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SATURDAY, JAN. 25, 1913.

The peace powers were not so sure of Turkey, after all, as they thought.

Only the calendar shows where the old year left off and the new one began.

January seems to have 31 varieties of weather—one for every day of the month.

Turkey gives a painful performance of jumping out of the frying pan into the fire.

How singular that not a single antivaccinationist has uttered a peep of protest!

Rejoicings over the Home Rule Bill are twofold. It marks the progress of the movement, and it is the signal for a very pretty fight.

The powers suspected, in apparently yielding to peace terms, that Turkey had something up its sleeve. It turned out to be a hammer.

Now it seems that hobble skirts were a creation of ancient Rome. At least, that removes some responsibility from modern civilization.

If there is any dearth of volunteers to march in the suffrage parade, advertise it as a beauty hike and every woman in the nation will join.

England's suffragettes explain that they have tried smiles upon their overlords without avail. Perhaps that explains why so many Englishmen wed American girls.

With the President-elect viewing life and the joys thereof from a dentist's chair, it is small wonder that receptions, parades and balls have lost interest in his eyes.

Nine graduates of a well-known woman's college are to marry as soon as their course is completed. This ought somewhat to encourage the higher education of women.

The air is claiming more victims. But such is its fatal fascination that others rush to fill the gaps thus made in the ranks of the would-be conquerors of the treacherous element.

One of the police officials of Gotham swore he had never heard of graft except in the newspapers. This is a point where ignorance is not only innocence, but also perilously like idiocy.

Candidates in Chicago have been warned by the health commissioner against kissing babies. It is hard to tell which will be most relieved by this mandate—the candidates or the babies.

The fight over woman suffrage has started in the House of Commons and promises to be a bitter one. If they will only let a few militant suffragettes into the debate, it will be a short one, too.

The first woman ever to deliver a state's electoral vote carried that of Utah to Washington lately. A woman was also a member of the Electoral College. This is going to be a great century for the women.

A boy who returned to John D. Rockefeller a lost pair of gloves was thanked in a note praising honesty. While there was no other reward, it is quite likely the youth can realize upon the letter, for the oil king's indorsement of a virtue so sadly lacking in trust magnates—if our crusaders are to be believed—should have high value among collectors of curios.

The tipping problem is to have a summary, if temporary, solution in New York, as it is said there will be, on account of a possible general strike, no waiters to tip. The remedy, however, is far worse than the disease.

Now some reformers want legislation in Massachusetts to keep women from smoking cigarettes. One of the favorite occupations of humanity—that of straining at gnats and swallowing camels—has not yet ceased to be popular with freak legislators.

With the inauguration ball called off, bargain rates should prevail in ball costumes in Washington. Perhaps, after all, it was a subtle scheme on the part of the new president to bring these necessities of life within the reach of the masses.

From decisions in New Jersey in damage suits children in that state are regarded not as human beings whose affection is a valuable asset in the lives of their parents, but merely as commercial propositions or chattels whose value is reckoned altogether in dollars and cents.

The big financiers testifying before the Money Trust committee seem to hold the same idea about their business supremacy as the Kaiser did about his political rule when he wrote that the will of the Emperor is the supreme law of the land, and who was astonished to have this dictum questioned.

After all, there is little change in real human conditions. Many ages ago Samson told the answer of his riddle to his wife because she was "troublesome" to him, and now a New York senator, opposed to woman suffrage, says he voted for suffrage rather than live in antagonism to the women.

PAUPERISM AND WAR.

Another frisky demon of the war's entourage has appeared on the scene of the Balkans. This is pauperism. The monster has a multitude of furies and the like in attendance upon it, but this one is not the common, ordinary pauper specter that is cousin to famine and pestilence. It is the grim and irreconcilable creditor relation that the Balkan states sustain to the money centers of Europe.

Slavery to the bourses is the outlook that fills the allies with despair as they view the tortuous windings of Turkish diplomacy. Let the outcome be what it may, more war or simply more delay, and the fact will remain that the majority of the able-bodied men of the little kingdoms are upon the firing line, drawn from industrial pursuits, and the creditor powers are adding up liabilities against the allies for support of their armament and the carrying on of their civil governments. The outcome is irretrievable pauperism or an enormous indemnity.

On the other hand, the wily Turk hears the powers in dulcet tones exhorting it to set up house on its Asiatic territories and to permit these same creditor powers to outfit the house from cellar to garret. So that whatever else may be uncertain in the Balkans it is certain that bankrupt Turkey and the allies alike are likely to stumble headlong over the precipice of pauperism as a result of the war.

THE NEW UNIVERSITIES.

In Europe the great universities have developed slowly. Many of them, like Oxford, date their beginnings back to a time when learning was a rare commodity. In the United States universities are spotted all over the map. Every new state is ambitious to establish a school for the dissemination of the higher learning and there can be no reasonable questioning that many of the American universities—most of them—begin operation under conditions of efficiency which it has required Old World institutions centuries to develop.

Take, for instance, the very newest of the American university propositions—the proposed University of Montana. There are at present four state colleges in Montana—an academic college, a school of mines, an agricultural and technologic college and a teachers' college. It is proposed to consolidate these, at some favorable point, as the nucleus of the contemplated university. And then this infantile university will start with an endowment of 270,000 acres of the finest agricultural lands in the state. Upon a capitalization rating of $100 per acre, this will mean endowment of $27,000,000.

An institution having an income of more than $1,000,000 per year will soon develop into a university of high grade. With such an income highly trained specialists in every branch of education and original research can be attracted to the faculty. It is a mere superstition that a university must necessarily be old in order to be efficient. If the University of Montana can attract a body of scholars from all over the world at the start, it will, from its inauguration, be a great university.

THE SUNDAY AMERICAN.

The Sunday American continues to lead the way. It continues to make steady progress along the best lines of journalism. Each issue adds to the firmness of its hold on the public, to its popularity in this community. Tomorrow's issue will keep up this progress, will make its hold even more firm, its popularity even greater.

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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.

KNOX RIGHT; GREY WRONG.

Diplomacy should suffice to adjust the points of difference between this country and Great Britain in respect to the abrogation of tolls for American coastwise shipping. This is the underlying note of the Knox response to the objections entered by Sir Edward Grey in his note to this government. The proclamation of President Taft so altered the situation as to have vitiated the British contention. In that proclamation the President, in the most flat-footed manner, declared that this country is ready to arbitrate through a mixed commission, if diplomacy should fail to adjust the question. The Knox note points out this as the open road to an understanding in case diplomatic interchanges should be blocked, but it is apparent that he sees no inherent reason why the usual agencies should not be found sufficient for the case. In as delicate a manner as possible the American Secretary of State has told the British minister that he has set up a man of straw to knock down, that no discrimination is planned, that the tolls for the world will be based upon all traffic as figured by government inquiry, and that the remitting of tolls upon American coastwise shipping would not lay so much additional exaction upon all other shipping.

It is of the highest interest to note that the American Secretary advises that, should experience show that British shipping did actually suffer, then arbitration would be in order. This is exactly the position assumed by The American at the time the Grey note was published—namely, that much of the matter of the contention would be found misplaced and that after experience with the American law for the remission of tolls upon coastwise shipping, Great Britain would probably find there was little grievance upon which to ask for relief. It was also pointed out that the contention was hypothetically based and advanced before the existence of any conditions which the British minister apprehended. There ought to be manifested from the other side of the water a willingness to allow the general working out of the commerce of the two peoples through the agency of the canal to make clear, if possible, the fact that the remission of the tolls, a purely domestic matter, is not a proper subject for British objection and furnishes no cause for such.

There is no disposition to credit England with plotting to drive an entering wedge into the canal through its note of objection, so as to force the way for interference in American domestic affairs. The precedent sought to be established would give recognition to further interference of Great Britain in other ways in case this country should supinely permit it to dictate modification of the laws and usages bearing upon the domestic coastwise traffic. Yet, while this view is not entertained, the fact exists that such would be the effect. A hundred years ago the United States and England definitely settled the matter for all time of British interference with American commerce, and that settlement cannot be revamped at the present day, so that any course of arbitration would have to assume at the outset the full right of Americans to make any laws they see fit for their own shipping.

The finely framed response of Mr. Knox to the British minister makes it clear that a thing cannot be arbitrated before it exists; that to submit hypothetical grievances to such treatment is out of the question, and that when specific effects are objected to by the English government it will be time enough to talk of a joint high commission, which is all the Secretary of State has to offer for the wound to English sensibilities in being told that the country has cried before it was hurt. The objection of the British note, that the United States might get foreign cargoes at American ports and carry them through the canal free of tolls, is treated as purely fanciful, and assurance is given that bona fide American commerce alone would be carried through the canal. By inference the British note admits the right of this country to carry such strictly bona fide traffic of a coastwise nature through the canal, and Mr. Knox is quick to accept the admission.

So trifling and so ill-based and so anticipatory do the Grey objections appear in the light of the facts set forth in the American note that the usually astute Mr. Root seems to have become infected with a bias of ideas for the British position that does not admit of his treating the matter in his usually judicious style. In fact, if there is a coastwise traffic trust, as the New York senator declared, America would greatly prefer to handle this themselves than to seek to destroy it through inviting in the Huns, Vandals, Goths and Visigoths of foreign traffic in destructive competition. Mr. Knox has made the American position irrefutable, and the Taft proclamation made this possible.

ODD FORMS OF CRIME.

One of the serious aspects of the crimes of the present are the additions to the well-known forms of wrongdoing of strange and odd devices that heretofore have not been prominently employed by crooks. The arson trust so-called is the organization of men for the purpose of firing buildings and dividing the proceeds or creating conflagrations upon a commission basis. The scheme that seems to have been worked in New York and Chicago and other cities by collusion of insurance men of certain caliber with those whose interest prompted them to desire to have a fire take place that would not otherwise occur. The police of these two cities and the insurance officers alike are busily at work bringing the rascals to book.

The revelations made of the wholesale work of purloining postage stamps and postal cards by employes, incited by brokers in this nefarious kind of enterprise, is yet another form of crime of an odd nature. It seems incredible that stamps and cards by the thousand could have been purloined and the robberies gone on without the concerns suffering from it becoming aware of the fact or suspecting the culprits. But the methods have become too bold and the net of the law is drawing in the rascals, big and little alike.

A GARDEN LAND.

The Peninsula Horticultural Society, which recently held its annual meeting in Wilmington, Del., is one of the oldest horticultural organizations in the country. Its membership includes representatives from all of the Eastern Shore counties, and during the life of this organization this garden region between two bays—the Maryland and Delaware Peninsula—has varied its market crops greatly, but upon the whole has marked progress. When the society was in its youth the Eastern Shore of Maryland and the three Delaware counties supplied the whole country with peaches. Back in the seventies of the last century there were peach orchards on the Eastern Shore numbering 10,000, 20,000 and even 40,000 trees. In those days, during peach season, trains and steamboats were loaded daily.

Those great orchards have vanished, but now the region between the bays sends strawberries, cantaloupes, potatoes, cabbages, onions and other garden produce to market in trainload consignments. The horticulture of the Eastern Shore and Delaware seems to be tending continually to variety. At the recent gathering of the Association of Peninsula Horticulturists "nut growing" was the subject of one of the papers. Small fruits are now produced in great variety, and as to the tomato, that is now grown almost as extensively as the peach used to be grown.

NOT EVEN A SUBSTITUTE.

Not even a poor substitute for the discarded inaugural ball is favored by the President-elect, who, while not committed against standing at attention at the Capitol for a line of 50,000 hand-shakers, is not enthusiastic over the prospect, while the general sentiment among senators and congressmen is that the reception would be found impracticable.

So that, without any substitute, the inaugural ball passes with its regalia and rhapsodies, its brilliance and its beauty. Prim and destitute of the appurtenances of social interest will be the inauguration, if the process of Jeffersonianizing goes the limit. But who cares as long as the world and its wife get along all right together and the new president sits down to dine with them upon the occasion of his induction into the White House.

So let the wine of Jeffersonian simplicity be quaffed to the dregs, and if these be found bitter, why fill up the cup and have still another toast to the discarding of all millinery at the induction of the first president of the Democratic persuasions, with but one exception, for more than a generation.

NOTES AND NOTIONS

BY JOSH WINK.

BELLIGERENT TIMES.

Everybody's fighting
  About everything;
Not a hat on duty
  But is in the ring.
Nations are a-clashing,
  Factions all about,
Politicians, faddists,
  Try to start a rout.

Legislatures fighting
  Join the general noise,
Every rule that's going
  Seems to lose its poise;
Home Rule, woman suffrage,
  Fashions, social ill,
Politics, finances,
  All are on the grill.

'Tis an age of fighters,
  And not only men;
Women in the scrimmage
  Join with fists and pen;
Interest and grievance
  'Fore each other crouch
Ready to spring savage—
  The age has got a grouch!

THE RESULT.

"We've got to get a good actor to play Satan in that spectacular production."

"Then there'll be the devil to pay."

THE PROPER ONES.

"The King of England ought to decorate the London firemen if he does anybody with the Order of the Garter."

"Why ought he?"

"Aren't they knights of the hose?"

THE EXCEPTION.

"Stone walls do not a prison make."

"Oh, yes they do, when they are around a jail."

HER OBJECT.

"Maude changed countenance when I taxed her with going to a beauty doctor."

"Of course. That's what she went to the beauty doctor for."

THEIR CLASS.

"Those runaway steers in the street the policemen were chasing were a lot of gamblers."

"What do you mean?"

"What I say. I saw them tossing a 'copper.'"

THEIR KIND.

"What are the mills of the gods?"

"I guess they are something like theater gallery fights."

THE MILD ANSWER.

"Will that savage brute of yours bite, boy?" asked the old lady.

"You needn't be skeered, ma'am," answered the little boy. "He's too old to bite anything tough."

EASY.

"Why do they call them repeating rifles?"

"So their shots will tell."

AMBIGUOUS.

"We had some fine old punch at our house the other night."

"I know you did. My husband came home full of it." JOSH WINK.

LIGHT COOKING.

When the waiters struck in New York 70 of the 75 cooks employed at one of the hotels went out. This left the kitchen rather inadequately manned, and the maitre d' hotel hurried down stairs to see what could be done.

He found one of the five faithful ones ready for business.

"You will remain?" asked the maitre d' hotel.

"Yes."

"You will help us cook for our patrons?"

"Yes."

"What do you do? What sort of a cook are you?"

"I make the meringue!" he said proudly.—Saturday Evening Post.

AND WIDE ENOUGH.

The editor of this particular paper was busy. His temper is one of the best, but he did not like the look of the seedy individual with the hair who had invaded his sanctum unannounced.

"Well?" the editor snapped.

"I should like to know," began the seedy one, with dignity, "if there is an opening here?"

"There is," interrupted the editor grimly. "An ingenious carpenter, foreseeing your visit, has provided an excellent opening. You will find it over there. Turn the knob to the right, and mind you don't fall over the mat as you go out."—Weekly Telegraph.

IMPORTANT QUESTION.

More vegetarian humor. One of the fleshless fraternity telephones us that he engaged a German cooklady not long ago. His wife liked the appearance of the applicant; her references were good, and the wages she demanded not exorbitant.

"I'd like to have you come," said the lady of the house, "but perhaps you won't want to live with us. We are vegetarians and never have any meat in the house. Would you be satisfied with a vegetable diet?"

The fraulein scratched her head.

"Vell," she said, dubiously, "iss beer a vegetable?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY

A Marriage Denied Royal Recognition—To Exhume Hugh Eric Trevanion's Body.

Special Dispatch to The American.

No consent has been given by Grand Duke Frederick Francis IV. of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, nor by the Kaiser, to the marriage at Dover, in England, last summer, of Duke Henry of Mecklenburg-Schwerin to the soi-disant Comtesse de Gasquet, who was Miss Elizabeth Platt, of Albany, N. Y., and the widow of Amadee de Gasquet James, of New Orleans. Despite all the statements which have appeared to the contrary in print the union has not received any recognition on the part of either of the two sovereigns mentioned or of any other court in Europe.

According to the laws of the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, to which Duke Henry belongs, the consent of the sovereign of the land is a sine qua non to the validity of matrimonial alliances on the part of any members of the reigning house. As this sanction was refused by the Grand Duke, his young kinsman's marriage to an elderly widow—elderly enough to be his mother—has no legal value, and for this reason finds no place in the new 1913 issue of the semiofficial Almanach de Gotha, which describes Duke Henry as a bachelor. The consent of the Kaiser was not necessary one way or another, for Duke Henry has long since been compelled to resign all his commissions in the German Army owing to the financials candals in which he had become involved. Had he still remained a German officer, even on the retired list, it would have been his duty to obtain permission to wed from the Kaiser, as generalissimo of the army.

Thus it may be recalled that when 30 years ago means were sought of dissolving the foolish marriage in which the late Grand Duke of Hesse, father of the Czarina, had allowed himself to be inveigled by the then Mme. de Kalomine, divorced wife of the Russian charge d'affaires at Darmstadt, it was finally annulled by the courts on the plea that the Grand Duke, as a general of the German Army, had neglected to secure beforehand the consent of the late Emperor William, the generalissimo of the army; it being held that the old Kaiser's sanction was necessary to the validity of the union. The lady's protests were quieted with an annuity of $10,000 a year, guaranteed by the late Queen Victoria, mother of the Grand Duke's first wife. She was also given the Hessian title of Countess Romrod, and is now the wife of the Russian Minister Plenipotentiary at Berne, Privy Councillor van Bacheracht. The son to which she gave birth as the offspring of her brief union with the Grand Duke, has been brought up under the care and at the expense of his half-sisters, the Czarina and the widowed Grand Duchess Sergius of Russia.

Duke Henry of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and his American wife now live in a chateau which they have rented in the neighborhood of Littau, in Austria, she passing in the district under the name and title of "Duchess Henry of Mecklenburg-Schwerin." A good deal is likely to be heard of her in the next few weeks on this side of the water. For her two children (George Watson Platt de Gasquet James and her daughter the Countess Henri de la Mittre) are suing her in the United States courts for an accounting as executrix of her first husband's estate, pleading that she is squandering it—that is to say, property in which she has only a life interest—upon Duke Henry. As the property is almost entirely located on this side of the Atlantic, the outlook for the lady and her Duke is not altogether promising, from a financial point of view.

The late Amadee James' mother was a Miss Marshall, and his maternal grandmother was a De Gasquet, member of a French family of the name of De Gasquet, which had, however, dropped the nobiliary particle of "de" on settling in Louisiana. Tiring of New Orleans, Mr. and Mrs. Amadee James transferred themselves to Europe, and, establishing themselves at Dresden, assumed the name of "De Gasquet" James. In course of time, when the oldest daughter, Elizabeth, now dead, married the Saxon officer Captain von der Decken, they commenced to call themselves De Gasquet. Then they moved to France, where they occupied an apartment in Avenue Bugeaud, in Paris, and ultimately purchased the Chateau de la Belle Issue, near Dinard, being known in the countryside as "the Comte et Comtesse de Gasquet." The husband died some years ago, and the son has had the good sense to refrain from taking up the title, and has resumed his father's patronymic of James.

Mrs. Hugh Arundell Trevanion, who, according to the cable dispatches from London, has secured from the secretary of state for the home department the permission requisite for the exhumation of her son, Hugh Erie Trevanion, with the object of proving her contention that the overdose of veronal to which he succumbed some weeks ago, was not self-administered nor accidental, as alleged by a coroner's jury, but was the result of a crime, is one of the five daughters of old Sir Daniel Cooper, who was the first speaker of the legislative assembly of New South Wales, and one of the great ground landlords of the Australian city of Sydney, deriving a colossal fortune from his property there.

Mrs. Trevanion's brother was the second Sir Daniel Cooper, who was up to his death one of the pillars of the English turf, steward of the Jockey Club and one of the most familiar figures at Newmarket, where the late King Edward was often his guest. Mrs. Trevanion has had the most extraordinary matrimonial experience. She married Hugh Trevanion, whose mother, Lady Elizabeth, was a sister of the thirteenth Earl of Strathmore, in 1882, and secured a divorce from him in 1887. Then he married again, and 10 years later his second wife died. Happening to meet his former wife in society, he fell in love with her once more and entreated her to remarry him; if not for his sake, at any rate for the sake of their boy, Hugh Eric. She at length consented, but a few years later was obliged once more to appeal to the courts, this time for a judicial separation, on the ground of his drunkenness and brutality, as well as for his having passed off a lady of the name of Mrs. Griffiths as his wife at some very smart seaside towns in England and thermal resorts on the Continent. In fact, there were a number of sensational features in connection with this second application of Mrs. Trevanion to the courts, which was successful.

Her boy, Hugh Eric, was one of the favorite grandchildren of old Sir Daniel Cooper, and when he died he left him a fortune of some $500,000. It would seem that young Travanion had managed to alienate almost the whole of his property to a man of the name of Roe, who was in no way related to him, but who shared his apartments at Hovo, a suburb of Brighton.

The case presents a considerable amount of analogy to that of the death of young Cecil Murray on one of the American liners en route from Southampton to New York. He was found dead in his bunk, his demise being due to a dose of cyanide of potassium. Major Frederick Helbert, formerly of the Welsh Fusiliers, who was his traveling companion and had the connecting cabin, admitted the ownership of the bottle and insisted that Murray had borrowed it from him on the preceding day. In spite of the suspicious circumstances, no regular investigation was made until some weeks later the Major presented for probate in London a will in which Cecil Murray, who had only known him for a few months, bequeathed to him his entire property.

The will was not probated. Sir Percy Sanderson, then British consul general in New York, made an investigation. But owing to the circumstances under which young Murray had left England, and the desire to avoid the dragging the name of a married woman into the case, the latter was not pushed, and Helbert found it prudent to compromise his claim for quite a small sum. He has since served a term of penal servitude for robbing a London jeweler and at one time cut a wide swathe of fraud in this country as an alleged military attache of the British Embassy at Washington.

MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

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Suspicious Chicago Police.

A leg having been found in a suitcase at Chicago, the police are said to believe that "a murder was committed." Why are they so everlastingly suspicious.—Kansas City Star.

Ought to Be Relations.

Besides, how was it that Archbald and Archbold seem never to have met?—Galveston News.

MEN AND WOMEN

Federal Judge George Gray, of Wilmington, Del., has been elected a member of the board of regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Samuel E. Darling, of Sparta, N. J., for many years an officer of the Dixon Crucible Company, of Jersey City, recently celebrated his ninetieth anniversary.

Gilbert W. Pukheiser, a farmer of Salem, Ind., who lost both arms, has metal hands which he manages so well that he can shave, sew, write and catch or throw a ball.

Frederick Hitch, who received the coveted V. C. for heroism at Rorkes Drift during the Zulu War, in 1879, died in London recently. He was the driver of a taxicab.

Herr Siegmund Springer, the Vienna banker, who recently gave more than $100,000 to the Austrian Red Cross Society, has been made a baron by Emperor Franz Josef.

The Bishop of Salisbury estimates that he traveled 23,000 miles in his pastoral visitations last year. His diocese comprises nearly the whole of the British County of Wilts, all of Dorset and a part of Hants. He used a motor car.

Stewart Wall, who fought a battle almost single-handed against Apache Indians in 1864 and killed 30 braves before he fell with 14 bullets in his own body, died recently in San Bernardino, Cal. Wall, who was 81 years old, came to California in 1851 and was the first town marshal of San Bernardino.

It required 15 years after he had obtained his marriage license for Charles Townsend, of Wellston, O., to make up his mind to marry the woman of his choice. His fiancee has remained loyal all this time, and last week Squire G. V. Lasher married the couple, using the license issued 15 years ago.

Mrs. Wm. G. Webb, of Boston, is one of the largest contributors to the Harvard fund of $10,000 for psychical research at Harvard University. This is the first time that a university in this country has officially recognized such a study, Henry James, Jr., being much interested in having the subject studied scientifically.

Mrs. Frances C. Axtell, one of the two women who will sit in the legislature of Washington for the first time, is a graduate of De Pauw University, with a Ph. D. and A. M. degree, and she taught the first normal school in the state. She has been a resident of the county in which she now lives for the last 22 years.

An Historic Loeb.

Adrianople and the Adriatic Sea were both named for Hadrian, the Roman emperor. That itinerant Antonine was, therefore, nominally responsible for the most perplexing questions of the near Eastern complication.—Philadelphia Record.

Willis Moore's Conspiracy.

Willis Moore seems to be saving up weather for the 4th of March.—Washington Post.

GOSSIP OF THE STAGE

Margaret Anglin will colse her season about the first of next month.

The closing is reported of James T. Powers' tour in Two Little Brides.

Sallie Fisher is to appear as the prima donna of a new opera shortly to be produced.

The ten-year-old son of Fred Niblo and Josephine Cohan is at a military school in Syracuse.

The Marquis of Queensberry's play, The Light, shines no more on the contemporary stage.

Dorothy Morton has replaced Elizabeth Murray in Exceeding the Speed Limit with Carter De Haven.

Ryan Walker, the cartoonist, is making a tour, his entertainment being called The Adventures of Mr. Duck.

William Hammerstein is to produce in vaudeville a sketch by a Chicago newspaper man called Lead, Kindly Light.

The Shuberts have acquired the American rights to the London Drury Lane pantomime of this year, The Sleeping Beauty.

Charles Courtleigh and Charles Lane have been engaged for the cast of The Iron Door, shortly to be produced in New York.

One of the moving picture companies has placed under contract the popular novelist, E. Phillips Oppenheim, to write scenarios for thrilling picture dramas.

The Drama League, an organiaztion whose purpose is to uphold good drama and condemn the bad, has given the Liebler production of Joseph and His Brethern an enthusiastic indorsement of a superb spectacle and fine drama.

The Sunshine Girl, with Julia Sanderson as the star, will make her first bow to the public in Washington on Monday next. In the supporting company are Joseph Cawthorn, Tom Lewis, Eva Davenport and Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Castle.

August Van Biene, the actor-musician, who made a tour of this country in his own piece, The Broken Melody, died suddenly recently at the end of his performance in Brighton, Eng. The audience thought his death part of the play, but those on the stage, seeing something was wrong, had the curtain rung down and rushed to his side to find him dead.

WOODS IN WINTER.

[From the Chicago Record-Herald.]

My cheeks are bared to the stinging
  sleet,
The wind is howling through the wood;
The crusted leaves crunch 'neath my feet;
  The year is young and life is good.

The path I follow winds along
  Where ardent birds have ceased to
  strive
To fill the forest aisles with song,
  But it is good to be alive.

I laugh at those who fare afar
  In search of warmth, to stay till spring
Where pale, anemic people are
  And hunger's an elusive thing.

The crusted leaves crunch 'neath my feet,
  The year is young, the future bright;
My cheeks are stung by driven sleet,
  And I've a strong man's appetite.

PUBLIC OPINION

Comment of Leading Newspapers on a Variety of Topics—Knox's Crushing Answer.

[Washington Post.]

Congress and the President have the power to injure British shipping, treaty or no treaty. But have they done so? Mr. Knox covers carefully every point raised by Sir Edward Grey, and shows that it is the possibility of injury, and not the injury itself, that is complained of. He asserts that, as a matter of fact, the tolls fixed are just and equitable, based upon a computation of all canal traffic, and that the President has not improperly used the power conferred upon him. Hence he holds that unless and until Great Britain should complain that the effect of the canal act and the manner of its execution work injury to Great Britain there is nothing to arbitrate. If Great Britain should raise that question, Mr. Knox suggests that the facts be ascertained by an impartial and conscientious commission in order to facilitate the solution of the dispute.

Mr. Knox's note is a crushing answer to those Americans who have jumped to the conclusion that this government has deliberately violated a treaty to the injury of a friendly nation for the sake of favoring coastwise shipping, and has then refused to arbitrate the dispute. Sir Edward Grey, whose protest unquestionably was inspired by the Canadian railroads, is clearly shown to have protested against an injury that has not been committed, and which he has no right to assume will ever be committed.

Defense of the Canal.

[Charleston News and Courier.]

The assertion that a standing army of 25,000 men will be required for the defence of the Panama Canal is causing some inquisitive citizens to wonder what is meant by the neutralization of the great work. The supposition seems to have been that in some way or other the nations of the earth were going to agree that the canal would never be damaged by hostile guns or hostile operations.

The question has a sympathetic relation to the demand that our conduct of the canal be made the subject of international arbitration. It is plainly the feeling of Colonel Goethals that the full benefits of the canal to the nation must be guaranteed by our ability to preserve them either in war or in peace.

The purpose of Colonel Goethals, and likewise of the administration, seems to be to let the world know now that this is an American canal on American soil, to be operated by Americans with justice, but to be defended by Americans against injustice. be it diplomatic or warlike. The United States must assert once and for all time its full control over the canal, subject to the accepted and well-known rights of foreign nations to passage. An unfortified canal would be an absurdity, and so would a canal measures for the administration of which would be subject to the vote of Great Britain or any other nation.

Caveat Emptor.

[Philadelphia Press.]

An old maxim of the law is that of "caveat emptor," which is as much to say, in business mtters keep your wits about you, as your eyes are your bargain. In every day application it suggests that if a man go to buy a house, he has as good an opportunity as the seller to know all about it, as he may examine it from top to bottom and survey its surroundings and compare the asking price with the selling price of other and similar nearby properties. For all these reasons, and in the absence of fraud or misrepresentation, and having made up his judgment and acted upon it, he will not be heard in complaint by the law if he repent of his bargain.

Some financiers, who chafe under the safeguards that are now being thrown around investors in many states and the strict accountability to which those are put who float issues of securities, cite the old maxim of "caveat emptor" to justify themselves and silence the complaints of men and women who, having put their money into bonds have lost it or part of it.

But the most thoughtful financiers and those who welcome sound laws designed to safeguard investors—and most of all the small and inexperienced investors—know that it is idle to quote "caveat emptor" in respect of railroad and other securities in which bankers deal.

Futile Tariff Discrimination.

[Cleveland Leader.]

As a loyal colony Canada has gone far in discriminating in favor of British products, within the limits of governmental partiality. The preferential duty which admits the products of the United Kingdom at a lower tariff rate than is enforced against like merchandise from other countries is an advantage which British manufacturers and exporters counted upon to accomplish much in diverting trade from the United States to the British Isles.

The latest official records of Canadian commerce prove that this attempt to favor British trade at the expense of America has been a flat failure. In the 12 months ended October 31 the Canadian imports from the United Kingdom were $101,667,136 in dutiable products and $28,701,456 in merchandise free of duty. In the same period the dutiable imports from the United States were valued at $246,694,766, and merchandise worth $165,961,968 was imported free of duty. The total for the British Isles was over $130,368,000, against more than $412,666,000 for this country. About 66 per cent. of the total imports of the Dominion were from the United States.

It is clear that tariff discrimination is not enough to stop the great gains which American manufacturers and exporters are making in the trade of Canada.

Changing the Climate.

[Ohio State Journal.]

The scheme of changing the Gulf Stream, so that it will sweep up the east coast of this country instead of sliding over to Europe, has reached the dignity of a bill in Congress providing an appropriation for advancing the project. The New York Tribune suggests a more practical way of ameliorating our climate by means of dams, increasing the oblateness of the earth and reducing the angle of the ecliptic so that the sun would not go so far south or come further north and providing the whole year the climate of the Southern States, and thus make it possible to raise strawberries and peas the year round.

But the real consideration concerning this change would not relate to the strawberries and citrus joys, but to the character of the people. Temperaments and temperatures are closely allied. A person who is used to frost and freezes can never get along with a tropical climate without losing some of his "get up" and enterprising dash. The fact is the earth as finished by the Creator in the first place cannot be improved upon. The Gulf Stream is in the right place, and the oblateness of the spheroid likewise.

Divorce Blight on Children.

[Omaha Bee.]

If from some form of accidental violence 70,000 children, mostly under nine years of age, were annually deprived of one or obth parents, what would be done to avert the disaster. According to figures compiled by the New York State Marriage and Divorce Commission, these blighting results ensue every year from an evil more insidious and far-reaching than the ordinary casualty—divorce.

The fracture of matrimonial bonds, the wrecking of family altars, destroying and blighting the young, as well as adult lives, and all the train of troubles following in the wake of divorce, are not to be compared in their withering influences with common physical disaster, even to loss of life. If every year, as this commission shows, 100,000 divorces are being granted in the United States, the total of disjointed families must directly run into the million.

A Change of Color.

Instead of being a dark secret the notorious Jack Johnson has become a white elephant on the hands of the Chicago federal authorities.—New York Telegram.

Officer, He's in Again.

Frivolous Hortense wasted a nickel at a public telephone booth to ask us if Jupiter Pluvius was the guy that put the high in the Ohio River.—Springfield Union.

MUCH IN LITTLE

Hibbing, Minn., now has a municipal ice rink.

Washington society is making a fad of ice dancing this winter.

Philadelphia has increased the salaries of public school teachers.

The University of Minnesota has added a course in agriculture for girls.

The St. Louis school board may lower the school age from six to five years.

North Dakota farmers are turning from wheat to cattle raising. It pays better.

Charles Track, 72, and Mrs. Fannie McGregor, 70, were married the other day in Cleveland.

Chicago women want a new state prison exclusively for women offenders and wholly run by women.

Auto tires after they have been hardened by contact with earth and water are practically fireproof.

Minnesota in 1912 sold 2,200 acres of state lands at prices ranging from five to twenty-one dollars an acre.

Hospital Commissioner Shutt urges St. Louis to buy farms for aiding treatment of drunkards and convalescents.

Rector Gilbert Shaw, of Riverhead, L. I., has resigned, alleging that he cannot live on a salary of $1,000 a year.

The entire length of the Pan-American Railway has been overhauled, the bridges put in good condition, some hundreds of thousands of new ties placed and new and heavier rails laid on the division south from Acapulco to the Guatemalan border.

Exports to the United States invoiced at the American consulate general in Buenos Ayres during the quarter ended September 30, 1912, were valued at $5,504,540, as compared with $3,942,308 in the corresponding period of 1911, an increase of $1,562,232. The principal item was hides, valued at $3,417,587.

Acapulco, the chief port of Mexico and most important town along the 310 miles of Guerrero's coast, has a population of about 6,000, and at the present time is important only as the coaling station for the steamers of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company and a port of entry whence importations are distributed throughout the interior of the state.

The industrial bureau of Winnipeg, Can., reports the incorporation during 1912 of 106 industrial companies in that city, with a total authorized capital of nearly $15,000,000, with individual capitalization ranging from $10,000 to $1,000,000. The provincial returns also show that the working capital of existing manufacturing companies in Winnipeg has been increased by nearly $5,000,000.

The South African Union has awarded five government scholarships in agriculture for study abroad. The holders of these scholarships will receive $750 per year during the three or four years for which provision is made. The successful applicants were obliged to pledge themselves to enter the service of the South African Union after completing their studies, and to remain in the service for at least three years at a salary not less than $1,500 per annum. Only sons of parents permanently domiciled in South Africa were eligible for the scholarships.

Lesson From the Heathen.

Chinese are called heathens, yet a cardinal virtue of the yellow man is to care for the aged parents, which many a higher race neglect.—Portland Oregonian

Why Is a Biography?

It will be perfectly appropriate for Colonel Roosevelt, when he writes his Autobiography, to begin with Chapter I. Boston Globe.

IN THE BEST OF HUMOR

"The points in Bink's speech were well taken, I thought?"

"Yes; most of them from other men."—Buffalo Express.

Blobbs—My wife thinks it's wicked for me to play golf.

Slobbs—It is—the way you play it.—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Willie—Paw, what is an infallible man?

Paw—A man who always changes his shoestrings before they break, my son.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"How did you come to have that automobile accident?"

"I got absent-minded trying to remember all the traffic regulations."—Washington Star.

"Brown got off a great mother-in-law joke the other night."

"That so? What was it?"

"He said he was very fond of her."—Detroit Free Press.

Road Hog (after mishap in which puppy has been run over)—Madam, I will replace the animal.

Indignant Owner—Sir, you flatter yourself!—London Opinion.

Tommy—Pop, what do we mean by the ills that flesh is heir to?

Tommy's Pop—By the expression, my son, we mean that the doctor needs the money.—Philadelphia Record.

"Good gracious! What makes you look like that? Has anything happened?"

"Well, I had my portrait painted recently by an impresisonist and I'm trying to look like it."—Filegende Blatter.

Assistant Editor—We'll have to send that young lady's manuscript back. Her story is too pathetic for our pages.

Editor—Sprinkle a few drops of water over it; she'll think they are tear drops.—Boston Transcript.

"Why are you looking so virtuous and highminded lately?"

"I've decided to cut out the musical comedy for one week and attend that performance of Shakespeare I see billed."—Washington Herald.

Old Hunks—More money? What have you done with the dollar bill I gave you week before last?

Mrs. Hunks—Framed it and hung it up in the spare bedroom as a memento. It's the only one I ever got out of you.—Chicago Tribune.

Guest—Look here, waiter! The portion of chicken you served to me was not one-third the size of the portion you just gave to that fat man over there. I'm going to make a complaint. Where's the manager?

Waiter (indicating fat party in the foreground)—That's him, sir.—Tit-Bits.

"Well, Bill," said the temporarily retired burglar to his pal, "there's one thing we oughter be thankful for here in the pen."

"Wot's that?" said Bill.

"We ain't bothered much dodgin' ortermobiles or worryin' over the high cost o' livin'," said the T. R. B.—Harper's Weekly.

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