

Humorous Department.

JOSH BILLINGS'S PHILOSOPHY.—Of all kreated things, animate or inanimate, we find no fools except among mankind.

The man who told us "that virtue is its own reward," might have added that vice was, too.

The man who fully understands a subject is allus satisfied to use the simplest terms to explain it.

The man who tells you that there isn't an honest person living, has studied his own kyracter too well.

If you expect to keep your friend, you hav got to see all his virtues with both eyes, and hiz failings with one.

It would be a good trade if we could banish about one-half the learning out ov the world, and substitute common sense in the place ov it.

It iz a grate deal eazier to be sassy than to be sarkastik; but there iz menny critics who haven't discovered the difference yet, and probably never will.

The world has allus longed for sensashuns. If a man could invent a new Punch and Judy, he would be admired more than the one who could make one barrel ov flour go az far az two.

A HAPPY REJOINER.—Col. Stone, of Tennessee, when he was running for governor, met for the first time a delegate from one of the rural counties to the state convention.

"I am glad to meet you. I have known your father for many years; but have never had the pleasure of your acquaintance. I see, however, that his son is better looking than his father."

"Look here, colonel," said the delegate, "you need not be flattering me up, for I am out and out for Barksdale for governor, although the old man is for you."

"Why, I simply find you better looking than your father; but I did not say you had half as much sense as he has," returned the colonel.

Those standing around roared with laughter, in which the delegate good-humoredly joined.

YOUTHFUL DIPLOMACY.—The groceryman on the corner relates that a couple of days ago a little girl entered his emporium and timidly laying down a dime, asked for 10 cents' worth of candy.

"It's for papa," she said. "I want to surprise him when he comes home."

The groceryman proceeded to dig out some of his stock when the little girl interposed:

"Don't give me that kind. Give me caramels. I just love caramels!"

"But I thought these were for papa," the groceryman remarked.

"I know, explained the little girl; but when I give them to papa he'll just kiss me an' say that 'cause I'm such a generous little girl, he'll give them all back to me. So you'd better give me caramels."—The Memphis Scimitar.

THE HOME IN NO DANGER.—Statesman—My dear madam, your arguments in support of women's suffrage are all very well so far as they go; but you leave out of the problem the most important factor of all—the home, madam, the home—the unit of American government.

Mrs. Strongmind—In what way, pray?

Statesman—Would not giving the ballot to woman transform every home into a centre of political contention and animosity?

Mrs. Strongmind—Nonsense! Of course not. The husband would vote as the wife tells him, or lie about it, just as he does now.—Washington Star.

AN INDISCREET MOTHER.—"I love all that is beautiful in art and nature," she was saying to her aesthetic admirer. "I revel in the green fields, the babbling brooks, and the little wayside flowers. I feast on the beauties of earth and sky and air; they are my daily life and food, and—"

"Maudie!" cried out the mother from the kitchen, not knowing that her daughter's beau was in the parlor; "Maudie! whatever made you go and eat that big dish of potatoes that was left over from dinner? I told you that we wanted them warmed up for supper. I declare if your appetite isn't enough to bankrupt your pa."—Globe-Democrat.

A NATURAL CONCLUSION.—"What's your name?" asked the new school-teacher, addressing the first boy on the bench.

"Julie Simpson," replied the lad.

"Not Julie—Julius," said the teacher. He addressed the next one.

"What is your name?"

"Billious Simpson, I suppose," said the boy.

And the new teacher had to rap for order.—The Standard.

At a railway station, an old lady said to a very pompous-looking gentleman, who was talking about communications, "Pray, sir, what is steam?"

"Steam, ma'am, is, ah—ah! steam is—"

"I knew that chap could not tell ye," said a rough-looking fellow standing near by; "but steam is a bucket of water in a tremendous perspiration."—True Flag.

AFFABLE PASSENGER.—Indeed and you are a music hall artist. I am a banker, and I think it is twenty years since I was in a music hall.

Music Hall Artist (regretfully)—And I'm certain, gov'nor, it's twenty years since I was in a bank.—Moonshine.

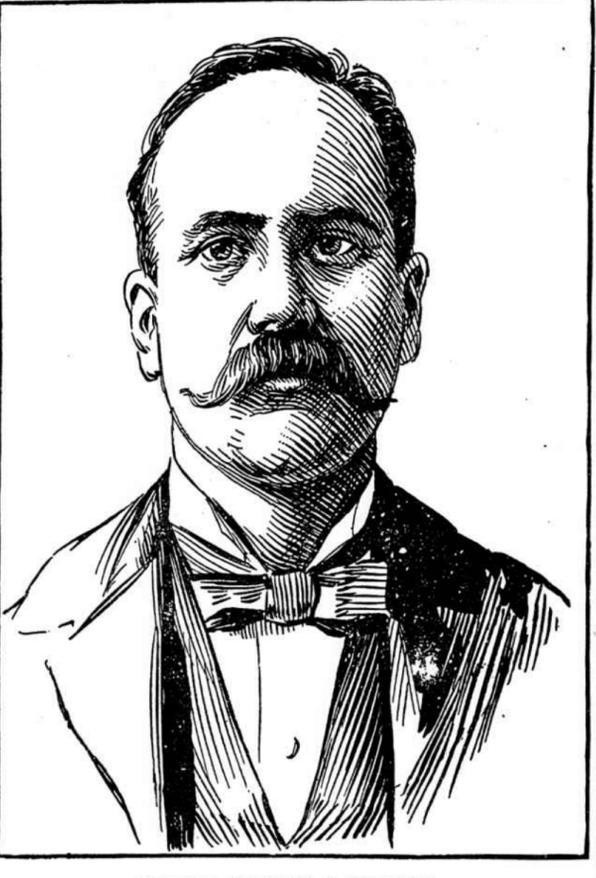
"Ma, I wish I had a little sister." "So you would have someone to play with you, Freddy?" "No'm; soze ev'y time you washed my face I c'd wash hern."—Chicago Record.

THE REV. CHARLES M. SHELDON AND HIS WORLD FAMOUS STORIES.

Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, whose attempt to run a Topeka newspaper as Christ would, has attracted widespread attention and is a most interesting personality. He might be preaching to great audiences in a rich church, he might be making an immense fortune simply by collecting royalties on books whose editions run into the millions of copies, or he might be on the lecture platform receiving the plaudits of the people of great cities, but he is content to remain pastor of a modest church in Topeka and do his work as he did it before his name became known in many lands.

Here is the story of his career: He was born in Wellsville, N. Y., in 1857. While he was still a very small boy his parents removed to Dakota. His father was a minister who farmed weekdays and preached in a little church on Sunday. The Sheldon farm was just outside of Yankton, and there the man who was to write "Robert Hardy's Seven Days," "In His Steps" and "The Crucifixion of Philip Strong" and "The Crucifixion of Philip Strong" spent most of his boyhood. It was farm work which built up the broad shoulders and developed the muscular limbs of the man who has become the foremost of religious authors.

As a boy Mr. Sheldon went to school in Yankton. Even at that time he had



THE REV. CHARLES M. SHELDON.

begun to write stories. They were printed in the local paper, some of them. "And they were just as good," says his father, "as those he writes now."

As his father was anxious for him to become a minister, the young man went east and entered Phillips academy, Andover, Mass., where thousands of theological students are trained. Later he took a course at Brown university and then returned to the Andover Theological seminary.

After a summer in Europe he entered the ministry and began preaching in Waterbury, Vt. But the spirit of the west was in him, so when he received a call to become the pastor of the newly established Central Congregational church, in Topeka, in 1888, he gladly accepted it as the opening he had been waiting for.

Most men would not have thought the outlook an inviting one. The little congregation of 60 had no church building, but held services in a dingy little hall over a grocery store. But he went to work with a will. As a result of his energetic methods the little hall was soon abandoned and a substantial stone church erected. The congregation was increased to 300. It was not a rich or fashionable congregation, nor is it today, but it is very much alive.

Early in his pastorate Mr. Sheldon began to employ strikingly original methods. He was not satisfied with the kind of work usually done by ministers. He wanted to know what ideas the masses of the people had on the subject of Christianity, and he wanted to find out about their daily lives and occupations.

With this desire in his heart he asked his congregation to excuse him from pastoral work for three months, and his congregation saw little of him except during church services. He was at home scarcely any of the time, but very few people knew what he was doing.

It was characteristic of the man. He was "getting acquainted." Topeka is the headquarters of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad. Hundreds of men are employed in the railroad shops, and hundreds of tramen make their headquarters there. It was among these that Mr. Sheldon spent much of his time. He obtained an employee's pass from the railroad company, and, dressed as an employee, he made trips up and down the road in company with the trainmen, learning their ways and drawing out their ideas on every conceivable subject, especially on religion.

Miscellaneous Reading.

IN COUNTIES ADJOINING.

Summary of the News That Is Being Published by Exchanges.

CLEVELAND—The Shelby Aurora, May 9:

The Negro prisoner in the county jail who was sent to the detention house as a smallpox subject, has been examined by County Physician Palmer, who pronounces the case not smallpox. Excitement in the town and country has about subsided as no other cases have developed. A force of hands is busy at work building the new depot of the Lawdale Narrow Gauge road at this place. It is located near the S. C. & G. E. depot, and is nearly completed. That kindly and public spirited gentleman, Dr. B. F. Dixon, soon to be state auditor, has presented to Trinity College museum some interesting relics, among which were: A knife taken from the grave of Colonel Ferguson, at King's Mountain battle ground, a pipe carried by Captain Freeman, a Korean pouch and Korean money. Mr. Earl McFarland, a bright young boy of this place who has been holding a lucrative and responsible position with a big New York firm, has accepted a government position in Cuba and leaves for his new post of duty tomorrow, (Thursday). He will be located at Sagua LaGrand, province of Santa Clara, in northern Cuba. He will fill the position of private secretary to the disbursing officer in the distributing department. The position is a good one, and is a deserved recognition of his fine business ability.

Mr. N. Jackson, one of our esteemed citizens, celebrated his 82nd anniversary last Thursday. He was entertained at dinner by his daughter, Mrs. E. Revere. It was a most pleasant occasion. This aged gentleman, who has 82 milestones in life's journey, is still hale, hearty and active. He has the honor of being one of the first settlers of Shelby, 58 years ago. He built the first dwelling house erected here, and was the first settler. The house stood in the rear of the Walton Green residence, east of the public square, and was constructed out of pine logs. Mr. Jackson worthily bears the esteem of a large circle of friends who join with The Aurora in wishing him many more happy returns of the day.

The campaign is warming up in Cleveland and the champions of White Supremacy and good govern are mingling with the sturdy yeomanry of the county who are according them cordial and enthusiastic greetings. The White Supremacy club of Shelby held its first meeting in the court house Friday night. A large crowd was in attendance. Splendid addresses were delivered by S. E. Gidney, Esq., and Rev. Mr. Woodson. The audience was enthusiastic and greeted each telling argument against the black and tan aggregation with salvos of applause. Both of the gentlemen fully sustained their reputations for forceful speakers, and their arguments in behalf of a white man's government were clear, concise logical and convincing. The next meeting of the club will be held Friday night, June 1.

CHESTER—The Lantern, May 8: Mr. W. B. Horne returned Saturday morning from his school, near Hickory Grove, and is now resting at home. Dr. and Mrs. Henderson, of Los Angeles, Cal., left here for Hickory Grove, after visiting several days in town and county. Mrs. Henderson was a McDill, a native of Ohio; but of Chester county stock. They are gathering notes of family connection. We have learned that Mrs. Jane Black, wife of Mr. James Black, of Fort Lawn, died last Tuesday, of pneumonia. Our informant thinks she was about 73 years old. Her name was Walker before her marriage. Invitations are out for the marriage of Mr. Arthur Davis Darby, of Lowrysville, and Miss Julia Simpson, of Clinton, on Wednesday, the 16th. A reception will be given by the parents of the groom, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. S. Darby, on Thursday evening, the 17th. J. E. McDonald, Thos. Elliott, and others were in town last week on business connected with the prospective development of the Catawba water power. They and associates control the state's interest in the canal and considerable property besides, and have the backing of ample capital to utilize the power. A colored child, three or four years old, daughter of Joe Spence, was burned to death last Saturday on Mrs. Rachel McKeown's place, near Cornwell. It had been left in the yard; but had got in the house and caught fire. It had run out again when it got afire, and was dead when found. Yesterday the clerk sold two lots. The first near the Eureka mills, one acre and 16 poles, was bought by S. E. McFadden for \$100. Second, the Dixon lot, where the house was burned two years ago, at the corner of York and Pine streets. It was bought by Mrs. Emma S. Hafner, for \$690. The sheriff sold for taxes, the Dunn house and lot, on Centre street. It was bought by S. D. Cross for \$600. Also the Charlotte Hancock tract, near Olive. It was bid off by T. J. Martin at \$205. Mrs. T. C. Spraggins, of Hackleburg, Ala., is at Dr. G. B. White's. Her grandfather, John White, and one of his brothers, moved from this county to Alabama 93 years ago, and they were lost sight of for some time by their relatives here. What is more remarkable, the two families in Alabama lost all knowledge of each other. Some time ago a brother of Mrs. Spraggins attended a convention or meeting of some kind at Tuscaloosa, and was entertained at the home of Mr. Walter Seed, a member of the other family; but neither knew anything of the relationship until they learned of it afterward through relatives here, with whom communication had been re-established.

LANCASTER—Ledger, May 9: Constable Conner, who recently met with the misfortune of breaking an arm, is at his post again. Mr. Jack Hinson, near Primus, whose leg was broken by his mule throwing him recently, is not doing so well, and it is reported that the broken limb may have to be amputated.

ARMOR PLATE WORTHLESS.

Naval Officer Invents a Shell That Will Penetrate the Best of It.

Some facts almost startling in their importance were laid before the senate Tuesday in executive session, says a Washington dispatch. They related, it is understood, to the invention of a shell by a prominent officer of the United States navy—a shell superior in every essential quality to any now in use by this or any other government. The quality of penetration possessed by the shell is said to be so great that no armor now manufactured in the United States or abroad has sufficient resistance to withstand it.

The facts, which were in possession of only a few senators, were deemed so important that the senate decided to consider them in secret.

Today, after the naval bill had been laid aside for the day, Mr. Tillman asked for a secret session in order that he might explain to the senate why he desired the armor plate matter to be discussed in secret.

When the doors were closed he explained that several days ago he had offered a resolution calling upon the secretary of the navy to send to the senate for its information, the details of tests made by the department's officials of armor plate at Indian Head. No answer to that inquiry has been received, and in all human probability none will ever be received.

It seems that Mr. Tillman called at the navy department and was informed that it was unwise at this time to make public the details of the tests he had asked for, as it would place in the hands, not only of the senate, but of representatives of foreign governments, what properly belonged exclusively to the United States. He was informed that Admiral O'Neil, chief of the bureau of ordnance, had been conducting for several months a series of armor tests at Indian Head, the results of which were very remarkable. A prominent official of the navy department said, it is understood, that the test of all kinds of armor, including the Krupp armor, had been made with a view to ascertaining their effectiveness against a new shell that had

been invented by an officer of the navy. No piece of armor submitted to the test, it is understood, was able to withstand the test. The shell, fired from high power guns, penetrated the armor almost as bullets from a Krag-Jorgensen rifle would penetrate green wood, the difference being the armor plates split from point of impact. It is said that this was true of the Krupp armor as well as of other armor tested. The shell which was so effective was not described; indeed, the navy department is guarding jealously all details concerning its construction. The argument of Mr. Tillman is that with such a projectile in the possession of the government, that sooner or later will become known to other governments, it would not be the part of wisdom for the congress to enter into contracts to purchase the high priced armor, unless it could be so improved so as to resist projectiles of the kind used at Indian Head. Feeling that more or less of the matter concerning the tests recently made by the government would be used in the debate upon the armor question, Mr. Tillman suggested that it would be desirable to consider the subject in secret.

The senate agreed with him, and the armor plate matter was discussed behind closed doors.

GAFFNEY BRANCH.

WEST. EAST.

Table with columns for First Class, EASTERN, and First Class, WEST, listing stations like Blacksburg, Cherokee Falls, and Gaffney.

BLACKSBURG, S. C., AND MARION, N. C.

WEST. EAST.

Table with columns for 11, 33, EASTERN, 32, 12, listing stations like Blacksburg, Earle, Patterson Spr, etc.

STATIONS.

Table with columns for P.M., P.M., A.M., A.M., listing times for various stations.

TAKE COUGH EASE, 25 CENTS A BOTTLE. YORK DRUG STORE.

CAROLINA & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.



Schedule Effective April 1st, 1900.

Table with columns for North Bound, Passenger, Mixed, Mixed, listing stations like North Bound, Passenger, Mixed, etc.

Table with columns for South Bound, Passenger, Mixed, Mixed, listing stations like South Bound, Passenger, Mixed, etc.

\*20 minutes for supper at Gastonia. No. 10, north bound, connects at Chester with Southern Ry., Seaboard Air Line, Lancaster and Chester Ry. from all points south; at Yorkville with South Carolina and Georgia Ex. Ry.; at Gastonia with Southern Ry.; at Lincolnton with Seaboard Air Line; at Newton and Hickory with Southern Ry. No. 9, south bound, makes close connection at all junction points.

L. T. NICHOLS, General Manager, Chester, South Carolina. E. F. REID, Auditor, Chester, South Carolina.

SOUTH CAROLINA & GEORGIA EXTENSION RAILROAD CO.

TIME TABLE NO. 4.

In Effect 12.01 a. m., Sunday, Dec. 24, 1899.

BETWEEN CAMDEN AND BLACKSBURG.

WEST. EAST.

Table with columns for 35, 33, EASTERN, 32, 34, listing stations like Camden, De Kalb, Westville, etc.

STATIONS.

Table with columns for P.M., P.M., A.M., A.M., listing times for various stations.

BETWEEN BLACKSBURG, S. C., AND MARION, N. C.

WEST. EAST.

Table with columns for 11, 33, EASTERN, 32, 12, listing stations like Blacksburg, Earle, Patterson Spr, etc.

STATIONS.

Table with columns for P.M., P.M., A.M., A.M., listing times for various stations.

GAFFNEY BRANCH.

WEST. EAST.

Table with columns for 15, 13, EASTERN, 14, 10, listing stations like Blacksburg, Cherokee Falls, Gaffney.

STATIONS.

Table with columns for P.M., P.M., A.M., A.M., listing times for various stations.

Trains Nos. 32 and 33 connect at Blacksburg with trains on the Gaffney Division. Train No. 32 connects at Camden with the Charleston Division of the Southern Railway for all points South. Train No. 33 leaving Camden at 12.40 p. m., going West, makes connection at Lancaster, S. C., with the L. & C. R. R., at Catawba Junction with the S. A. L., going North; at Rock Hill with the Southern Railway going North. Train No. 11 connects at Blacksburg with the Southern Railway from the South. At Marion, N. C., with the Southern Railway going West. SAMUEL HUNT, President. A. TRIPP, Superintendent. S. B. LUMPKIN, Gen. F. and P. Agt.