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A closed bank in Arizona has issued the following notice: "This bank has not busted; it owes the people \$36,000; the people owe it \$55,000; it is the people who are busted; when they pay we'll pay."

"For what is the greatest amount of..."

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A "massage stone" is coming into... draw the design in the French... the being worn... the design has... until now it... in favor of the kop... a flat circular top and a straight visor.

New Zealand is the first of English colonies to give women equal political rights with men. A bill giving them such rights has just become law. It gives to all women, married or single, the same right to vote as is now possessed by men. The first election under the new law will be held in December. The only other State in the world in which men and women have...

Doctor Baker, Secretary of the Michigan State Board of Health, has been making a thorough examination and study of the conclusion that it is a communicable disease. He accordingly recommended at a meeting of the Board that it be placed upon the list of communicable diseases and treated as such. This the Board decreed, and hereafter consumption will be known as a communicable disease.

Annual report Brigadier-General Carlin, commanding the Department of the Columbia, says that the experiment of making the Indian a soldier is a decided failure so far as his experience goes, and he has recommended the discharge of the few Indian soldiers now in his department, less than a company. General Carlin reports that there has been a decided increase in desertions during the past year, due, in a great measure, to the unpopularity of the ten year service law, and he recommends the repeal of that law. He also recommends that the small posts in his department be abandoned and the troops concentrated at a general post at the principal railroad center.

Says the New York Tribune: "Juvenile blackguardism constitutes the principal theme of discussion in the new annual report of the Howard Prison Association, which contains a good deal of interesting information concerning those organized gangs of young delinquents, which are among the greatest curses of all great cities. The 'toughs' of New York have their counterpart in the 'corner-boys' of Dublin, the 'scuttles' of Manchester, the 'hoodlums' of San Francisco, the 'blood tubs' of Baltimore, and the 'barrikens' of Australia and New Zealand, who in certain cities in New South Wales and of Victoria even succeed in terrorizing the police. Many methods have been suggested for dealing with the problem, the most satisfactory and efficacious of which seems to be that adopted by the Canadians, which is locally described as the 'curfew bell' plan. Driven thereto by the intolerable behavior of the young rowdies, the Canadian police now look up in jail for the night all disorderly or loafing lads found in the streets after the ringing of the bell at nine o'clock. The effect of this stringent regulation is shown to have been highly satisfactory in Canada, but it is doubtful whether it would be possible to carry out any such drastic measures in so large a city as New York, where more over the juvenile criminals are far more wide awake than their 'pals' across the border."

PITHY NEWS ITEMS.

There are now 173 students at the Agricultural and Mechanical College, Raleigh, N. C.

A million tax tags for commercial fertilizers were delivered at the department of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C.

At Greenville, S. C., the grand jury of the county has so far thrown out every indictment under the new dispensary law, although some of the cases were very strongly supported by evidence.

Secretary Hoke Smith has withdrawn from his... Ga., and...

The United States... in an official trial over the... course between Cape Ann and Cape Porpoise, a distance of a fraction less than 44 knots, averaged the hitherto unprecedented speed of 23.87 knots an hour.

In Catawba county, N. C., last Sunday John Wacaster, a lad of 12 years, playfully snatched a pistol from his little cousin, Priscilla Hudson, aged 17 years. She said, "Don't do that." "See!" said he, "it's not loaded," and he snapped again. But it was, and was discharged, and the ball entered the little girl's brain and killed her.

Senators James Z. George of Mississippi, and A. H. Colquhoun of Georgia, and ex-Senator S. H. Maxey of Texas, all of whom were officers in the Confederate army, are on the Mexican pension roll. Gen. J. B. Kershaw, of South Carolina, was a veteran of the Mexican war.

Ladies of the Four Hundred, of Baltimore, have organized a "Gown on Demand Club." The purpose of its members, who include nearly all the young ladies of the most aristocratic society of Baltimore, is to supply the poor with articles of wear of various kinds. The elder ladies organize the club, and their daughters do the work. Each member brings with her to the meeting place a quantity of cotton flannel, which is fashioned into underwear, night garments, and other things for children as well as adults. It is found that there is an always existing demand for cotton flannel, and that it is impossible to supply...

ing of wool on the free list are being circulated and signed by almost every one in west Texas regardless of party. Two thousand people are interested in wool in west Texas.

Two centenarians, Mary Page, 104, and Harry Mordecai, 101, died in the Raleigh, N. C., poor house within a day of each other last week.

Lumpkin county, Ga., is having an exciting gold mining boom. The mines are not new discoveries, but since the silver trouble began attention has been redirected to old diggings and gold deposits known to exist there. Colorado mining capitalists and speculators from other regions have been looking over the Lumpkin gold fields during the past two or three months, with a view to investment.

Florida and California fruit is competing successfully with Mediterranean products in European markets this year, and the shipments already are largely in excess of those of previous years. Successful experiments have also been made this year with shipments of Californian and Washington fruits to Japan and other countries of the Orient. From a twenty acre prune ranch a Washington grower obtained this year forty tons of dried fruit, which he sold in Portland at \$150 a ton.

A man in Americus, Ga., is playing the business of peddler under a free license granted by the State to wounded Confederate soldiers, and eking out a subsistence with a pension he draws as an ex-Union soldier.

The Columbia Street Methodist church at Columbia, S. C., was sustained by the Conference last week in expelling Walter Kirkland because he was employed as a clerk in the county dispensary. There is no appeal for an individual member from the decision of the Conference.

T. K. Bruner, who was connected with the exhibit at Chicago, says that the North Carolina agricultural exhibit had received 97 awards up to the time of his leaving Chicago, while that of South Dakota, which was considered one of the finest agricultural displays, had only 18.

O. P. Ransom, grocer, Columbia, S. C., was closed out Friday by the Loan and Exchange Bank.

John M. Langsten, the cultured Virginia mulatto, and formerly minister to Hayti, in a recent lecture on the emancipation of the negro in the Latin countries of America, said that "the brave deeds of the slaves who won Haytian independence were a monument to the ability of the colored man to better his own condition. Revolutions were frequent in Hayti, but no negro would ever sell the independence of the country. The disturbance in the government never went farther than the disposition of the rulers. The negro in Hayti and San Domingo had emancipated himself, but...

the Government of the United States had issued colored intelligence by sending Virginia white men to them to represent the nation. The negro held the government of the world in the hollow of his hand. He multiplied rapidly and scattered abroad, and was increasing in education and wealth as that the time was coming when he would rule."

Judge Richard Parker, died at his residence in Winchester, Va., last Friday night. He was 83 years old. He was a son of the late Richard E. Parker of the Court of Appeals of Virginia, and was graduated in law at the University...

Pat Off a Train, He is... Beaten and Dogs are Set... A HEVILLE, N. C.—A... Paint Rock reveal a... between Duc's Sam... government. Several... Gun, a Chinaman, left... Johnson City, Tenn. via... The Chinaman had \$250... pocket. At Paint Rock the... are charged and the East... Georgia train... through to Knoxville...

AN OUTRAGE ON A CHINESE MAN. Took the Pretty Organist With Him to His Living Grave. BALTIMORE, Md.—Rev. Chas. M. Bragg, pastor of the Calvary Methodist Episcopal church, South, and Miss Inthe Phelps, organist of the church, have disappeared, leaving letters saying that they will not return to Baltimore. The inference is that the parson and organist have taken flight together. The former leaves a wife and five young children.

Mr. Bragg is about 42 years of age. For a number of years he had charge of a country newspaper in West Virginia, his native State. Ten years ago he entered the ministry. He came to Calvary church in March, 1892, from Roucevert, W. Va., succeeding Rev. J. W. Grubb. He was a forcible preacher and by his vigor, style and personal popularity attracted large congregations. He preached twice last Sunday.

Miss Phelps, the missing organist, is about 17 years of age, of medium height and a good figure. Richard Phelps, the young girl's father, who is a well-known commission merchant, declines to discuss the subject of the disappearance of his daughter.

"Do you think she has gone with Mr. Bragg?" he was asked. "I have nothing to say," was his reply. "No statement to make."

Mrs. Bragg is prostrated with grief. It is stated that she found a letter carefully sealed and addressed to her, lying upon her husband's desk. Its contents have not been made public other than that contained in the statement that the writer "is a ruined man," adding: "I am going away and will not return. Tell the children I love them." The 10-year-old son of the absent parson, when asked where his father was, promptly responded with tears in his eyes: "Papa is dead."

Made a Cat False Teeth. The cat that owned the false teeth had lost his own, and had his jaw broken besides by a drunken wretch who beat him with a cobble-stone.

Something must be done for him, for life supported on "spoon vittles" was a burden, and a young dentist in the neighborhood, who had become greatly interested in the unfortunate cat, resolved to try the experiment of making a terrible piece of work, as Captain objected to it with all his might, but it was nothing to what followed when the teeth were fairly in. If the animal had plunged and scratched while the plate was being fitted, he acted like a mad thing when it was firmly attached to his jaw—although it was well made and fitted perfectly.

He could not understand that it would enable him to continue the luxurious feasts to which he had been accustomed, and for several days he and impossible scheme was tried to get the uncomfortable thing out of his mouth; he tore at it with his claws, he shook his head violently to make it drop out, he butted against heavy pieces of furniture, and if any one came near him he growled and scratched at them.

There seemed to be danger of his going mad, and his friends were sorely puzzled to know what to do with him, when, greatly to their relief, he calmed down and appeared to have come to the conclusion that his new possession was after all a blessing in disguise. He was once more gentle and affectionate, as he had been previous to his misfortune; and the plate was now often taken out between meals and put back again. In this way it was worn comfortably for over a year.—San Francisco Chronicle.

A Corpse in the River. RICHMOND, VA.—The body of a man supposed to be that of W. H. Simpson or Harris, was found in the river here. There were no marks of violence upon his person. The man has been missing from his boarding house since the third of the month. He had only been in the city about a month and it is believed that he came from York, Pa.

A Preacher Kills a Man. ASHEVILLE, N. C.—News reached here that Rev. Jack Norton, of Rice's Creek, Union county, Tenn., killed a man named Mahaffey on Shelton Laurel, Madison county, Monday. At last accounts Sheriff White had gone to arrest Norton.

Nine Feet of Water in her Hold. WILMINGTON, N. C.—The schooner Douglas Gregory, Captain L. S. Stillwell, halting from Port Dennisville, N. J., from Savannah to Baltimore, with cargo of lumber, was towed into Southport in distress. The captain reports that she was struck by a northeast storm on the 10th, in latitude 33 deg. 35 min. north, and longitude 78 deg. west, during which the vessel lost her rudder and sustained several leaks. At present there is nine feet of water in her hold.

Kills the Sheriff. MURRAY, Ky.—J. M. Breedlove, sheriff of Henry county, Tenn., was shot and instantly killed by a negro named Coleman. The negro was in ambush and used a shot gun, blowing the top of the sheriff's head off.

The Americans are generally to have surpassed all other nations in the invention and use of rapid guns.

THE GOVERNMENT DEFEATED.

LONDON, ENG.—The parish council bill being under consideration, the House of Commons divided on Mr. Walter MacLaurin's motion to allow women to vote in local government and parliamentary elections. The motion was carried 147 to 126 amid great excitement and cries that the government resign.

WILL STOP THE FIGHT.

The Government says Corbett and Mitchell shall not fight.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—Tallahassee brought the following telegram, but significant letter from the Chief Executive of Florida:

To N. B. BROWARD, Sheriff of Duval County: DAR SIR—The Governor directs that you will take all proper precautions to prevent any "prize fight" or so called "glove-contests" in Duval county.

[Signed] D. LANG, Private Secretary.

The sporting men claim that the statute does not contemplate a fight like this one arranged between Corbett and Mitchell, duelling being the offence as ever that the fight will come off here. Their attorney advises them to go ahead.

Preacher Fined for Cruelty to a Skunk. (From the Philadelphia Press.) GROUNTSVILLE, Mass.—R. McCartney, a Congregational minister of this town, who has made him self obnoxious to the liquor dealers here about by his efforts in the interest of morality, was fined \$15 in the police court for undue cruelty in the killing of a skunk.

It appears that one day last week Mr. McCartney was attracted to his back yard by a very small, fat, yellow, fat, old dog, who was in the yard when Mr. McCartney came on the scene he was nearly suffocated by the fumes, and noticed a little white and black animal gamboling in the straw. He tipped the box over and lifting it touched a mit-h to the straw, cremating the skunk.

A tender hearted neighbor, Lemuel B. Burrell, who is an agent for the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, made a complaint to the authorities, and the Rev. Henry McCartney was brought up in court. He acknowledged his guilt and paid the fine.

Two Big Families. The following two families make a showing which is difficult to find exceeded, even in the prolific mountains of Tennessee and North Carolina.

The Rev. A. Routh is a Baptist preacher residing at Pine Bluff, Sullivan county, Tenn. He is a spry old gentleman, about 70 years old, and still fills his regular appointments at several preaching places. He is the father of thirty-three children, all of them living. Mr. Routh has been married twice, and his second wife is still living and helping take care of the family. Mr. Routh is almost deaf, but otherwise, shows no signs of old age or decay. His family is nearly equally divided as to sex, there being seventeen boys and sixteen girls.

The other family is that of Moses Williams, colored, who lives on a farm near Fayetteville, N. C. He is a lively young chap of sixty-five, but doesn't look like it. He is also living with his second wife. There have been born to him forty-five children—forty of them girls. By his first wife there were twenty girls and three boys, and by the second twenty girls and two boys. Nearly all of them are living.

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INCOME TAX ASSURED.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—That an income tax shall be a part of this Administration's financial plan has been as good as agreed upon by the Committee of Ways and Means. This is conceded by men speaking for the committee and the Administration.

THE GRIDIRON CLUB OF WASHINGTON.

Richmond, Va.—Mrs. Violet Pace Jackson, wife of Bishop H. Melville Jackson, of Alabama, died here Thursday at the residence of her father, James B. Pace.

Herat, in Afghanistan, is the city which has been most often destroyed. Fifty six times have its walls been laid in ruins, and the same number of times have they been erected again.

The Gridiron Club of Washington, D. C., visited Asheville, N. C., last Friday, where they were winced and dined.

TO COIN \$4,000,000 A MONTH.

Colonel Oates Says that Mr. Carlisle Intimated to Him His Policy.

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Congressman Oates has arrived in this city direct from Washington. In an interview he said he had recently called on Mr. Carlisle and the Secretary gave him to understand it would be the policy of the administration to coin about four millions monthly. At this rate, which is the capacity of the mints, it would require four years to coin all the bullion in hand. That would be at the end of Mr. Cleveland's term. The succeeding administration would provide for additional currency and relief to the people for increasing the circulating medium. He says he thinks the bill proposing the 10 per cent. tax on State banks will pass. He gives a sufficient domestic currency and relief to the people, but he is not sure the President favors it. The President is non-committal.

AGE OF TREES.

Elim, 300 years; ivy, 385 years; maple, 510 years; larch, 576 years; orange, 630 years; cypress, 800 years; olive, 800 years; walnut, 900 years; Oriental plane, 1000 years; lime, 1100 years; spruce, 1200 years; oak, 1500 years; cedar, 2000 years; yew, 3200 years.

no doubt of its correctness. In a few cases the data has been furnished by historical records and by traditions, but the botanical archeologists have a resource independent of either, and, when carefully used, infallible.

Of all the forms of nature, trees alone disclose their ages candidly and freely. In the stems of trees which have branches and leaves with netted veins—in all exogens, as the botanist would say—the increments of growth spread in an even layer upon the surface of the preceding one.

In the earlier periods of life trees increase much faster than when adult—the oak, for instance, grows more rapidly between the twentieth and thirtieth years—and when old the annual deposits considerably diminish, so that the strata are thinner and the rings proportionably closer. Some trees slacken in rate of growth at a very early period of life, and layers of oak become thinner after forty, those of the elm after fifty, those of the yew after sixty.—New York Times.

CLEVELAND APPOINTS HARRISON'S DEMOCRATIC BROTHER.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The President appointed a number of collectors of customs of internal revenue and other officers under the Treasury Department, all for Northwestern and Southwestern sections. Among them was J. Scott Harrison, to be surveyor of customs for the port of Kansas City. He is the Democratic brother of ex-President Harrison, and an active Democratic politician.

PICKING COTTON BY MACHINERY.

NEW YORK.—The United States Cotton Picking Company, which was recently formed in New York with Jacob Schwed as president, has been sold out to the Weller Cotton Picking Company, with a capital of \$1,000,000, of which Mr. Schwed is also president. The machine acquired by the Weller Company has been in operation in the cotton fields near Anniston, Ala.

TWO LAWYERS FIGHT.

COLUMBIA, S. C.—Burrell Miles, a man 60 years of age, working in the State dispensary, fell down the elevator opening, and he was rendered unconscious, and is thought to be seriously injured. He was sent to the hospital for treatment.

John Bausket and J. S. Verner, two prominent lawyers of this city, had a personal encounter on the street. They were separated without being hurt.

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