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MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 1913.

Beware of winter flirting with spring.

◆

President Taft will retire with his duty well done.

◆

Protect the public health by protecting your own health.

◆

That London peace conference is an international farce.

◆

If Frederick Republicans can get together, so can others.

◆

Uncle Joe Cannon, in office or out, will always be a sturdy, patriotic American.

◆

If Washington could vote it would threaten the President-elect with the recall.

◆

A man in Jersey City cut down a pole on his premises when sent a bill for his poll tax. On being confronted with the bill again he naturally lost his head.

◆

Cuba wants to keep Castro away and Venezuela doesn't want him. He seems to be unwelcome everywhere, but that is the natural fate of the professional mischiefmaker.

◆

A man in New York clubbed by a policeman got several hundred dollars' damages. Justice there is not only discarding her leaden pace; she is doing also a near-turkey trot.

◆

With all the talking about peace, it is about time for interest in the war in the East to die out, unless it defies the ordinary human rule, or unless peace itself is talked to death.

◆

American motor cars are underselling the native make in English markets. When it cames to getting a better thing for a lower price even British patriotism is not equal to the strain.

◆

A number of New York girls have resolved not to marry any man who makes less than $10,000 a year. They all start out that way, but as the years go by they become easier to please.

◆

Wilson has one point in common with the average man—he needs plenty of sleep. But he is about to undertake a job on which it will be the delight of the interests to catch him asleep.

◆

An English bishop is scoring his clergy for their laziness and mechanical ministry. There is nothing, apparently, free from the general upheaval of dissatisfaction. But that may be a healthy sign.

◆

King Alfonso of Spain has been sending for the republican leaders to meet him personally. It may amount to nothing, but the expressed desire of a king to meet him is capable of flattering even a republican.

◆

The daughters of the late King Leopold of Belgium have refused a compromise offered by the government of seven millions of their father's fortune and demand the whole ten millions. Even in monarchies money is king.

◆

Now Governor Blease, of South Carolina, is going after the newspaper men, who, he says, garble the speeches of public men. He belongs to the numerous class who, when they find themselves in wrong about anything, immediately abuse the newspapers.

◆

The women marchers in Washington will meet more chivalrous treatment in the national capital than they did in New York, for if the police there cannot protect them, as they were unable or unwilling to do in the latter city, they will have a cavalry escort. Uncle Sam always has been noted for his politeness to the ladies.

◆

Either the methods of kidnappers who seize young girls in public streets and successfully carry them off in public stations and street cars are bold to an incredible degree, or young girls surrounded by willing help are sadly lacking in common-sense nerve power.

◆

The first woman state senator in the United States took her seat in the Colorado legislature, and removed all doubt as to the expediency of having a woman lawmaker when she insisted that her presence should not interfere with the time-honored privilege of smoking.

◆

The case of a medical college in Wisconsin, where a raid by a humane society revealed valuable stolen dogs, is one not peculiar to that locality and which should receive both moral and legal attention. An authority of one big college was quoted as saying he did not know where the animals offered them for experiment came from, and that he did not want to know, thus virtually confessing a knowledge, or at least reasonable suspicion, that they were stolen. Animals are property, and not even the researches of science justify invasion by theft of property rights.

DAMAGED FRUIT.

The cold wave that swept down the Pacific Coast recently froze on the trees more than a million boxes of oranges, lemons and grape fruit. The growers, according to reports fro mLos Angeles, are proposing to gather the thawed-out fruit and ship it to Eastern markets. An orange or other citrous fruit that has been frozen does not rot immediately and its outer appearance is not much altered. Its quality, however, is almost entirely destroyed. Nearly all the juice evaporates and what is left is insipid and valueless.

Eastern cities were deluged with frozen oranges when the Central Florida crop was destroyed by cold in 1895. It is doubtful whether the California fruit injured by the freeze will pay car fare. The result of offering this damaged fruit on its good outside appearance will be to put even good fruit under suspicion. The earlier estimates placed the damaged fruit at 40,000 car loads; the later estimates say 10,000 carloads. But even 10,000 car loads of juiceless oranges and lemons would turn the market for citrous fruit to the bad.

It is said that only the less damaged fruit is to be marketed. The fruit, if not frozen is not damaged, and if frozen it is fatally damaged, whatever may be its respectable appearance. Freezing means death to any kind of fruit every time.

CITY'S LEGAL VICTORIES.

Not alone because of the apparent fact that the city is placed in position to obtain fair treatment in condemnation proceedings, which may finally be resorted to in obtaining properties for the proposed twenty-billion-gallon reservoir, is there reason for gratification at the decision of the State Court of Appeals sustaining the new condemnation law. This is the near view occasion for satisfaction and this alone would be a sufficient one, but there is a larger reason in that the city will be freed in all future transactions involving land condemnation from the grotesque operative methods which so frequently prevailed under the old scheme of condemnation by a sheriff's jury.

Two favorable decisions within a single week affecting the city's land purchase activities is reason enough for a state of rejoicing in the City Solicitor's office. The two decisions apparently open the way for a speedy realization of the greater reservoir scheme. The work at Loch Raven, now in progress, may be pushed right along as planned, and if within one year's time, or two or five years, the way should be cleared for raising the dam to the original height contemplated so as to create the big lake that would cover the Warren property, there will be no tearing down and building over necessary.

EXPERIMENT FARMS.

The scheme of establishing a string of model farms, which has been inaugurated by several of the big railroad systems, will ultimately accomplish big results in way of inspiring and promoting better farming methods. The Illinois Central system, according to a Chicago report, is to establish twenty-six new experiment farms during the present year, and fifteen of these farms will be in the old South, distributed along the Central Georgia division of the system. The outfitting of the new farms will make fifty-seven in all under the control of the Illinois Central. These farms are intended not only to try out new theories in fruit growing, field culture or some other branch of farming, but to demonstrate the practicability and efficacy of intensive farming.

That these experiment farms will exert an inspirational influence is indicated by some of the local reports from sections where the first of the railroad farms have been for some time in operation. These reports are to the effect that in instances enterprising farmers have entered into competition with the railroad farms, and in several cases, it is said, have achieved more successful results. In all sections of the United States the farming industries are in something of a transitional situation. We have reached a period when we are realizing the importance of intensive methods. If the potential yield of an acre is fifty bushels of wheat or one hundred bushels of corn, the farmer who is obtaining an average yield of only twenty bushels of wheat or fifty bushels of corn should be asking himself what is the matter with his farming.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH END.

The return of another Antarctic explorer—Lieutenant William Filchner, of the German Navy—to a point within the wired communications turns attention anew to the Antarctic problem. The German explorer did not try to reach the pole. His main purpose was to settle finally the controversy as to whether there is a vast contiguous land area at the southern end of the earth—a south polar continent—or only a collection of large islands grouped in a frozen ocean. From the meager information thus far transmitted the value of Lieutenant Filchner's observations cannot be even approximately estimated.

His first dispatch to Berlin, from Buenos Ayres, announced the discovery of new land and of another ice barrier. At present the theory is generally accepted that the various land discoveries in the antarctics from the days of Captain Cook down to the comparatively recent locations, are but parts of the same continental area, which, if the continental hypothesis is true, is larger than Australia—perhaps as large as North America.

For practical purposes it is not of much difference whether the land around the South Pole is contiguous or is broken into a score or so of islands. It is questionable whether any utilitarian purpose can be subserved by exploration of the polar regions, either to the northward or southward. In a land area, almost if not quite as big as the whole of North America, there may be and probably are valuable mineral stores hidden, such as have been located in all the other continents. But will human enterprise ever be able to spot and utilize these stores? That is a question which figures in the guessing.

FOR A GREAT CELEBRATION.

In an address before the Baltimore Teachers' Literary Club Mayor Preston made a number of suggestions concerning the celebration in this city of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the national anthem, the Star-spangled Banner. The Mayor declared it to be his personal hope and expectation that the promotive agencies of the city will cooperate to the purpose of making this celebration a demonstration worthy of the city and worthy the great historic event commemorated. He said he is expecting that the business organizations of the city will, within a short time, unite in promoting a definite plan for the 1914 celebration.

It is hardly necessary to remark that the planning of this celebration, which should be given a far more than local significance, is a matter of paramount importance—which is to say that a committee composed of those possessing a peculiar fitness for working out such a problem should be constituted and set about the business of idealizing the celebration scheme. There is at present a general vagueness as to what the celebration is to be and as to how big or how little it is to be. Are we to have a one-week celebration or a two-week celebration? Or is it to be boiled down to a matter of one day or two days? Are we to have a series of brilliant pageants illustrating the momentous events which followed the appearance of the British fleet in the Chesapeake Bay during the summer of 1814, and particularly the landing of the British at North Point, the repulse of the overland movement, the bombardment of Fort McHenry, during which the national anthem, glowing white hot in patriotic fervor, came from the heart of Francis Scott Key?

There are few events in American history affording such thrillingly dramatic material for pageantry as the attempted capture of Baltimore by the British in the early autumn of 1814. The battle of North Point, in conjunction with the bombardment of Fort McHenry and the attempt of the British to pass the fort in small boats and land at Port Covington, constitute a series of thrilling episodes which can be reproduced with spectacular effectiveness. The repulse of the British at Baltimore in 1814 has never been given the prominence which it deserves by those who have undertaken to recount the events of our national history. The State of Maryland and the City of Baltimore must co-operate to the purpose of making the centenary celebration of this crucial victory such an allegorical presentation as will impress the whole country. We must make all Americans see how, when, where and why the banner song was born. The working out of a series of pageants that will fittingly set forth the white-hot history which Baltimore made in 1814 is a task worthy of a Belasco or of a dramatic genius of the first order.

This is the day of the specialist—of the trained expert in idealization. We engage the talents of architects, mural artists and sculptors to develop ideals of beauty. Even in business there are experts who plan and organize. The preparing of a spectacular drama that is to be staged is intrusted only to those possessing a high order of talent for such work. The committee that shall be intrusted with the responsibility of arranging Baltimore's 1914 celebration should engage the services of an expert planner, just as it would employ an architect if a splendid building were in contemplation or a landscape artist if an important park were to be developed. Once the general plan of the 1914 celebration is properly worked out the bringing of the plan to realization will be comparatively simple.

The celebration to be held next year in its allegoric aspects should portray vividly the tensified and glowingly patriotic spirit which animated Baltimoreans when it became practically certain that an attack by the invading British forces was in contemplation. The reproduction in the December number of the Maryland Historical Magazine of a personal narrative written in 1854 by James Piper, who was a member of the volunteer army that defended the city in 1814, gives an impressive echo of the tense feeling that the announced approach of the British engendered.

Piper says: "Constant drills of officers and men were going on day and night, and nothing was heard of or talked of which did not sound of war. Our city became a camp and our citizens soldiers." He gives an impressionistic picture of the activity in throwing up defenses, "extending somewhat beyond Harford avenue." He says that "the gun, the spade and the pick were all put in requisition, and in due time strong batteries, with their heavy guns in great number, stood with gaping mouths watching for our enemy on the eastern heights." He tells how, after having repulsed the land attack, the intrenched army in the northeastern section of the city watched the bombardment of Fort McHenry. "From our elevated position we could see every bomb and rocket fall, and, happily, they generally fell, short or went beyond the fort."

The Piper narrative alone furnishes information upon which to base a good allegoric portrayal.

THAT FAR-FLUNG BOUNDARY.

Sir Edward Grey, the British secretary of foreign affairs, in a recent speech in promotion of the proposed 1914 celebration of a hundred years of peace between the United States and Great Britain made felicitous reference to the fact that, although Canada and the United States touch each other along a stretch of nearly 4,000 miles, not a fort nor a sentinel nor a cannon exists on either side of this invisible frontier line to indicate the existence of any mutual suspicion between the two great friendly peoples. That must be rather a striking fact to one familiar with the fortifications and armed camps that are strung along some of the European boundary lines.

This same boundary line, however, is a good deal of a nuisance. Both Americans and Canadians, when they speak their minds frankly, pronounce it to be so. Canada refused by popular vote to approve the reciprocity agreement—a purely sentimental fling which the Dominion is probably even now regretting at leisure. Though this special trade arrangement was turned down fully one-half of the Dominion's foreign trade for the last fiscal year was with the United States. The United States sold to Canada commodities to the value of $368,145,107, as against sales by Great Britain valued at $137,684,394. And Canada sold to the United States commodities to the value of $120,534,634.

That suggested idea of commercial union between Canada and the United States is not in the least chimerical. It is natural and inevitable—it is already in process in spite of tariff walls and political boundary lines. There is a community of interest between Canada and the United States which grows constantly more interlocking.

FOR POWER DEVELOPMENT.

Secretary Fisher, of the Interior Department, attaches a large amount of significance to the plan, or modus operandi, under which the Great Falls Power Company, of Montana, has been granted permission to transmit over the public domain, but under strict governmental regulation, transmuted electric power for the movement of trains over 450 miles of the Chicago, Milwaukee and Puget Sound Railroad. The importance of this grant is in the fact that it is the first grant under the regulative statute relative to electrical transmission, which was passed on the 4th of March, 1911. The Secretary of the Interior believes that this arrangement demonstrates not only that the congressional act designed to protect the interests of the public does not interfere with water-power developments in areas under government control, but really encourages and promotes such development.

He declares that under the conditions provided in the statute the Interior Department and the power company found that they could co-operate cordially and effectively in arranging the terms of a grant so that it would be fair to both public and private interests and rights. The grant runs for fifty years, but is subject to readjustment every ten years. It is the reasonable expectation that the arrangement which the Great Falls Power Company has perfected will constitute not only a precedent, but serve as an object lesson. There are numerous water powers on government lands susceptible of development. It should now appear that this power may fairly and profitably be put to use under the conditions which the federal statute imposes.

NOTES AND NOTIONS

BY JOSH WINK.

THE TIMES.

Oh, these times are strange and tangled!
Here, the airs are mild and balmy,
Windows thrown up to the breezes,
Furnaces out of commission,
Coal heaps resting in the cellars
As in day when they were shoveled;
Coal men facing destitution,
Plumbers losing their religion,
Swearing in a maddened frenzy
'Cause no water pipes are bursting,
'Cause the bathrooms in the houses
Take not to the annual freezing,
With much profit to their pockets.
Back unto their usual torment
Swarm the flies and the mosquitoes,
Thinking that the winter's over.
Hens of dignified demeanor
Are deceived by vernal mildness
Into laying eggs in plenty;
Bluebirds in the air are singing,
Daffodils and daisies blossom;
Young folks stroll out in the moonlight,
Older ones sit on their porches,
Careful men who own big orchards
Pack in ice roots of their apples,
And the time of all these doings
Is supposed to be midwinter?

APPROPRIATE.

"Judging from his garden, the owner of the property must be very fond of smoke trees."

"Yes; he's a tobacconist."

THE LAST IDEA.

"They are now adapting prisons to their inmates' needs."

"Is that so? Then I suppose for the convicts of mind and education, they have brain cells."

HEREDITY.

"What a bouncing baby!"

"No wonder. Its pa is in the rubber business."

OPPOSITES MEETING.

"What is the most productive source of hard cash?"

"I should say, soft things."

BOSTONESE.

"That tramp talks funny, ma'am. He says he castigated his itinerary from Boston."

"He only means he beat his way."

LITERAL.

"Jaggs told me a new light broke upon him last night."

"I should say so! His wife smashed their Christmas lamp on his head."

ITS NATURE.

"That poultry contrivance over there is a thoughtful thing, isn't it?"

"How do you mean?"

"I notice it is a brooder."

NATURALLY SO.

"Things are just humming in my business."

"What is it?"

"Publishing popular airs."

NOT IN KEEPING.

"Summer rates are so expensive."

"That's true, but while they naturally are high at the mountain resorts, one might expect them at the seashore to be more on the level."

JOSH WINK.

BIRTHDAY SURPRISES.

It was the early hours of the morning, and not yet light, when Brown woke up with a sense of impending dread.

He had suddenly remembered that it was his wife's birthday, and he had bought her no present. Mrs. Brown would want to know why.

Ah, an idea! Creeping steadily down stairs he put a very large plate on the hall table, and then, still silently, let the dog into the house. The preparations were complete.

"Many happy returns of the day, my dear," he chortled. "As it is your birthday, I have got a little surprise for you. Be quick and come down stairs and see it."

Full of anticipation, the good lady followed him, and was just in time to see him kick the dog out of the house, and stare with amazement at the empty plate.

"If that wretched dog hasn't eaten all the beautiful cake I brought home for you last night!" he cried in well-acted anger.

But he had overlooked one little fact. The dog had worn his muzzle. It took a long time to explain the incident away.—Weekly Telegraph.

ALMOST AS BAD.

Graham B. Nichol, who makes many trips between New York and Washington, looks in the mirror every morning and frankly admits that if he had lived in ancient days he would never have been a close rival of Adonis at a beauty show. Furthermore, he tells this story on himself:

Not long ago, when he was on a train pulling out of New York, he went back to the observation platform and found that the only other person there was a very pretty girl. As Nichol took his seat the girl looked at him and laughed.

"Well," said Nichol, in a burst of inspiration, "you have nothing on me. I regard it in the same light."

"What do you think I was laughing at?" smiled the girl.

"Why," replied Nichol, "you were laughing at this horrible face which I have to push through the world."

"No," she said mercifully. "I wasn't laughing at your face, but when I looked at you I thought of something funny."—Popular Magazine.

LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY

The New Lord Ashburnham—His Wife Formerly a Telephone Operator.

Special to The American.

Inasmuch as the Hon. John Ashburnham, of the Croft, Crowborough, Sussex, formerly of the English diplomatic service and one time consul general and diplomatic agent in Bulgaria, died last May without leaving any issue by his marriage with Miss Maud Dawson, daughter of an Anglo-Indian official, it is Major the Hon. Thomas Ashburnham, third brother of the fifth Lord Ashburnham, who now through the latter's demise succeeds to the earldom of Ashburnham, to the viscounty of St. Asaph, to the other honors and estates in Suffolk, Sussex and Wales, and to a considerable fortune.

Major Ashburnham has for the last twelve years made his home at Fredericton, New Brunswick, where he married, in 1903, Miss Marie Anderson, a telephone operator in the employ of the New Brunswick Telephone Company. Formerly a captain of the Seventh Hussar Regiment, with which he served in the Egyptian campaign of 1882 under Lord Wolseley and aid-de-camp to two viceroys of Ireland, one of them Lord Aberdeen (during his former tenure of that office), Thomas Ashburnham accepted a commission as major of a Canadian militia regiment, the Twenty-eighth New Brunswick Dragoons, after settling down at Fredericton. I understand that he sailed the day before yesterday for England, with his wife, for the purpose of taking possession of his inheritance.

The new Lord Ashburnham, who is a man of nearly 60, has no children, and in the event of his death without male issue, the family honors will become extinct, while the entailed estates will either be left at the disposal of his widow or else become the subject of lawsuits on the part of the descendants of the daughters of the fourth Earl Ashburnham.

There was little love lost between the new Lord Ashburnham and the late earl, for only last year the two were engaged in legal proceedings against each other. in connection with the will and estate of another brother, the Hon. George Ashburnham, who died in 1911; and under the circumstances it is quite possible that Lord Ashburnham, a Protestant, may endeavor to revoke the action of the late earl, a convert to Roman Catholicism, in placing Pembrey, his country seat and park in Carmarthenshire, at the disposal of the Benedictine monks, after their expulsion from their monasteries in Brittany. There is so much resemblance between the Welsh and Breton languages that the monks, most of them natives of Brittany, found themselves able to converse freely with their Carmarthenshire, neighbors, who though nearly all different in faith, welcomed them with the utmost kindness.

The late earl left an only daughter, Lady Mary Ashburnham, now 22 years of age, who has gecome a nun, and belongs to the Convent of the Sacred Heart, at Roehampton, on the outskirts of London. No one knew of the birth of this daughter until several years after it had taken place, and it had always been supposed that the late earl was an inveterate bachelor, until the London Times of February 14, 1895, contained an announcement to the effect that "On January 2, 1890, the Countess of Ashburnham gave birth to a daughter." Lower down in the same column, on the first page of the Times, there was an announcement among the marriage notices that, "On February 25, 1888, a marriage took place between Bertram, Earl of Ashburnham, and Emily, daughter of Robert Chaplin."

The latter on investigation turned out to be a petty tradesman, very respectable, but of humble origin. The countess lived a very retired life, was altogether unknown to the great world of London, and even to her husband's relatives. But he was devoted to her, and when she died in 1900, that is to say, after 12 years of happy marriage, he mourned her deeply and sincerely. He was a man of great erudition and somewhat contradictory characteristics. For, whereas in all dynastic matters, at home and abroad, he was an ardent legitimist—actually a founder of the White Rose or Jacobite League—in domestic matters he was a Radical and a home ruler. Some years ago he sold the greater part of his world-famed library at Ashburnham Place, Battle, Sussex, the gems of which, including the Mazarin Bible and the MSS. Evangelarius, given by Emperor Louis the Pious to the Convent of Noble Cannonesses, which he founded in A. D. 834, at Lindau, on Lake Constance, found their way into the possession of J. Pierpont Morgan and now figure among the latter's treasures in his library in New York.

Ashburnham Place, in Sussex, is a delightfully picturesque country house, with its gables and lofty tower, perched on a knoll in a deeply wooded glen. It is still full of interesting relics, including the shirt, silk drawers and watch worn by Charles I. at his execution; also the bloodstained sheet in which his body was wrapped after his death. These have been in the family ever since Sir John Ashburnham, after assisting Charles I. in his flight from Hampton Court, attended that illfated monarch on the scaffold at Whitehall.

The late Lord Ashburnham was the subject of an extraordinary error on the part of Mr. Gladstone. On the occasion of the formation of one of his administrations he nominated the earl for the office of lord in waiting to Queen Victoria, who gave her sanction to the appointment. It was only after the appointment had been gazetted that her attention was called to Lord Ashburnham's presidency of the White Rose League, which proclaimed her as a usurper, and Princess Louise of Bavaria, wife of the new regent of that kingdom, as the lawful sovereign of Great Britain and Ireland, the earl and his fellow-members of the Jacobite League refusing to recognize either the revolution which drove the Stuarts from the throne or the Act of Settlement which vested the crown in the house of Hanover. Of course the appointment was hastily cancelled, not without, however, the queen expressing considerable annoyance at her premier's carelessness in the matter.

The late Lord Ashburnham was one of the most intimate friends of Don Carlos of Spain, and not only fought under him in several of his wars for the Spanish crown, but also contributed extensively to the expenses of those unsuccessful struggles. As long as Don Carlos lived, Lord Ashburnham was his only accredited representative in England. There was a good deal of the Spaniard about the late Lord Ashburnham in his chivalrous, Quixotic ideas, so out of keeping with those of the present day, in the gravity and dignity of his demeanor and carriage and also to a great extent in his appearance. For at his place in Sussex he was wont to affect the voluminous Spanish cloak and broad-brimmed sombrero which we are accustomed to associate with the hidalgo.

Perhaps the most notable incident of the late earl's career was his treatment of the French government. Not long after he succeeded to the honors and estates of his father negotiations for the sale of some of the unrivaled collection of rare books and ancient manuscripts to the British Museum brought to light the fact that the Ashburnham library included a large quantity of valuable manuscripts and ancient volumes that had been stolen by Libri from the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris. Libri, it may be remembered, was the chief librarian of the National Library of France and had as such access to all its treasures and to the public libraries throughout France.

As soon as the fifth Earl Ashburnham, who has just died, was made aware that the manuscripts and volumes stolen by Libri were under his roof he restored them all to the French government free of cost, at a sacrifice of $250,000, which he had been offered for them. Lord Ashburnham's family is one of the oldest in England, and has been established at Ashburnham since before the Norman Conquest. Sir Bertram Ashburnham was constable of Dover Castle in 1066, which he defended against William the Conqueror, who, when it was ultimately taken by storm, beheaded him.

MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

According to Teddy.

Colonel Roosevelt says it is an outrage to punish anyone for contempt of court.—Kansas City Journal.

Hardly a Long Shot.

Forty thousand dollars to play baseball! Geewhillikins, what a Chance!—New York World.

MEN AND WOMEN

"Uncle" Moses Quarter, of Saco, Me., 82 years of age, is the oldest active bricklayer in that state. He began his labors in the same yard where he is employed today.

Capt. William Greenleaf, of North Boothbay, Me., has passed 70 of his 84 years as a fisherman. He is not regularly engaged in this occupation now, but for 40 years he fished off the Banks. Later in life he began harbor fishing in Casco Bay, and continued to do so for 30 years.

Every year upon the anniversary of his marriage Professor Palmer, of Harvard, gives somethin to Wellesley in memory of his wife, Alice Freeman Palmer, who was president of Wellesley. Last week he gave to the woman's college a set of a first edition copy of every translation of the Iliad and Odyssey.

The King of Denmark on the occasion of his recent visit to Stockholm, personally conferred upon Mlle. Sally Hogstrom the rare distinction of the Danish gold medal of merit in acknowledgment of the excellent work she has done in introducing into Denmark the Swedish Ling system of gymnastics.

Mrs. O. S. Johnson, widow of the man who left the bulk of his fortune to the founding of a manual training school for the poor boys and girls of Scranton, Pa., and the county, has purchased a villa in Nice, Italy. Mrs. Johnson, who has been abroad many times in recent years, it is understood, is to spend her winters at her new villa.

John D. Rockefeller has a distant cousin, bearing the family name, who is employed in St. Louis as a street-car motorman. He is S. J. Rockefeller. The fact that he is a kinsman of the wealthy oil magnate is one of the least of the St. Louis man's troubles. Keeping his car from hitting pedestrians is far more trying on him.

All records for long speeches in the Austrian Parliament have been broken by M. Fresi, a Czech deputy, who spoke in the lower house from 8 P. M. until noon on the following day in the debate on the mobolization laws. He was relieved at regular intervals by other Czech deputies, who obtained short spells of rest for him by organized interruptions.

Dissolved in Advance.

Mr. Munsey's "holding company" has been dissolved in advance by universal demand.—New York Evening Sun.

Will Hold Him for Awhile.

A resident of that city asks Governor Wilson to reform Chicago.—New Orleans Times Democrat.

GOSSIP OF THE STAGE

George V. Hobart is extending the Dinkelspiel sketch into a three-act play to be produced in the spring in England by Joseph Hart.

Marion Leonard, who has been in the moving picture drama, is to appear in a sketch on the vaudeville stage called The Strange Woman.

It is asserted that the four companies playing Bunty Pulls the Strings are returning nearly $30,000 a week to the managers, the Shuberts.

Bertha Kalich denies the report that she is to play Lady Macbeth with Tyrone Power. She will remain in vaudeville with Mrs. Fiske's tragic playlet, The Light From St. Agnes.

William Hammerstein has secured the Parisian sensation called Rouge et Noir, a music hall production, which is a dancing novelty, with Bert French and Alice Eis as the principals, with a company of 20.

In All for the Ladies, in which Sam Bernard is starring, he assumes the role of a head fitter in a ladies' tailoring establishment. The book of the piece is by Henry Blossom and the music is by Alfred G. Robyn.

Frances Kennedy, who is playing one of the leading roles in The Red Petticoat, Rida Johnson Young's musical play, is in private life the wife of Thomas J. Johnson, county attorney for Cook county, Ill.

Valeska Surratt, now touring in The Kiss Waltz, has commissioned a well-known author to write a play for her use next season. It is her own idea that she shall portray Venus, Cleopatra, Josephine, DuBarry and others, including herself.

Leo Birinski's comedy, The Fool's Dance (Narrentanz), which has been a sensational success in Europe and is now running in Munich, Hanover and several other cities in Germany and Austria, has been purchased for America by Klaw & Erlanger.

Klaw & Erlanger are presenting Elsie Ferguson in Primrose, a comedy by Caillavet and De Flers, at the Blackstone Theater, in Chicago. Both star and play are highly praised. Miss Ferguson is a favorite in Chicago, and she has added to her laurels in Primrose.

Laura Hope Crews and H. B. Warner, who are associated as co-stars in Henry Miller's production of Blackbirds in New York, are natives of widely separated cities. Miss Crews was born in San Francisco. Her grandparents went to California by the way of Cape Horn among the early gold-seekers of 1849. Miss Crews made her stage debut in San Francisco when she was four years old. Warner was born in London and went on the London stage in the support of his father, Charles Warner.

TWO WORKMEN.

[From the Denver Republican.]

Smith was a novelist who stood
High in the fiction list;
Ten thousand readers found him good,
Yet he could not desist
From patching up his fence one day,
Whereon he whacked his thumb,
It was his pen hand—sad to say,
He lost a goodly sum.

Jones was a carpenter who thought
He'd try the writing game;
But all his efforts came to naught—
He got no wealth or fame,
And in the meantime he had lost
Of contracts nine or ten—
So much for what Jones found it cost
To monkey with the pen.

If Smith had let the plane alone,
The hammer and the nail—
He'd ne'er have bruised his flesh and bone
Nor halted some great tale.
If Jones had shunned the fountain pen
He ne'er had played the deuce
And crimped his income—ah, but then
These morals are no use!

PUBLIC OPINION

Comment of Leading Newspapers on a Variety of Topics—Burning Up Less Wealth.

[Cleveland Leader.]

For the last 10 years the fire losses of the United States and Canada, taking no account of the San Francisco earthquake, have averaged more than $200,000,000 annually. In the last five years the average has been about $225,000,000.

That was the sum estimated by the best authorities for 1912. It is based on the most accurate figures obtainable, but fire losses can never be ascertained with entire precision. In 1911 and in 1910 the loss was over $234,000,000 each year.

It will be seen that there has been a gain, though comparatively small, and new hope exists that the tide will turn and this vast national waste will gradually be reduced to more reasonable proportions. It is a burden which the people of the United States ought not to be forced to carry.

Even a stationary fire loss would be in effect a large gain, with the population, business and property of the nation increasing rapidly, and from that point of view there has been a notable improvement in the last five years. Gradually the country will reach higher and safer ground in guarding its property against fire, and the annual ash-heap will become a less formidable indictment of American business methods and indifference to waste.

The Turkish Stand.

[Cleveland Plain Dealer.]

Turkey's proposition to give up everything except Adrianople has all the appearance of being final. The Ottoman representatives decline to give heed to the advice of the great powers, just as they have refused to listen to the threats of the Balkan allies. They will concede everything else that can be asked, as long as Adrianople is left in their possession.

Such obstinacy has a firmer basis in sentiment than in practical common sense. Adrianople can be of small value to Turkey, strategic or otherwise, if the rest of her European domain is taken from her. But to the Turks Adrianople is a holy city. It possesses a mosque of great sancitty. It was the first important conquest of the Turks in Europe, and was the capital of the Turkish Empire long before Constantinople was finally wrested from the Byzantines. Moreover, the present brave defense of the city has endeared it still further.

If Turkey refuses peace because of the one disputed point of the possession of Adrianople she will resume the war for the sake of sentiment.

Prophets Who Fall Down.

[Washington Star.]

Prophecy is a dangerous trade, whether the prophet deals in politics or the weather. If there were not prophets on every side of every question the prophet would have become extinct ages ago. There are prophets who flourish because they make prophecies that ought to come true, and that sometimes do come true even without any help from the prophet. When these things do come true the prophet is, of course, a good prophet, and when they do not come true it is always easy to find the prophet who prophesied that they would not come true. It has been very easy for prophets to forecast disasters, such as train wrecks, great fires and so forth, because the American people are so careless about such things that they always help the prophets out. In politics each side has its prophets, and when the votes are counted the prophets of the winning side make such a mysterious noise that a man is apt to forget about the prophets of the defeated who prophesied falsely.

But there is one class of prophets against which public suspicion is now pointed. It is the weather prophet. Of course, he has February and inauguration day in which to justify himself, but up to date the weather prophet is an imposter.

American Homes and Architecture.

[Omaha Bee.]

Time was when Europe decried the suggestion of American literature, just as it also decried our architecture, or, as it appeared to Europe, the absence of architecture. But in both relations European criticism has undergone revision.

Just so now with American architecture, the mention of which a short time ago provoked only mirth in Europe. M. Achille Duchen, one of the famous French architects, recently made a professional tour from coast to coast in the United States with resulting amazement at our architectural beauty. "The progress since my last visit four years ago," says he, "is distinct and admirable. It is an architecture born of necessity and based on a knowledge of every architecture the world has known."

America already is a land of beautiful homes. Our people in village and city, as well as at summer and winter resorts, in proportion to their means, are cultivating the artictic, combined with utility, in their residences, and still further progress may be confidently counted on.

The Nation As Trustee.

[Chicago Tribune.]

The position taken theoretically by the state rights anti-conservationists is this: The resources of the state belong to the people of the state; therefore, the state should be left free to deal with them as it now pleases.

Behind this fair seeming theory are the familiar facts of pioneer haste and waste and lassez faire. The conservationist would give to these states for the protection of their future the benefit of the lesson learned by older states from these facts—but learned too late.

The anti-conservationist asserts glibly that the resources of a state belong to the people of the state.

They do. But not merely the people who are now in these partially developed regions. The resources belong to the state that is to be, to the people that are to be. And the nation standing above the hasty pioneer is pledged to protect the future state from the embryo community of today.

The nation is the trustee of the future. Conservation is not an invasion of true state rights. It is a defense of state interests.

Why Gasoline Advances.

[Boston Globe.]

It looks as if the Standard Oil Company and the other large oil companies were inviting governmental regulation when they put up the price of gasoline from 9 to 17 cents a gallon in six months. Much uneasiness is felt by all consumers of gasoline and there are fears that the action of the oil men will discourage and injure the big automobile business.

The oil men say there is a scarcity of crude oil, but the answer is that if any such scarcity exists it is artificially sustained by controlling the output in the oil fields. The advance of nearly 100 per cent. in the price of gasoline, taken with the fact that in London the price has gone up to 26 cents a gallon, is regarded as ominous.

The oil business is still a monopoly and there is no competition on any large scale. The oil trust has been dissolved. but the working of the constituent bodies seems just as harmful to the public as ever and no immediate relief is in sight.

Developing the Spirit.

[Ohio State Journal.]

Civilization consists quite as much in increasing the spiritual force of intelligent and cultured men as in attending to the needs of the lowly and unfortunate, for the progress of humanity lies in the increase of its spiritual quality, rather than its intellectual investment or its material development. It is often asked, what is this spiritual quality? Well, if one thinks a lofty thought, does a kind deed, lends a helping hand, expels a selfish motive, loves his neighbor, fights a wrong, practices a living and loving faith in God Almighty, he will know what the spiritual quality is. It cannot be defined otherwise, because it is a part of the Infinite One. And yet it is the culmination of the evolution of humanity, and how much a man takes part in that evolution determines how much of a man he is.

Where Reform Should Begin.

The Chicago Board of Health has started a campaign for clean air in the theaters. If it wants to do something worth while, why doesn't it tackle the stockyards?—Cleveland Leader.

His Habits Unchanged.

In his latest remarks relative to the Republican elephant Colonel Roosevelt makes it clear that he has not changed from big-game hunting to animal training.—St. Louis Republic.

MUCH IN LITTLE

Pittsburgh is likely to grant trolley cars freight transportation privileges.

Some New Yorkers want to erect a statue of the late Queen Victoria of England in that city.

Dr. J. A. Macdonald, of Toronto, says: "There is nothing in the world so tragic as the frivolous life."

Prof. John A. Lomax, of the University of Texas, makes a fad of collecting American folk songs.

Yonkers street railways prohibit smoking on rear platforms in deference to wishes of women patrons.

Because of expansion of mill forces, Niagara Falls, N. Y., must immediately build homes for 500 new families.

As an industry fruitgrowing in Belgium has developed considerably withinn the last 10 or 12 years, more than 160,550 acres being under cultivation.

Gold shipments from New Zealand for the quarter ended September 30 were valued at $1,500,000, while the aggregate since April, 1857, is $400,000,000.

The New York Morning Telegraph says that Jack Johnson, the pugilist, wants to get engagements in the East in vaudeville for himself and his white wife.

A Western grain growers' convention will be held at Vancouver early in December to discuss the question of providing facilities for exporting grain via the Pacific coast through the Panama Canal.

A little more than two months ago John Boyer, of Newtown, Pa., bought a shoat weighing 130 pounds. Last week the animal weighed 245 pounds. A gain in weight of 115 pounds in 70 days is thought to be a record.

Aden offers a free port and an all-water route to the business world, and, although the market may be small, the spirit of the place is well shown by the negotiations of a local Arab shipbuilder for American sawmill equipment.

Parcel post imports of the Bahamas from the United Kingdom last year approximated $18,000, and from the United States about $14,000. The leading people of the Bahamas import most of their clothes from England through the parcel post, the parcels often arriving C. O. D.

The launching at Belfast, on December 11, of the Ceramic, a White Star liner for the Australian service, is reported by Consul Sharp. It has 18,000 gross tonnage, and, besides large capacity for cargo, will accommodate 600 passengers, with arrangements for possible extension to 820.

The Lamport & Holt Steamship Company, that has for some years maintained a fortnightly service between New York and Brazil and Argentina, has placed a 12,000-ton steamer on the New York-Brazil route, which is equally as comfortable and modern as the ships running between Europe and Brazil.

Having in view the completion of the Panama Canal, the extension of the railway into Cali, and the probable increase of business through Buenaventura which will result, the Colombian government has called for bids for the construction of a lighthouse there and has a considerable appropriation for the sanitation of that port.

Certainly in Luck.

If Mr. Rockefeller really can't talk, it must be admitted that he couldn't have an affliction more suited to his immediate requirements.—Washington Post.

What Really Hurts.

It is feared the ex-Honorable Castro fails to appreciate that he is unwelcome not because he is a menace, but because he is a nuisance.—Kansas City Star.

IN THE BEST OF HUMOR

"What? You want to charge me 1,500 francs for a simple funeral?"

"Can't do it for less, sir. Living is so dear nowadays."—Pele Mele.

Madge—Did you have a good seat at the opera?

Marjorie—Lovely! We were near enough to one of the boxes to hear every word the society people said.—Judge.

Weary Walker—I allers know'd it.

Tired Tatters—Know'd wot?

"Wot dat sign over de way sez—"Cleaning and Dyeing."

"Well, wot erbout it?"

"Why, I allers know'd dey went tergether."—Boston Post.

Caller (in New York apartment-house)—Did Mr. and Mrs. Tremper ever live here?

Bell Boy—Does you 'member 'em, Sam?

Other Bell Boy—Yais, but they only had a back apartment. Us boys never reckernized 'em.—Puck.

"Old Beasley has turned over a new leaf. He told me that he meant to keep himself from ever uttering a word that would subject him to criticism."

"Old Beasley! What's he afraid of? The law?"

"No. The dictagraph."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Peck isn't happy. His wife is continually saying sharp and snappy things to him."

"Why, he told me before he married her that was what he admired most about her."

"Yes, but he considered it wit then."—Boston Transcript.

"Mr. Badgerton is here, sir," said the chief clerk. "Shall I show him in?"

"No," replied the great organizer; "let him wait in the anteroom for about three-quarters of an hour. He has a big proposition, but I am anxious to keep him from getting the idea that I consider it worth while."—Chicago Record-Herald.

"Mary," he pleaded, "will you please quit talking for a few minutes? I'm trying to think."

"I can talk and think," she peevishly replied. "I can't understand why you are not able to listen to me and think."

"I can. Only the things I think while I'm listening to you don't get me anything."—Chicago Record-Herald.

"We had to let that servant go."

"What was the matter? Wouldn't she work?"

"Oh, she did the work all right, but she couldn't get along with the children."

"That so?"

"Yes. She'd lose her temper every time one of them kicked her on the shins."—Detroit Free Press.

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