

Humorous Department.

A Future Financier. There is a six-year-old West Philadelphia who already gives evidence of possessing the necessary qualifications to place him at the head of some great trust.

Finally one morning when mamma had been making bids, like the crowd at an auction, "One dollar, one and one-half," and at last had reached "three," the small boy broke in with: "Say, mamma, would you give me \$5?"

The mother hesitated a moment and then said: "Yes. Anything to have it over." "I'll do it, then," said the small boy. "So away they went in a hurry before he could repent of his bargain."

On the way home his mother said, "Now, Harold, don't you think that was a very little thing for mamma to give you \$5 for?" "Yes, mamma, I do," said the young financier. "But I'll tell you what. We'll call it \$4.75, and you give me the \$5, and I'll give you back the 25 cents some time when I have another tooth pulled."—Philadelphia Ledger.

BOUTWELL'S CLEVER REJOINER.—George S. Boutwell of Massachusetts, secretary of the treasury under General Grant, was a most efficient executive officer and won the good will of the employees by his generous treatment of his subordinates.

"Mr. Secretary," he said, "I am afraid that I have been removed because of my politics." "What makes you think so?" asked the secretary.

"I think I was dropped because it is believed that I was a Democrat." "Indeed! And what are you?" "I am not a Democrat—at least not now."

"Not now!" was the amused comment, with a shake of the head. "Not now, eh?" "Well, Mr. Secretary," was the rejoinder, with a little show of courage, "I know the time that you were a Democrat."

"Yes," was the emphatic reply, "but when I was there never was any doubt about it, and there seems to be some doubt in your case."

THE WRONG HOUSE.—The other day one of the telephone operators at the Hotel Cadillac received a severe shock to her nervous system, which even now disturbs her sleep.

"Hello!" came the voice. "This is Mr. — (the name of a prominent Detroit broker). Did you get that \$100,000 draft I sent over to you a few minutes ago?"

"You're in the wrong house," said the operator. "This is the Hotel Cadillac." The broker made a certain remark as he slammed up the receiver, which the operator says was "just mean of him."

THE RETORT COURTEOUS.—A Baltimore girl who has been living in California for several years and who has recently returned home has brought with her a number of stories of the way of the "heavenly Chinese" as she appears to the dwellers on the Pacific coast.

After that frost, so the teller of the story says, nothing but the most irreproachable correct English of the university type was spoken out to that Celestial.—Baltimore Sun.

Now, don't tell me this is a chestnut. For aught I know it may have been going the rounds of the vaudeville stage ever since Cain killed Abel for telling it.

Two of a kind met in Heister street. One noticed that the other looked weak and wan.

"Vy, Aaron, vat iss de matter vit you?" he asked. "I have choost come from de hospital."

"Vat vas you doing there?" "I vas sick, very sick, und dey took my appendix away from me."

"Vot? Dey took it away from you? you ven you vas sick? Vell, dat's a tam shame. But say, Aaron, how does it come you didn't have it in your wife's name?"—Willis Brooks in Brooklyn Eagle.

The readiness of repartee of the late Thomas B. Reed was never better illustrated than on one occasion when he went to visit a friend who lived at the top of a long and narrow flight of stairs.

Miscellaneous Reading.

FROM CONTEMPORARIES.

News and Comment That is More or Less Local Interest. GASTON.

Gastonia Gazette, February 9: Near Begonia last Thursday a little child of Mr. Charlie Hoffman was nearly killed by an accident which happened while he and an older boy were in the woods getting pine.

At the home of the bride's father, Mr. J. S. Huggins, in east Gastonia Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, Mr. John A. Payne and Miss Esbie Huggins were united in marriage.

The fact is due to use of improved agricultural machinery, by means of which one man in many instances is able to do the work of from five to twenty.

The south can increase and will increase her cotton production not only by improving the fertility of her soil by every scientific and available method, not only by the improvement of the intelligence and skill of her laborers, not only by the use of more and more improved agricultural machinery, but by the opening up of new lands to give employment to thousands who are coming from other sections, as well as to our fast increasing population.

To realize the vast possibilities for expansion along this line one has only to examine the census report, which shows a loss of 35 per cent of the farm lands of the south are improved. The report shows that in Mississippi only 41.6 per cent of the farm land is improved; in North Carolina only 34.5 per cent; in South Carolina only 41.3 per cent; in Georgia only 40.2 per cent; in Alabama only 41.8 per cent; in Florida only 34.6 per cent; in Louisiana only 42.2 per cent; in Texas only 15.6 per cent; in Arkansas only 41.8 per cent; and in Tennessee only 50.4 per cent.

HOW IT IS DONE. Modus Operandi of Cotton Future Speculation. The general system under which the cotton market is conducted is familiar to those who study the market situation, but to the man who never deals in cotton very little is known of the speculative scheme.

The buying and selling of cotton and produce futures is done on a basis of "margins," the customary margin on a cotton transaction being \$1 per bale, or one-fifth of a cent per pound, the standard bale being fixed always at 500 pounds.

The selling of cotton futures is practically the reverse process. The customer desiring to sell, puts up similar margins, which he loses in the event of cotton rising a sufficient number of points to bring him out. If cotton should decline in price he wins \$100 for every 20 points it goes down, Greenville Herald.

THE DISPENSARY DEBATE.

Senator Brice Appeals For the Right of Local Self-Government.

News and Courier: COLUMBIA, Feb. 8.—The chief forensic event in the senate session tonight was the very vigorous attack made by Senator Brice on the dispensary law and system.

Senator Peurifoy, in speaking on the bill, suggested that he would offer an amendment, that in case any town or city or county voted against the dispensary the government should be authorized to compel them to pay the expenses of the constabulary necessary to enforce the law.

Senator Hardin suggested an amendment somewhat on the same line. Senator Sharpe moved to strike out the enacting words. This motion was lost by a vote of 20 to 8.

Yeas, opposed to bill—Aldrich, Blake, Dean, Gaines, Herndon, Hydrick, Williams, Sharpe—8.

Nays, in favor of bill—Brice, Brown, Butler, Carpenter, Douglas, Hardin, Holliday, Johnson, Marshall, McCall, McIver, McLeod, Peurifoy, G. W. Ragsdale, Raysor, Sheppard, Stackhouse, Standand, Talbird, Von Kolnitz—20.

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TO OUR READERS BOOTH TARKINGTON'S Great American Story THE GENTLEMAN FROM INDIANA

Will be published in this paper beginning in a few days. We are not going to say much about it and we will tell you why.

If we describe the story as it is you will say before you have read it that we have greatly exaggerated. After you have read it you will say we failed to do it justice.

It is the story of a fearless editor who incurred the hatred of white caps and was murderously attacked by them, and—but we must not say what came of it, for that would be telling, and would take away from your pleasure in reading it.

It pictures vividly a phase of life which is too common in America.

It ought to be read by every man who loves his country and by every person who loves a lover—for the hero is a passionate lover, whose love-making is superb.

We know you will read it if you dip into the first chapters—and our word for it, you will enjoy it as you have seldom enjoyed a story.



YORKVILLE ENQUIRER

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THE YORKVILLE ENQUIRER is the most complete semi-weekly newspaper in South Carolina. Its mission is to keep its readers promptly and correctly informed as to all local, state and general happenings that are of immediate interest and to stand for all that promises best for the welfare of its constituents along business, industrial, social and religious lines.

THE SUBSCRIPTION PRICE. The subscription price of THE ENQUIRER to single subscribers is \$2 per annum; but in clubs of two or more we send it for only \$1.75. This reduction is for business reasons and to the clubmaker who returns and pays for the second largest club, we will give a handsome Columbia Top Buggy, worth \$65.

TO CLUBMAKERS. To the clubmaker who returns and pays for the largest number of names between October 15, 1903, and Wednesday, March 16, 1904, at 6 o'clock p.m., we will give a first-class Babcock Top Buggy, worth \$85; or a first-class Columbia Top Buggy with rubber tires, valued at \$85.

OTHER OFFERS. For Four Names. A "Yankee" Watch, a Stylographic Fountain Pen or a Three-Blade Pocket Knife of good quality; or a 15-String Zither.

For Five Names. A year's subscription to either one of the following magazines: McClure's, Ladies' Home Journal, Munsey, Argosy, Cosmopolitan, Delineator, Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly, or either of the following: A "Champion" Stem Winding Watch, a gold pocket watch, a four-bladed Pocket Knife.

For Six Names. An "Eclipse" Stem Winding Watch, King Repeating Air Rifle, a year's subscription to the Christian Herald, or a 22-String Zither.

For Eight Names. An Ingersoll "Triumph" Watch, a Columbia Repeating Air Rifle—works like Winchester—a fine Razor or a Pocket Knife, a Rapid Writer Fountain Pen—plain case; or a Hopf Model Violin or an 8-inch Banjo.

For Ten Names. One year's subscription to THE ENQUIRER, a "Quaker" Watch, valued at \$2.50; a Hamilton 22-calibre Rifle, Single Barrel Breech-loading Shot Gun, the Century or Harper's Magazine.

For Twenty Names. Crack-Shot Stems Rifle, a 10-ounce canvas Hunting Coat, a No. 1 Ejector Single Barrel Breech-loading Shot Gun, the Century or Harper's Magazine.

For Thirty Names. Either of the following: A Single Barrel Hammerless Shot Gun; a fine 1x4 Kodak, a fine Toilet or Washtand set, or a Hopkins & Allen Jr., 22-Calibre Rifle.

For Forty Names. A fine Mandolin, Guitar or Banjo, a New York Standard Open Face Watch, a W. Richards Double Barrel Breech-loading Shot Gun, or a Low Arm Singer Sewing Machine.

For Fifty Names. A Winchester or Colt's Repeating Rifle, 22 calibre; or a Baker Double Barrel Breech-loading Gun.

For Sixty Names. A High-Arm Sewing Machine; or a first-class Double Barrel Breech Loading Shot Gun.

For Ninety Names. A Batavia Hammerless Gun, 12-gauge, furnished by H. & D. Folsom Arms Co., of New York. A first-class gun and fully guaranteed.

WE WILL arrange to furnish any special article desired by a clubmaker for a given number of names on application to this office.

THE TIME for clubmakers to begin work in competition for the foregoing offers is RIGHT NOW. Let all names, whether old or new, be returned as rapidly as secured, so they may be properly entered upon our books.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS. Two Six Months Subscribers at \$1 each will be considered the equivalent of one yearly subscriber at \$1.75, and so counted. A subscription paid for two or more years in advance at \$1.75, will be counted as one name for each year so paid.

Clubmakers will be held personally responsible for the payment of all names returned by them. After a clubmaker has returned and paid for any name, he can, at any time thereafter, discontinue the sending of the paper to the person for whom he has paid, and transfer the unexpired time to any other person, provided the person to whom the transfer is desired was not a subscriber at the time the original name was entered on our books.

No name will be counted in competition for a premium until the subscription price has been paid; nor will any premium be delivered until a satisfactory settlement has been made for all names returned by the clubmaker.

Persons who commence making clubs will not be permitted to transfer their club to another clubmaker's list after the names have been entered on our books.

It is not necessary that the names on a club should all be at the same post-office. Names may be taken at any number of places.

All subscriptions must be forwarded to us at the expense of those sending them.

We will be responsible for the safe transmission of money only when sent by bank check, or by money order drawn on the Yorkville post-office.

In sending names, write plainly, and give post-office, county and state. All subscriptions will be discontinued at the expiration of the time paid for.

A separate list will be kept for each clubmaker, who will be credited with each name sent, and that the number sent by any clubmaker may be ascertained at a moment's notice.

In case of a tie for either premium, two weeks will be allowed in which to work off the tie.

The time in which names may be returned, under our propositions will commence NOW, and expires at 6 o'clock p.m. Wednesday, the 16th day of March, 1904.

After the closing of this contest on March 16, 1904, no single yearly subscription will be received for \$2.00, except new clubs are formed.

L. M. GRIST'S SONS, Publishers.

WOULD YOU KNOW HIM?

W. B. WILLIAMS, County Auditor.