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SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1913.

Winter can hardly expect a warm welcome.

◆

Governor Wilson is learning how to mark time.

◆

As yet there has been no plaint about cold-storage eggnog.

◆

Does Rockefeller hold himself mightier than the government?

◆

January sales at Baltimore stores are helping reduce the cost of living.

◆

As usual, New York's new governor is absolutely independent of Tammany.

◆

Think what it means to Cupid now that the vibrations of a heart my be registered miles away!

◆

China says she is going to pay all she owes. But then so many at this time make that resolution.

◆

Many men are now receiving that near-fame which will attach to them as "being once mentioned for the Cabinet."

◆

How unkind it will be of Governor Wilson to eject the many who have so comfortably settled down in a cabinet chair!

◆

Yesterday was something of a sample day in the Weather Bureau, where all kinds for the year's wear were represented.

◆

Whether life is worth living may de- end somewhat on whether you are a erk in the parcel post division of the il service.

◆

It is to be hoped that by the end of the ar the expectorators in street cars and in other public places will be as extinct as the dodo.

◆

The recent wave of jail deliveries must be strong when the windstorm emulates freak governors in opening jails by blowing the roof off.

◆

Ex-President Castro laments that his fortune is gone and he has honor only left. And that, unfortunately, is not a negotiable quantity.

◆

1913 is not losing any time, despite its youth, in the great business of making history. So far it is proving itself quite a strenuous youngster.

◆

Civilized nations will watch with amusement, not unmixed with pity, the attempt of the Chinese government to regulate feminine fashions by official utterances.

◆

With live dogs, jack-rabbits and other freak consignments turned over to the parcel post Uncle Sam is beginning to think the public is having a bit of fun at his expense.

◆

There is something inherently wrong when a court which jails editors for publishing a criticism upon its actions by Colonel Roosevelt cannot be spiked on the Bull Moose's horns.

◆

The country is in doubt whether the merry chase of Mr. Rockefeller is a farce or an amateur hunting expedition. As either, it is adding to the gayety of all nations excepting this.

◆

The oldest newsboy in the country died in Illinois lately at the age of 105. He sold papers within a few days of his **death**. It is not likely that a record like this will be beaten for the rest of the century.

◆

President-elect Wilson is being urged to have the suffragists represented in his cabinet. To name a woman for secretary of war might be in the interests of international peace, but would it promote domestic tranquility?

◆

The Fire Commissioner of New York declares that one-fourth of the fires in that city are due to incendiaries. The crime of arson is never a slight one, and the danger to life, which inevitably attends it, puts it very nearly on the level of wilful murder. Its punishment in the rare cases of detection and conviction should be as prohibitive as the law can make it. Leniency in this respect is a direct menace to public safety.

◆

The women suffragists are to give a grand medieval and classic parade in Washington on the eve of the inauguration, to show the progress of women from those times to the present. The country is about convinced that the women are thoroughly in earnest in this movement, and the various parades held to show its strength have deeply impressed the popular mind. The educational campaign they have been carrying on by this means is sharply and commendably in contrast with the English bomb-throwing and train-wrecking suffragettes.

NEW SAFETY LANE.

Already the ice is breaking off in great masses along the polar rim and the icebergs thus created are drifting along the northern transatlantic route, so that the new safety lane has been called into use and the Hydrographic Office has called upon ships to use it after January 15. This route will be followed until August 14, after which time there will be no fear of bergs. Thus for a large part of the year the new lane is followed by the shipping.

The fate of the Titanic has been a lasting warning against the ships that carry hundreds of passengers, threading their way through, or rushing, ice floes. The force of the hurricanes this year in the upper waters has been terrific and the northern line will soon be even more densely filled with icebergs than was the case when the Titanic met its fate.

The regulation of this matter through prescription of the routes by the Hydrographic Office that acts in concert with the steamship lines will tend to reduce to a low minimum dangers from this source in the future.

HONORS FOR MORGAN.

Mr. J. P. Morgan has been worthily honored by the Catholic University in its fine appreciation of his services to art through his wise liberality, and especially his gift of the priceless Coptic manuscripts. These manuscripts that will be photographed in fifty volumes by the university and distributed through limited circulation to the various important seats of learning will mark a tremendous advance in the study of a class of literature and a time that is rich in religious beginnings.

Consisting largely of biblical manuscripts and those bearing upon very early ecclesiastical history, the rich treasury will go far toward advancing knowledge of the state of religion and the grade of faith of the early times, as well as establishing additional criteria for the criticism of the biblical text.

While the specific services of the wealthy patron of art and letters in this respect are given recognition, the conferment of the degree of patron of the fine arts and letters comes to Mr. Morgan because of his encyclopedic services in the range of literature and art. Mr. Morgan is certainly well deserving of the recognition thus accorded him and this country is his lasting debtor in respect to the accumulation of objects of art and antiquity.

A FARMERS' COMBINE.

An organization of Kentucky farmers has just put through a "pool" or a "merger" which, if the concern that arranged the price-boosting plan were not a farming organization, would look mightily like a conspiracy to obstruct trade. But, whoever knew of a farmer combine to attempt anything like that? Here, however, is the merger plan as the Louisville Courier-Journal explains it. The Green River Tobacco Growers' Association, according to the Courier-Journal, includes over 4,000 tobacco growers residing in five Kentucky counties. They produce a brand of tobacco that has a peculiar quality and these farmers entered into a binding agreement not to sell except at an agreed upon price—and that no member of the organization should sell without the common or organization consent.

Of the 1912 crop, amounting to 20,000,000 pounds, the whole product was held under the pooling arrangement and recently sold at a price which the majority of the organization considered satisfactory. Many favored holding out for a higher offer, and the question of selling was finally decided by a general vote. The vote to sell was 1,413 and against selling only 292. Nearly two-thirds of the membership failed to vote, but the result is regarded as binding, and so the Green River tobacco pool for 1912 has dissolved.

The Pujo committee is on the trail of "pools" and "mergers" which may operate to obstruct the competitive principle in trade, but so far has been confining the hunt to the Wall Street jungle. But what is the country coming to if the farmers are learning the Wall Street game?

A MATTER OF SKIRTS.

Fate and fashion have conspired in a way that will set the dressmaker in a stew and, more than that, will cause society folk to box the compass of dress reformers and seek to square the circle of their advanced ideas. The situation is this: As everyone knows, the advanced-idea women have sounded the note of reform in behalf of trousers. Not the slim and tight fitting kind with which men encase their nether limbs, but the baggy style that are worn by the women of the tea-caddie country.

But the very moment the women of the West are advancing upon the fashion ramparts of the East and threatening to take the Chinese women's trousers by storm, comes an edict from the Empress that hereafter the women of China shall wear the dresses of the women of the West.

Now that is a pretty string of fish, indeed. This kind of retaliation is something befuddling. How will the reformers meet the challenge? The only conceivable way is to have the creditor powers that have placed China under obligations for a two-hundred-million-dollar loan to put the screws on the Empress so that she shall rescind her decree. It is awfully annoying for good ladies who have worked out social and hygiene dress reforms in terms of broad-legged trousers to have the one who is the arbiter in this field of dress usage decree that hereafter her subjects shall not wear them at all.

What will the women do about it? They see the slant-eyed celestial ladies of San Francisco's Chinatown tearfully laying aside their silky, cool, wide trousers to don the unsighty, heavy and stay-compelling attire of the women of the West, while they themselves must tear up their bill of dress reforms or else be guilty of assuming styles that the East has abandoned. Surely, dress reform is a way of toil and disappointment.

NAVAL PROMOTIONS.

When the American Navy has its personnel placed upon the plane of service rather than of preferment the country will have better assurance for the right man in the right place in time of war. After all, this is the chief consideration in all the range of military and naval preparedness. The country can amass armament, it can be rich in the munitions of war and in defenses. It can have ships and it can have men, and yet have little more than a mob. Organization is the thin piano wire running through the service that gives it its tensile strength, its elasticity; in a word, its power to sustain and to adapt. What more could be asked and where is it to be found? Would the most optimistic apologist for the United States Navy personally want to go on record that it is much advanced over earlier times when there could be found under the flag gray-haired midshipmen? In fact, is not that about what is needed after all; not necessarily gray-haired midshipmen, but gray-haired officers in all the intermediate grades through the line to that of fleet commander. In the latter position, if the gray hairs do not predominate, all the better.

What is the situation as it exists and the situation that the new personnel bill is intended to correct? Simply this, that the United States naval service is based upon rapid preferment. It is based upon rushing men from the naval school into the service and then shoving them up the line with dreary and deadly routine. This is hardly a dignified way to characterize the process by which the ever-verdant ambition for higher place and more pay dominates the promotional system of the Navy Department. Yet it is, in fact, true. Does the present law take cognizance of the need for highly experienced commanders at the top of the ladder? Not a bit of it. By the present system they arrive about two years from the time they are to retire. In consequence the United States never has men in these highest positions who have the best grade of competency. These flag officers reach the grade only a short time before retirement and in consequence the most important post in the service is made merely a jumping-off point into retirement.

A parallel is furnished in the person of Colonel Goethals. Suppose that the Panama Canal could have had his services for only a year or so and then another had taken his place and so on, would the Canal have been as finely carried out and the project as rapidly and well executed? Not by any manner of means. It would have been a precious pile of junk machinery and excavation, much as like the situation in which De Lesseps left it. What then can be expected of the American Navy when the flag officer, the most important in the line, the one upon whom all responsibility for the personnel depends, whose ultimate qualifications must be the test of the service in time of war, is retired almost in the same moment that he receives his commission?

Manifestly the first question in the correction of the prevailing defects is to determine the number of officers needed. This should be done by consideration of tonnage, how many ships and the number of men in consequence needed to officer them. Yet the present law blissfully ignores this primary condition. It is one thing to have the right number of officers approximated and another thing to have them rightly approximated as to the proper promotion for each grade. Yet this is largely a matter of simple mathematics. Manifestly there must be more of the officers of lesser rank, just as there are numerous laboratory assistants and associate professors in a department which is dominated by a master mind. The trouble is that under the present system everyone seeks to reach the top and, barring fatalities of one or another kind, has the chance so to do. It then becomes a question of providing vacancies.

Here comes in the matter of the promotional age. Having provided for eliminations along the line, so that only a fraction of the line officers can reach the flag position, while others retire at age in one or another of the lower ranks, the way is open for the advance of those meeting the promotion conditions to the ultimate command with years enough to their credit to give them a long enough term of service in that capacity to insure for the American Navy the one prime requisite—efficiency in the highest post. At the same time the men in the lesser ranks would be kept there long enough to insure their perfection in the range of qualification.

As to the relative cost under the present and the proposed system, the proposed system would be much the less costly for the country. The new bill would provide for the retirement of lieutenant commanders, with 33 per cent. of their pay after thirty years and, in grade, for other officers after thirty years' service at three-fourths pay. The new bill, therefore, would provide more officers without increased expense, thus giving the taxpayer larger returns for his money.

Such is the scope of the measure that is intended to correct the flagrant defects and abuses of the present naval personnel bill and that will lay no more cost upon, but, in fact, will bring a reduction of cost to the taxpayer. Congress, therefore, would be acting in the line of the interests of the service to pass this bill. It would be taking account of the wise adages of statesmen of all times to make the test of patriotism and peace the best preparedness for war.

THE SUNDAY AMERICAN.

The Sunday American of tomorrow will be the first issue in 1913 and it will be a complete newspaper in every way. The record made by The Sunday American in 1912 went far ahead of all previous records, and the aim will be to leave the 1912 records far behind during this new year.

The Sunday American is one of the great newspapers of the United States. In Baltimore no other Sunday paper can compare with it in any way. In its news, in its special features, its society and sporting records, in every department it has no equal in the city, no paper that can claim to be in its class. The paper is a welcome visitor to practically every home in Baltimore and adjoining territory. It is Baltimore's greatest home paper, because it is the greatest paper in Baltimore and the whole South. No other Sunday paper in this city or in this part of the country can now compare with it in interest, in influence, in circulation, in popularity. It stands in a class by itself, without a rival, without a competitor. By years of careful and painstaking effort, by the employment of the best news agencies and newsgatherers, by a strict adherence to a progressive policy and a firm determination to spare no expense to make the newspaper ideal in every respect, The Sunday American has been placed in a position in this community **no other** Sunday paper can even approach. The American feels proud of this record, proud of the fact that its efforts have been followed by the commendation of this whole community.

The Sunday American of tomorrow will cover the whole field and cover it well. It will go into the homes of Baltimore and have many times more readers than any other paper. It is not published, either in whole or in part, in New York or any other distant city. Every page of it comes right off the great presses of The American's fine plant and goes direct to its thousands upon thousands of readers. In circulation it keeps on gaining every Sunday. Long ago it passed the 100,000 mark, and adds to the great record every issue.

THE BIG STORM.

A storm of great sweep and intensity, the tremendous blow of yesterday, was a source of wide damage to the city and suburbs as well as along the coast. The peculiar nature of the windstorm and the hurricane proportions it assumed, was the cause of the damage being so extensive. The shipping was imperiled and much damage done on the water. As for the land, the unroofing of houses, the breaking of windows, the tearing up of trees and the razing of fences are but a part of the damage done by this exceptional tempest.

The forty-mile gale did vast damage to the electric wires, impairing the service and in some places the range of destruction was drastic. Norfolk and particularly coast points felt the great sweep of the winds and waters, and the amount of loss entailed by the storm could not be readily summarized.

Such a storm as this is something that cannot be reckoned with, and the chances taken by those on the water are always serious. Not only locally has the fury of the wind been felt, but during the past few weeks there have been calamitous coast storms, while in the Far North such outbursts have been terrific as testified by the incoming steamers that have advised the abandonment for the time being of the upper route.

NOTES AND NOTIONS

BY JOSH WINK.

THE VARIETY.

First we have gales
Of gentle spring,
Like balmy sighs
That May days bring,
And then before
We've time to cry,
"Jack Robinson."
A cyclone's nigh.

An April day
Is scarcely done
When autumn's time
Comes chill and dun,
And then next morn
A snow storm comes,
And freezes up
Our fireless homes.

One day we buy
Of ice a lot;
We cast off furs
Because it's hot;
Then here's a blast
Come over night,
Of wintry wind—
That's our plight!

LITTLE PITCHERS.

Honey Child—Mamma, Miss Prim has been here an hour and the clock's going yet.

Fond Mamma—What do you mean, dearie? Why shouldn't it go?

Honey Child—But papa said when you told him Miss Prim was coming that she was enough to stop a clock.

THE TROUBLE.

"What makes Miss Oldgirl look so woebegone? Is her state declining?"

"No, but her chances are."

ACKNOWLEDGED.

He—You must admit that you always were after cheap things.

She—Well, I must admit I was when I married you.

ITS KIND.

"What do you mean by telling me you had a soundless riot at your place?"

"Because it was a strike of the deaf and dumb workers."

TRUE ENOUGH.

"That ignorant fellow says that aviators live in aviaries."

"Well, why not? Aren't they bird men?"

THE PRESENT RAGE.

"How can I express my regard for you?"

"Don't express it at all. Send it by parcel post."

CONSISTENCY.

"Where is the president of the anti-gambling league, please?"

"She's not at home. I believe she's gone to her bridge club meeting."

SPEEDING.

"That scandalous story will have to be overtaken."

"Can't be done. It's an automobile scandal."

A WARNING.

"A policeman is a good thing to have in a crowd."

"Maybe, but don't push him along."

NATURALLY.

"On what lines would you write this piscatorial article?"

"The best I know of are fishing lines."

JOSH WINK.

CROWN PRINCESS REBUFFED.

The Crown Princess of Germany takes the greatest interest in women and their work. Apropos of which there is a story that she once applied in person on behalf of a protege of hers to a leading firm of dressmakers for the post of a model.

"I came," she said, "because I saw your advertisement and I thought——"

The manager laid his hand on her shoulder.

"My dear girl," he said, "I am sorry, but it is no use. You are not quite good looking enough. Still, you have a pleasant face, and I'll tell you what I'll do. Come again in a month's time and then I will see if I can fix you up as a junior saleswoman."

His consternation was only equaled by the tact of the Crown Princess in making him forget his discomfiture when he discovered her identity.—New York Sun.

A GENTLE REPRIMAND.

As a young woman attired in a neat blue suit entered a street car a man, his head buried in a newspaper, arose and offered his seat. With a curt nod the young woman accepted, and as soon as she had composed herself she became interested in the contents of her shopping bag. In spite of his apparent abstraction, the man with the newspaper watched her for a moment. Then, speaking hurriedly, he said:

"I beg your pardon, what is it—what did you say?"

The young woman lifted her eyes, and, seeing that she was addressed, answered coolly: "I said nothing, sir."

"Beg pardon, beg pardon," was the absent-minded answer. "I thought you said 'Thank you.'"—Milwaukee Free Press.

LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY

Tomb of Queen Mary's Great-Grandparents Broken Open—A Tragedy of the Eighties.

[Special to The American.]

Queen Mary will have been distressed by the news of the ghoulish outrage perpetrated in the little Protestant church of the Transylvania village of Szent Gyorgy, where the tomb containing the remains of Count Laslo Rhedey and of his wife was broken open, in the expectation of finding valuable family gems, including the crown jewels of the former reigning house of Transylvania, which, according to tradition, had been buried with the bodies. For the Count and Countess Laslo Rhedey in question were Queen Mary's great-grandparents on her father's side.

Their only child, Countess Claudine Rhedey, contracted a morganatic marriage with Prince Alexander of Wurtemberg, who was a general in the Austrian Army, and who obtained for her the Austrian title of Countess of Hohenstein. Her son, originally known as Prince Francis Hohenstein, was created by the King of Wurtemberg, first of all, Prince, and then Duke of Teck, and through his marriage with the royal Princess Mary of Cambridge and Great Britain became the father of Queen Mary. Queen Mary, learning through Prof. Arminius Vambery, the famous Hungarian explorer and authority on oriental matters, that the Rhedey tomb was in a neglected condition, caused it to be repaired at her expense, and a memorial tablet of black marble to be set up in the church, to the effect that the tomb had been repaired by the then Princess of Wales, as a tribute of respect to the memory of her great-grandparents. The inscription, in letters of gold, is in English and in Hungarian, the latter having been translated from the English by Vambery.

Count Leslo Rhedey was the last count of his line and name, and came of a house of the old Hungarian aristocracy that was first ennobled by St. Stephen, King of Hungary, for his services in crushing a rebellion. He was descended in the female line from the sovereign princes of Transylvania, which may account for the tradition that the crown jewels of Transylvania were contained in his tomb in the village church of Szent Gyorgy. But, contrary to what has been stated, there was never a Rhedey dynasty that ruled over Transylvania. For I have before me a complete list of the princes of Transylvania who reigned from 1526, when Zapoley won, with the assistance of the Porte, the sovereignty of Transylvania (after having been done out of the crown of Hungary by Emperor Ferdinand I. of Germany) down to 1699, when Emperor Leopold I. conquered Transylvania and incorporated it in the holy Roman Empire. In this list are the Zapoleys, the Bethlens, the Betskays and the Batcheries, but no Rhedeys.

After having declined all sorts of offers for the beautiful Parisian chateau and park of La Muette, including one from W. G. Vanderbilt, its owner, the Comte de Franqueville, member of the Institute of France, has finally sold it to M. Bloch-Levallois. It is a palace and a park of trees, the latter centuries old, covering some 50 acres within the walls of Paris, situated at the end of the Avenue Victor Hugo, and facing the Bois de Boulogne. The grounds were laid out by Le Notre, the creator of the gardens of the palace of Versailles, while there is scarcely a French King since the day of Charles IX. who has not contributed something in the way of building to the chateau.

It is full of royal and historic associations, and among those who have lived and loved there have been King Francis I., Queen Margaret of Navarre, Louis XIII., Louis XIV., Louis XV., the Regent Duke of Orleans and Queen Marie Antoinette, who spent the early days of her husband's reign there, owing to the prevalence of small pox at Versailles, and who was particularly fond of the place, as was also her most intimate friend and kinswoman, the lovely Duchess de Lamballe, whose head was carried through the streets of Paris on a revolutionary pike during the bloody days of the Terror. It was there that Queen Marie Antoinette gave audience to a lowly Alsatian who craved permission to submit to her an invention destined to supersede the old-fashioned clavocin, or spinet. His name was Sebastian Erard, the father and originator of the instrument now known as the pianoforte.

It was thanks to her patronage that he was able to achieve phenomenal success with his invention, and when at the outbreak of the Revolution the chateau and the grounds were put up at auction, along with other royal property confiscated by the republic, he had acquired sufficient wealth to purchase part of it, with the intention of preserving it for the benefit of his ill-fated benefactress. The remainder was occupied for a number of years by Talleyrand, and it was only later on that old Erard was able to complete his purchase of the entire property, which on the restoration he lent to the royal Comte d'Artois, afterward Charles X., who lived there for a time. As soon as possible, however, Erard resumed possession of the place, where he resided until his death.

Afterward his nephew and niece lived there, and it was during the regime of the latter, when a widow, that it became a center of art, literature and, especially, of music, Abbe Lizst invariably making the chateau his headquarters when in Paris. In the eighties the Chateau de la Muette was the scene of a shocking tragedy. Mme. Erard had an only child, whom she idolized, happily married, as everyone believed, to a good-looking, universally popular Alsatian kinsman of the name of Schaeffer, who had been placed by his mother-in-law at the head of the great firm of Erard, and who administered the affairs thereof to her entire satisfaction. The Schaeffers and their children lived with old Mme. Erard at La Muette. One evening on returning home Schaeffer found on his writing table a note in which his beautiful wife (whom I occasinally used to meet at Mme. Erard's) informed him that not only had she eloped with the butler, who had been in the family for 15 years, but, likewise, that all of her three children were the offspring, not of her husband, but of the butler. Schaeffer cut his throat and was found dead in his wife's room. Mme. Schaeffer and the butler are reported to have come to this country, but have never been heard of since. Perhaps they are still living.

Mme. Schaeffer was cut off without a cent by her mother's will and a moderate provision was made for her unfortunate children, while the Chateau de la Muette and the whole of Mme. Erard's property were bequeathed to a Mme. Francqueville, nee Schaeffer, a niece of Mme. Erard, who had been taken in to serve as a sort of companion to the old lady's daughter during her latter's girlhood. After the tragedy Mme. Francqueville took the place of the erring daughter, while Francqueville assumed the duties of the self-slain son-in-law. After Mme. Erard's death Francqueville obtained the title of count from the Vatican, and being a clever man of considerable attainments, managed to secure membership of the Institute of France.

Some years afterward Mme. De Francqueville, nee Schaeffer, died, leaving several children, among them a daughter, who is married to the Belgian Duc d'Ursel, Baron of Hoboken and governor of the Belgian province of Hainault. Afterward De Francqueville married again, his second and present wife being Lady Sophia Palmer, sister of the Lord Selborne who was high commissioner of **British South Africa for several years and** also first lord of the admiralty, and a daughter of Lord Chancellor Selborne.

MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

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Hanging is Conclusive.

An Oregon paper says: "Any way you look at it, hanging is not satisfactory." But one must admit that it is conclusive.—Salt Lake Tribune.

All They Accomplish.

A great many people spend all their time talking and call it fighting for principle.—Emporia Gazette.

MEN AND WOMEN

Carsamus Paige, the oldest "newsboy" in the world, died in Joliet, Ill., aged 105 years. Paige sold his papers in the streets up to a few days ago when he was taken ill.

Richard Tankersly, first settler of Western Texas, who has just died at Tankersly, the town in that state named after him, boasted that since he was 20 years of age he had never slept indoors.

William Cornwallis West is going to sell at auction a big strip of his Ruthin Castle estate in Denbighshire, North Wales. Mrs. George Cornwallis West—formerly Lady Randolph Churchill, Winston's mother, and originally Miss Jerome, of New York—is the Colonel's daughter-in-law.

Mrs. John Ricords, of Gueda Springs, Kan., daughter of John Keir, of Wellington, was awakened early in the morning by a dog scratching on her front door. She discovered the family dog of her father at the door, and thinking that something had gone wrong, hurried to Wellington, 25 miles away. She found that her father was ill.

Miss Mary Philpot, of San Benito, Tex., has left her entire fortune, estimated at $100,000, to be held in trust by the town, the income to be devoted to helping unmarried woman above the age of 40 who need assistance. Miss Philpot warns her executors against grass widows and provides that the unmarried women must be required to prove that they are past 40.

Frances Hodgson Burnett takes personal care of a sumptuous dollhouse. In the living-room of her summer residence on Long Island she has a large Jacobean cabinet, nearly 400 years old, partitioned off into little rooms which she has furnished with great care. The cabinet is tenanted by so many dolls collected in the course of the author's travels that she says she has forgotten their exact number.

Mrs. Clara Baldwin Stocker, one of the two heirs of the Elias Jackson (Lucky) Baldwin estate in California, who has already received approximately $1,500,000 from the estate, and who is soon to receive half of the remaining $24,000,000 or so, has already spent $1,000,000 in the purchase of a $200,000 steam yacht, diamonds aggregating in value $250,000, a wardrobe whose cost is estimated at $100,000, two residences worth $90,000, a private Pullman car, $40,000 silverware and other precious metals, $20,000; automobiles, $20,000, and many other articles.

Scramble in Philadelphia.

The selling by Philadelphia women of thousands of dozens of eggs at reduced prices no doubt caused a general scramble in that town.—Arkansas Gazette.

Or What He Leaves Them.

Rockefeller advises everyone to be content with what they have.—Milwaukee News.

GOSSIP OF THE STAGE

Isadora Duncan is to make a tour of South America.

Pauline Chase is again playing Peter Pan in London.

Carroll McComas will succeed Julia Sanderson in The Siren.

Orrin Johnson has closed his stock season in San Francisco.

Margaret Bourne has joined the company of James K. Hackett.

George Beban will go to England to appear in The Sign of the Rose.

Joseph M. Gaites will produce a musical comedy called The Purple Road.

Bayard Veiller has written a play for W. T. Hodge called The People are Coming.

The tour of The Yellow Jacket, which shortly leaves New York, will begin in this city.

De Wolf Hopper is going to revive some of his old operatic successes, beginning with Wang.

Doris Keane is to play the leading feminine role in Edward Sheldon's new play, Romance.

A new play by Frederic Arnold Kummer will be produced in the spring called The Painted Woman.

Olga Nethersole is making a great success in the British provinces with The Awakening of Helena Ritchie.

The Kaiser has written a ballet around peasant dances in Corfu, and it will be performed in Berlin this month on the imperial author's birthday.

Much attention in the dramatic press is devoted to Percy Haswell and her plans owing to the general interest felt in this charming and popular favorite.

R. F. Benson, the English actor-manager, is coming to this country to go to San Francisco, where he will arrange pageants at the Panama Exposition.

It is said that the play in which Grace George was to star, Carnival, will not be in shape this season, and Miss George will seek a new comedy for her use.

WINTRY SONNETS.

[From the Chicago Record-Herald.]

I hear the sparrow twitter plaintively
As if it found the world devoid of cheer;
Each twitter that it twits contains a tear,
Its note is one of deep despondency,
All ruffled up, it pleads for sympathy
Perhaps because its toes are cold; the clear,
Sweet notes of lark and thrush we may not hear,
Nor any bobolinkian symphony.

But if the sparrow twittering out there
Thinks I am moved to pity by its twit
Let it resign the thought—I do not care;
There is no reason why it should not fit
To some more mild and sunny climate where
No wintry blast would serve to sadden it.

The cheerless sparrow sitting on the wire
Is like some people who are poorly clad,
Whose hearts are heavy and whose looks are sad,
Who sit near stoves where there is little fire,
Who might have all the comforts they desire,
Who might have independence and be glad—
Who turned from chances that they might have had
And have long since forgotten to aspire.

The little towns, the cheerful countryside,
Have called in vain to them; they sadly stay
Where comforts and where pleasures are denied,
To claim a poor existence day by day;
In gloomy, cheerless hovels they abide,
No doubt preferring to abide that way.

S. E. KISER.

PUBLIC OPINION

Comment of Leading Newspapers on a Variety of Topics—Keeping Places Vacant.

[Philadelphia Press.]

President Taft is still the chief executive of the nation, and will continue to be until March 4. In these remaining two months the responsibility of administration is his, and the duty is his to fill the offices that require filling. It is correspondingly the duty of the Senate to confirm appointments where there is no valid objection to the President's nomination.

To refuse confirmation and keep the offices vacant, merely that a Democratic president, at the beginning of his administration, may have a few more offices at his disposal to fill with Democrats, is an abuse of power, and a very small exhibition of partisan politics.

It is the kind of a thing, too, that invites reprisals. The Democrats have a precarious hold on the next Senate. While they now anticipate a bare majority, there are complications in the legislative situation in several states that may disappoint them. The new president may find it difficult to get all his appointments confirmed, should the Republicans in the next Senate assume the same fractious attitude of stolid opposition now threatened to be invoked against President Taft's final appointments.

The presidential term is four years under the Constitution of the United States, and to deny a president the right to exercise his right of appointment in the last months of his term does violence to the Constitution, and is a gross misuse of power that cannot be justified or defended.

Wilson's Chance to Blunder.

[Hartford Courant.]

If Mr. Wilson does succeed in bringing about an abandonment of the Philippine Islands and leaves those excitable and undisciplined people to "self-government" he will be responsible for a dreadful amount of suffering. Of course, the way out will be to blame those who went in in the first place. It will be easy to say that, if we hadn't gone in we wouldn't have had to go out. But that is no answer at all.

The cold fact is that we are in possession of the Philippines. The islanders were never before so prosperous as they are now. There never before was so little disturbance. The turbulent elements are practically subdued. Education is progressing, and slowly but surely the people are learning a common language and learning to work and be useful. They're coming along. But among them are ambitious and scheming politicians, as there are in Cuba and in all countries where uneasy Spanish blood circulates. If independence were granted these fellows would come to the front. They would organize cliques, establish rival claims, begin fighting, call on outside nations for help and bring in discord and probably bring on international complications. The cry of Philippine independence may do for a campaign, but applying the policy would be a tremnedous blunder—if not an outright crime.

Not Growing Poorer.

[Cleveland Leader.]

Statistics collected by Frank Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, show an increase in wages reported by 48 national and international unions last year, which total $30,188,000. That sum, of course, represents the annual gain for a full year's employment. In 1912 the same unions brought about reductions in the hours of labor equivalent to 21,113,000 hours annually. This is calculated to be equal to an increase of $6,270,000 in pay by the hour.

These great gains for organized labor represent only a part of the improvement in the condition of wage-earners outside of the trades unions. A much larger number of men, unorganized—the farm laborers, for example—also obtained increased pay or shorter hours, or both together. Altogether, the changes of the year meant a vast increase in the remuneration of men and women who earn their living by the toil of their hands.

Surely it cannot be argued by well-informed Americans, in the face of such facts, that the "poor are growing poorer." On the contrary, the wage-earners of the country are better paid than ever before, and the tendency in the wage market is still toward higher figures.

Thirteen.

[Providence Journal.]

Though pretty much of the world was in a state of turmoil one hundred years ago, the precedents generally are not of a kind to cause us anxiety because this is the year with "13" in it. One hundred years ago Europe was upside down, with Napoleon on the run; South America was beginning to flame with the torch of independence in the hand of Bolivar; our War of 1812 was on. A century earlier all was serene. That was the year of the first of the series of treaties embraced in what is designated as the Peace of Utrecht. The map of Europe was "permanently" rearranged by these solemn instruments. The smaller world of the preceding centuries had its troubles, but the "13" years were not conspicuously unhappy. The Scots may identify the superstition with Flodden Field, in 1513; the Romans with the truculent descent of Ladislaus, in 1413. But these were sporadic episodes in periods of disturbance; the uncanny numeral should not be held responsible. A. D. 1313 was notably free from tribulation. Did people worry about "13" so long ago as that? If so, they must have welcomed that new year in fear and trembling.

Revolution—Evolution.

[Washington Herald.]

Although the actual centenary of the Treaty of Ghent is yet two years away interest in its celebration is widespread, perhaps even more so in the United Kingdom than in the United States. The remarkable meeting a few days ago at the London Mansion House, the symposium of international sentiments published by the Belfast Telegraph, as well as numerous other public manifestations, show the desire of the British nation to commemorate appropriately the completion of a hundred years of unbroken peace between the two great nations of the Anglo-Saxon world.

They show more than that. In the proposals to erect a monument to Washington in Westminster Abbey and to secure and preserve the old home of the English Washington as a national and international shrine, there is indicated a desire to recognize the true place of the American Revolution in British history. The fulfilment of these plans would make the coming functions commemorative not only of the Treaty of Ghent but also of the strife which preceded it.

A Needed Service.

[Pittsburgh Dispatch.]

Prof. W. B. Bailey, of Yale, considering the subject of foreigners who come to this country, labor for two or three years, and when they have enough to buy them a house and a little land in their own country, go back there to an old age of comparative ease, after weighing the arguments on both sides, concludes that they are beneficial to the country rather than otherwise. The size of this question is illustrated by the fact that in the last fiscal year 1,017,655 alien immigrants came into this country, but 615,292 went back, leaving a net gain of but 401,863.

Professor Bailey's conclusion is indisputable. We can easily recognize that this class of immigrants is far less desirable than those who come here expecting to attain citizenship, who settle on farms or develop other permanent interests. That, too, is indisputable. But these temporary workingmen come here to do work that will not be done unless they do it. When the demand for their service slackens they go back to their countries, perhaps to come here a second time when the demand for new work involving large amounts of common labor revives.

Job for Doc Cook.

The whereabouts of Colonel Flinn, of Pittsburgh, since the battle of Armageddon has not been discovered. A searching party should be organized.—Manchester Union.

Another Libelous Remark.

Experience has shown that it is not absolutely necessary to make especial arrangements to secure the advice of an ex-president on matters of national concern.—Washington Star.

MUCH IN LITTLE

The German Army will practice the use of skis this winter.

The first cremation on record in Berlin occurred the other day.

New York has six blind operators at telephone switchboards.

Prince Kropotkin, of Russia, now 70, is living quietly in London.

Chicago claims the credit of originating the vocational school idea.

The death rate is increasing among Londoners between 45 and 65.

It is said that a new business corporation is formed every 40 minutes in New York.

Within a few days 48 persons have been fined in New York for driving smoking autos.

In the Island of Jersey every girl who marries receives a cow as a part of her dowry.

The metric system is being urged in India by various commercial and industrial associations.

Jerome D. Greene has resigned a medical job in New York to assist in John D. Rockefeller's philanthropic work.

Esperanto has more than a hundred magazines and journals of its own, which circulate in every civilized country.

Cotton yarn was produced in India aggregating 348,635,792 pounds in the six months April-September, this year, against 301,712,669 pounds last year.

A man of 20 in good health may expect to live 45 years longer; a man of 40, 27.

Out of 56,799,994 acres, the total area of Great Britain, only 9,000,000 are unused for agricultural purposes.

A short time since 40,000 feet (board measurement) of lumbayao and 8,000 feet of tanguili were exported from the Philippines to the United States as samples for cabinetmaking, and it is said that a strong endeavor will be made to make it popular.

Nearly all the exports from the United States to Belgium enter the country at Antwerp, but as this port is the great distributing market for Northwestern Europe, as well as a depot for raw products, it is doubtful if correct figures relating to the district alone have ever been or ever could be compiled.

A recent census gives Formosa a population of 3,341,217. Of this number the Chinese comprise 3,261,100, the Japanese 80,000, Europeans 90 and Americans 12. Of the Japanese population about 25,000 are officials, or quasi officials, and the larger part of the remaining Japanese is engaged in business, only a very small number being farmers. The capital city of Taihoku has a population of 100,000.

Certainly Comes His Way.

Pierpont Morgan says he is not conscious of possessing power. He just seems to have a weekness for money.—Houston Post.

He Ought to Know.

Dr. Wiley's idea seems to be that the right man to head the Bureau of Chemistry is Dr. Wiley.—Detroit Free Press.

IN THE BEST OF HUMOR

"Is De Smythe a married man?"

"He must be. I saw him pull four letters out of his pocket that he had forgotten to mail."—Buffalo Express.

"I see they are going to revise the tariff from agate to zinc."

"Lucky escape for me. I manufacture xylophones."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Wife—Don't you think marriage has improved you, dear?

The Husband—Sure thing. I was an idiot when I married you!—Yonkers Statesman.

Bessie—Did you scream when he tried to kiss you?

Jessie—No, there is a poor man across the street who is dreadfully sick.—Philadelphia Telegraph.

"How would you classify telephone girl," asked the old fogy. "Is hers a business or a profession?"

"Neither," replied the Boob. "It is a calling."—Washington Herald.

"What's that terrible fight going on over there?"

"Oh, that's just an alderman trying to prevent a corporation agent from crowding $1,000 into his pocket."—Puck.

Tommy—Pop, ennui is merely being tired of doing nothing, isn't it?

Tommy's Pop—Yes, my son, with the addition of being too tired to do anything else.—Philadelphia Record.

"Did you read Admiral Dewey's recipe for good health? Horseback riding and no banquets."

"I can go the Admiral one better. Give me banquets and nightmares."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Has Maud succeeded in getting into society yet?"

"No; but she's rising in the social scale. She's been snubbed by a better class of people this year than last."—Boston Transcript.

Mr. Hobbs—How much ought I to put in the contribution box?

Mrs. Hobbs—Wait and see. If that odious Mrs. Jennings is looking put in half a crown. If not, a three-penny bit will do."—Tit-Bits.

"He's been a Democrat for 30 years."

"Well, what of it?"

"I was just thinking it queer that he doesn't consider that that entitled him to a place in Woodrow Wilson's cabinet." Detroit Free Press.

"I shall probably go through life with one ambition ungratified."

"And that is?"

"To know what the Chinaman really writes on my laundry ticket."—Kansas City Journal.

"That is a fine business man," said one waiter.

"He must be," replied the other. "He's the only man who comes in here who can get a dollar's worth of politeness for a 25-cent tip."—Washington Star.

Mary—I've just found out what was the origin of the harp.

John (looking up from his newspaper)—Yes?

Mary—It was in the Garden of Eden. Eve ate the apple—and men have been harping about it ever since.—Judge.

Traveling Lecturer for Society (to the remaining listener)—I should like to thank you, sir, for so attentively hearing me to the end of a rather too long speech.

Local Member of Society—Not at all, sir. I'm the second speaker.—Punch.

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