It is step by step, it is inch by inch, it is stroke by stroke that our Christian character is builded. Therefore be content to do what God commands you to do.

God is not ashamed to do small things. He is not ashamed to be found chiseling a grain of sand, or helping a honeybee to construct its cell with mathematical accuracy, or tingeing a shell in the surf, or shaping the bill of a chaffinch. What God does, He does well. What you do, do well, be it a great work or a small work. If ten talents, employ all the ten. If five talents, employ all the five. If one talent, employ the one. If only the thousandth part of a talent, employ that. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life." I tell you if you are not faithful to God in a small sphere, you would be indolent and insignificant in a large sphere

Again, my text teaches me that repulsiveness and loathsomeness will sometimes climb up into very elevated places. You would have tried to kill the spider that Solomon saw. You would have said: "This is no place for it. If that spider is determined to weave a web, let it do so down in the cellar of this palace or in some dark dungeon." Ah! the spider of the text could not be discouraged. It clambered on and climbed up, higher and higher and higher, until after awhile it reached the king's vision, and he said, "The spider taketh hold with her hands, and is in kings' palaces." And so it often is now that things that are loathsome and repulsive get up into very elevated places.

The church of Christ, for instance, is a palace. The King of heaven and earth lives in it. According to the Bible, her beams are of cedar, and her rafters of fir, and her windows of agate, and the fountains of salvation dash a rain of light. It is a glorious palace—the church of God is, and yet sometimes unseemly and loathsome things creep up into it—evil speaking and rancor and slander and backbiting and abuse, crawling up on the walls of the church, spinning a web from arch to arch, and from the top of one communion tankard to the top of another communion tankard. Glorious palace in which there ought only to be light and love and pardon and grace; yet a spider in the palace!

Home ought to be a castle. It ought to be the residence of everything royal. Kindness, love, peace, patience and forbearance ought to be the princes residing there, and yet sometimes dissipation crawls up into that home, and the jealous eye comes up, and the scene of peace and plenty becomes the scene of domestic jargon and dissonance. You say, "What is the matter with the house." I will tell you what is the matter with it. A spider in the palace.

A well developed Christian character is a grand thing to look at. You see some man with great intellectual and spiritual proportions. You say, "How useful that man must be!" But you find amid all his splendor of faculties there is some prejudice, some whim, some evil habit that a great many people do not notice, but that you have happened to notice, and it is gradually spoiling that man's character—it is gradually going to injure his entire influence. Others may not see it, but you are anxious in regard to his welfare, and now you discover it. A dead fly in the ointment. A spider in the palace.

Again, my text teaches me that perseverance will mount into the king's palace. It must have seemed a long distance for that spider to climb in Solomon's splendid residence, but it started at the very foot of the wall and went up over the panels of Lebanon cedar, higher and higher, until it stood higher than the highest throne in all the nations—the throne of Solomon. And so God has decreed it that many of those who are down in the dust of sin and dishonor shall gradually attain to the King's palace. We see it in worldly things.

Who is that banker in Philadelphia? Why, he used to be the boy that held the horses of Stephen Girard while the millionaire went in to collect his dividends. Arkwright toils on up from a barber shop until he gets into the palace of invention. Sextus V toils on up from the office of a swineherd until he gets into the palace of Rome. Fletcher toils on up from the most insignificant family position until he gets into the palace of Christian eloquence. Hogarth, engraving pewter pots for a living, toils on up until he reaches the palace of world renowned art.

The spider crawling up the wall of Solomon's palace was not worth looking after or considering as compared with the fact that we, who are worms of the dust, may at last ascend into the palace of the King Immortal. By the grace of God may we all reach it. Oh, heaven is not a dull place. It is not a wornout mansion, with faded curtains and outlandish chairs and cracked ware. No, it is as fresh and fair and beautiful as though it were completed but yesterday. The kings of the earth shall bring their honor and glory into it.

I do not know but that Christ referred to the real juice of the grape when He said that we should drink new wine in our Father's kingdom, but not the intoxicating stuff of this world's brewing. I do not say it is so; but I have as much right for thinking it is so as you have for thinking the other way. At any rate, it will be a glorious banquet. Hark! the chariots rumbling in the distance, I really believe the guests are coming now. The gates swing open, the guests dismount, the palace is filling, and all the chalices, flashing with pearl and amethyst and carbuncle, are lifted to the lips of the myriad banqueters, while standing in robes of snowy white they drink to the honor of our glorious King.

"Oh," you say, "that is too grand a place for you and me." No, it is not. If a spider, according to the text, could crawl up on the wall of Solomon's palace, shall not our poor souls, through the blood of Christ, mount up from the depths of their sin and shame, and finally reach the palace of the eternal King?

Years ago, with lanterns and torches and a guide, we went down in the Mammoth cave of Kentucky. You may walk fourteen miles and see no sunlight. It is a stupendous place. Some places the roof of the cave is a hundred feet high. The grottoes filled with weird echoes; cascades falling from invisible height to invisible death. Stalagmites rising up from the floor of the cave, stalactites descending from the roof of the cave, joining each other and making pillars of the Almighty's sculpturing. There are rosettes of amethyst in halls of gypsum. As the guide carries his lantern ahead of you the shadows have an appearance supernatural and spectral. The darkness is fearful.

Two people, getting lost from their guide only for a few hours, years ago, were demented, and for years sat in their insanity. You feel like holding your breath as you walk across the bridges that seem to span the bottomless abyss. The guide throws his calcium light down into the caverns, and the light rolls and tosses from rock to rock and from depth to depth, making at every plunge a new revelation of the awful power that could have made such a place as that. A sense of suffocation comes upon you as you think that you are two hundred and fifty feet in a straight line from the summit surface of the earth.

The guide after awhile takes you into what is called the "star chamber;" and then he says to you, "Sit here;" and then he takes the lantern and goes down under the rocks, and it gets darker and darker until the night is so thick that the hand an inch from the eye is unobservable. And then, by kindling one of the lanterns and placing it in a cleft of the rock there, is a reflection cast on the dome of the cave, and there are stars coming out in constellations—a brilliant night heavens—and you involuntarily exclaim, "Beautiful! beautiful!"

Then he takes the lantern down in other depths of the cavern and wanders on and wanders off until he comes up from behind the rocks gradually, and it seems like the dawn of the morning until it gets brighter and brighter. The guide is a skilled ventriloquist, and he imitates the voices of the morning, and soon the gloom is all gone and you stand congratulating yourself over the wonderful spectacle.

Well, there are a great many people who look down into the grave as a great cavern. They think it is a thousand miles subterraneous, and all the echoes seem to be the voices of despair, and the cascades seem to be the falling tears that always fall, and the gloom of earth seems coming up in stalagmite, and the gloom of the eternal world seems descending in the stalactite, making pillars of indescribable horror. The grave is no such place as that to me, thank God! Our divine guide takes us down into the great caverns, and we have the lamp to our feet and the light to our path, and all the echoes in the rifts of the rock are anthems, and all the falling waters are fountains of salvation, and after awhile we look up, and behold! the cavern of the tomb has become a king's star chamber.

And while we are looking at the pomp of it an everlasting morning begins to rise, and all the tears of earth crystallize into stalagmite, rising up in a pillar on the one side, and all the glories of heaven seem to be descending in a stalactite, making a pillar on the other side, and you push against the gate that swings between the two pillars, and as that gate flashes open you find it as one of the twelve gates which are twelve pearls. Blessed be God that through this Gospel the mammoth cave of the sepulcher has become the illuminated star chamber of the King! Oh, the palaces! the eternal palaces! the King's palaces!

CURIOUS FACTS.

Coke makes the hottest fire.

Nutmegs are very strong narcotics.

The giraffe will soon be extinct in Africa.

In ancient Rome there were buildings of from four to seven stories in height.

The St. Louis Chief of Police requires the 1000 Chinese in that city to be photographed.

One child in every five in the northern half of the United States dies before it has lived a year.

A Lock Haven (Penn.) horse has a black coat in winter, but in summer he becomes a beautiful roan.

The first suspension bridges ever built were made in China 2000 years ago, being constructed of iron chains.

Guineas were so named from the fact that they were first coined with gold brought from the coast of Guinea.

The average ministerial salary in the United States is $700. Dr. Morgan Dix, of Trinity, gets $25,000, and Dr. Talmage $12,000.

A Newburg (N. Y.) young lady, Miss Isabel Campbell, has been killed from having swallowed a single bird shot while eating game.

A French boy has broken two black cats to harness. He drives his pets in single as well as double harness up and down the street every day.

Philadelphia's great City Hall is to have a number of magnificent aluminum plated columns, twenty feet high and weighing six tons each.

Madison, Ga., has a queer dog that has a complete figure of the moon and seven stars on one side of his head. The effect is produced by the different coloring of the hair, in black and white.

The elevation of Denver, Col., being 5370 feet—over one mile—above sea level, makes the atmosphere rare, dry and clear, there being on an average less than six days each year without sunshine.

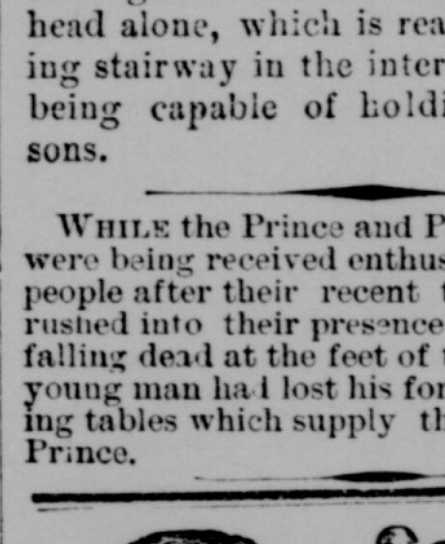
During a review of several regiments in France, whither he was sent, Hugo Grotius, one of the famous men of the seventeenth century, retained in his mind the names of all the soldiers that were named and passed before him.

Ventura County, California, has produced a wonderful Mission grapevine. It has grown from a cutting planted two years ago last spring, and the trunk is now nine and a half inches in circumference and forty-two feet in length. By actual count it has 450 clusters of grapes, and covers an area of 448 square feet.

Mica is a widely diffused and plentiful mineral, entering largely into the composition of granite, mica-slate and some other rocks, veins and fissures of which it also often fills up. The largest and best specimens of mica are found in Norway, Sweden, Siberia, Peru and Mexico, large plates of it, often a yard in diameter, being found in those countries.

In the Japanese capital there is a gigantic image of a woman made of wood, iron and plaster. The time of its erection and the name of its designer are in dispute, but it is known to have been dedicated to Hachiman, the god of war. In height it measures fifty-four feet, the head alone, which is reached by a winding stairway in the interior of the figure, being capable of holding twenty persons.

WHILE the Prince and Princess of Monaco were being received enthusiastically by their people after their recent tour a young man rushed into their presence and shot himself, falling dead at the feet of the Princess. The young man had lost his fortune at the gaming tables which supply the revenues of the Prince.



Scrofula

Mr. G. W. Doner.

Afflicted me four years—blotches all over my body, swelling in my neck, and in less than a year had lost 40 lbs. I was induced by H. L. Tubbs, our druggist, to try Hood's Sarsaparilla, and the blotches and lump in my neck disappeared, and I soon began to gain in flesh. In 4 months there was none of the disease left in my system, and I was as well and strong as ever." G. W. DONER, Osceola, South Dakota.

Hood's Pills are the best family cathartic, gentle and effective. Try a box. Only 25 cts.

Wisdom of the Cow.

"It is a popular belief that the dog is the most intelligent of all four-footed animals, and that next in the mental scale is the horse," said George McDonald to a St. Louis Globe-Democrat man at the Lindell. "That is a mistake. The cow knows more than a horse and dog combined are capable of learning. An ordinary town cow who has been accorded reasonable facilities for acquiring general information is much wiser than some men who have been honored with proud positions and expensive funerals. The average town cow can open a gate that fastens with time lock, get into the garden, and do $50 worth of damage before the exasperated owner can ram a charge of slugs into a muzzle-loading gun. I once lived in a village where one-half of the inhabitants kept cows and expected them to forage their living off the other half. Finding the usual gate fastenings of no avail I added a bolt and slept that night secure. The next morning every cow in the village was in my garden and so full of cabbages, that cost me $2 a head to raise, that they could not go through the gate, and I had to knock down a panel of the fence to let them out. That night I added a log chain and a patent padlock and sat up in company with a double-barreled gun to watch proceedings. An old brindle she-pirate came up and surveyed the house to make sure we were abed. Then she shook the gate and again surveyed the house. Next she went to work on the bolt with her tongue. In five minutes she had it drawn and started to come in. She looked surprised to find herself still on the outside. Half a dozen of her companions came up and surveyed the new jewelry. Then brindle broke a horn trying to lift the gate off its hinges. They appeared to hold a council of war; then an old spotted gourmand inserted a horn under the chain, lifted it over the post, and the whole drove marched inside. I gave it up and took the gate off its hinges. I now raise all my vegetables at the market."

Cash and Credit.

An enterprising grocer in the town of Santa Clara, Cal., has adopted an original method of trade. Each side of the store is fitted up for business on its own account. In the general arrangement each side is a duplicate of the other, the difference being that one side is for cash and the other for credit. When a customer comes in, the first question asked is, "Do you wish to buy for cash or on account?" If it is a cash customer, the goods and prices on each side are shown; but if it is one who wants credit he is shown to the other side, and for the first time in his life, perhaps, made to realize the value of ready money.

Chicago has between 500 and 600 railway trains entering the city every day, and the record of accidents caused by them in and about the city is something appalling. Last year 323 people were killed in Cook county, in which Chicago is situated, by the roads. Of these 21 were passengers, 59 were employes and the other 243 were unfortunates who happened to be walking on or crossing the tracks of the various lines. This year's record promises to surpass even last year's, and so far numbers 154. This does not include those maimed, whose number is reckoned at 450.

The English mint possesses an electrical machine which counts coins with precision and accuracy.

The True Laxative Principle

Of the plants used in manufacturing the pleasant remedy, Syrup of Figs, has a permanently beneficial effect on the human system, while the cheap vegetable extracts and mineral solutions, usually sold as medicines, are permanently injurious. Being well informed, you will use the true remedy only. Manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co.

Steps are being taken to establish a council of agriculture in Tasmania.

If your Back Aches, or you are all worn out, good for nothing, it is general debility. Brown's Iron Bitters will cure you, make you strong, cleanse your liver, and give a good appetite—tones the nerves.

A colored man lives longer in the South than he does in the North.

S. K. Coburn, Mgr., Clarke Scott, writes: "I find Hall's Catarrh Cure a valuable remedy." Druggists sell it, 75c.

It cost the present Emperor of China $10,000,000 to get married.

BROWN'S Iron Bitters cures Dyspepsia, Malaria, Biliousness and General Debility. Gives Strength, aids Digestion, tones the nerves—creates appetite. The best tonic for Nursing Mothers, weak women and children.

The new testament was first printed in Irish in 1602.

MEDICAL science has achieved a great triumph in the production of Beecham's Pills which at 25 cents a box replace a medicine chest.

There are 600,000 blind people in Europe.

If afflicted with Sore Eyes use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye Water. Druggists sell it at 25cts. per bottle.

The mole can swim excellently and it often sinks wells for the purpose of obtaining water to drink.

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THE GREAT REMEDY FOR PAIN

CURES PROMPTLY AND PERMANENTLY

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Lumbago, Headache, Toothache,

NEURALGIA,

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Sprains, Bruises, Burns, Scalds.

THE CHARLES A. VOGELER CO., Baltimore, Md.

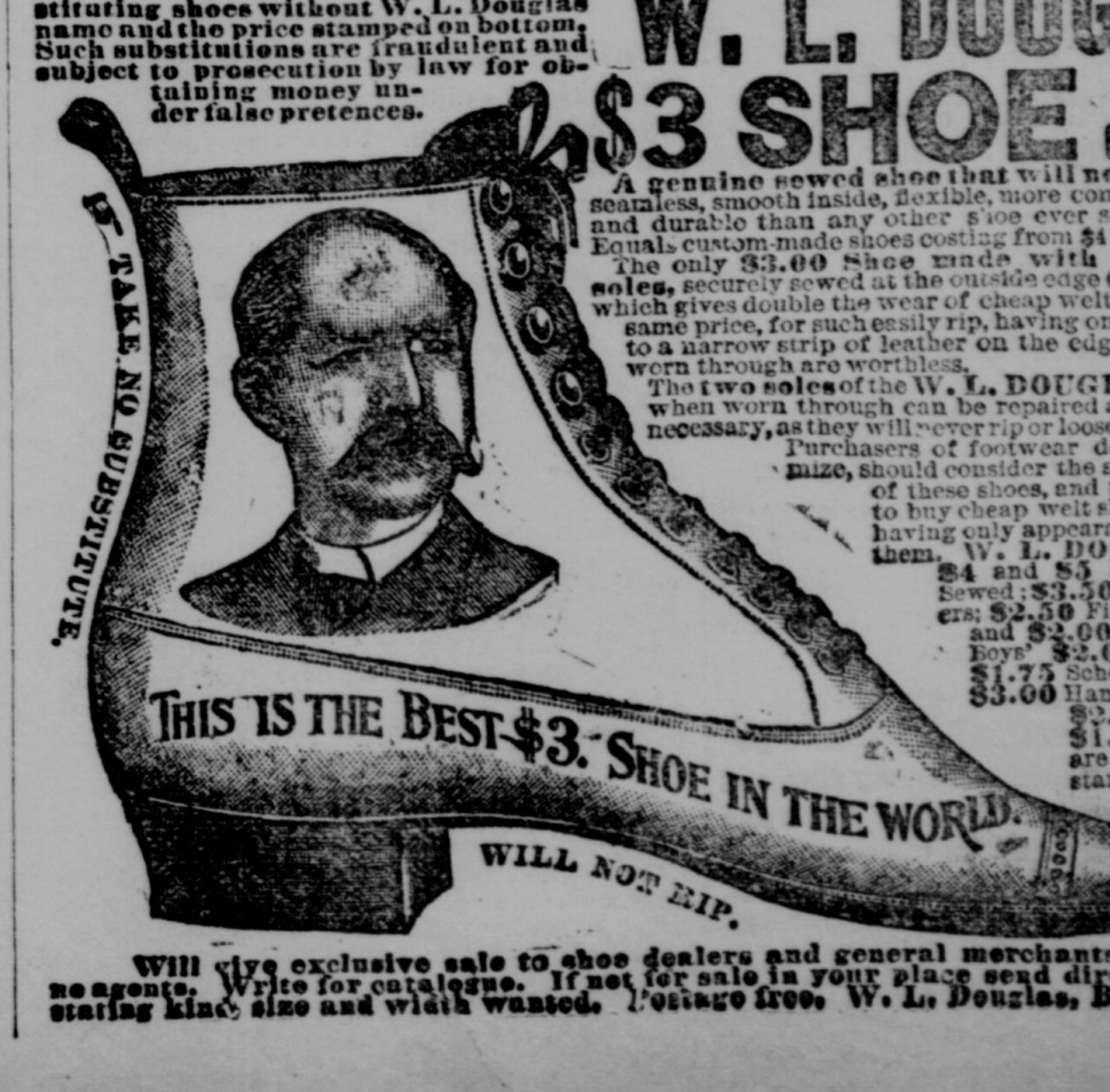
MERCURIAL

Mr. J. C. Jones, of Fulton, Ark., says of S.S.S. "About ten years ago I contracted a severe case of blood poison. Leading physicians prescribed medicine after medicine, which I took without any relief. I also tried mercurial and potash remedies, with unsuccessful results, but which brought on an attack of mercurial

RHEUMATISM

that made my life one of agony. After suffering four years I gave up all remedies and commenced using S. S. S. After taking several bottles, I was entirely cured and able to resume work. S.S.S. is the greatest medicine for blood poisoning to-day on the market."

Treatise on Blood and Skin Diseases mailed free. SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., Atlanta, Ga.



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A genuine sewed shoe that will not rip; fine Calf, seamless, smooth inside, flexible, more comfortable, stylish and durable than any other shoe ever sold at the price. Equals custom-made shoes costing from $4 to $5.

The only $3.00 Shoe made with two complete soles, securely sewed at the outside edge (as shown in cut), which gives double the wear of cheap welt shoes sold at the same price, for such easily rip, having only one sole sewed to a narrow strip of leather on the edge, and when once worn through are worthless.

The two soles of the W. L. DOUGLAS $3.00 Shoe when worn through can be repaired as many times as necessary, as they will never rip or loosen from the upper.

Purchasers of footwear desiring to economize, should consider the superior qualities of these shoes, and not be influenced to buy cheap welt shoes sold at $3.00, having only appearance to recommend them. W. L. DOUGLAS Men's $4 and $5 Fine Calf, Hand Sewed; $3.50 Police and Farmers; $2.50 Fine Calf; $2.25 and $2.00 Workingmen's; Boys' $2.00 and Youths' $1.75 School Shoes; Ladies' $3.00 Hand Sewed; $2.50, $2.00 and Misses' $1.75 Best Dongola, are of the same high standard of merit.

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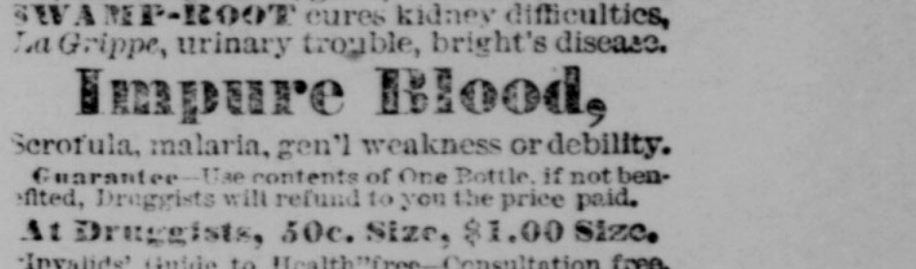

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