Birmingham Eccentric.

WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, Pubs.

BIRMINGHAM, - - - MICHIGAN.

CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

The Nation's Chief Says His Say In Sharp Sententious Phrases.

The Country Safe, Prosperous and Happy.

A GOOD LOOK AHEAD.

The President's message was read to Congress Dec. 4th. In it he first calls attention to the gratifying condition of foreign affairs. All relations with other nations are most harmonious, slight differences being already settled or in a fair way to early adjustment. The arrest of citizens of the United States in Ireland has led to extensive correspondence and the release of the arrested parties. The discussion on the supervision and control of an inter-oceanic canal across the American isthmus continues, but will probably be largely settled by the lapse of time.

The continuance of friendly relations with Russia has led the president to proffer the earnest counsels of our government for the relief of the proscribed Hebrews in that country, and so far no American citizen, so far as known, has there been subject to arrest. The president refers to the frequency of international conventions for various purposes, and requests that discretionary power be lodged with the executive to appoint delegates to such conventions as he may think best.

The differences between the United States and Spain as to the effect of a certificate of naturalization has not been adjusted, but it is thought a settlement will be secured satisfactory to our government. The same is true of the onerous fines lately imposed by Spanish authorities on American vessels for trival offenses.

He calls attention to the international exhibition of domestic cattle to be held at Hamburg in July, 1883, and urges the importance of an early appropriation if this country is to be represented. The death of Mr. Marsh, late minister to Italy, is alluded to, and the attention of congress called to the question raised by the Italian government as to whether his successor shall be recognized as both secretary of legation and consul general at Rome. To the list of extraditable crimes between the United States and Belgium has been added that of assassination of the chief of state. Negotiations with Switzerland have led to a practical cessation of the former custom of sending paupers and criminals to this country. The porte has not yet assented to our government's interpretation of the treaty of 1830 relative to its jurisdictional rights in Turkey, but the president thinks this difference will be adjusted by a general revision of our system of jurisdiction in that country and the east.

The president trusts, in the interest of justice, that the indemnity funds will be returned to Chili and Japan.

The recent legislation restricting immigration of laborers from China has given rise to the question whether Chinese proceeding to or from another country may lawfully pass through our own. In constructing the act of May 6, 1882, in connection with the treaty of November 7, 1880, the restriction would seem to be limited to Chinese immigrants coming to the United States as laborers, and should not forbid a mere transit across our territory. The attention of congress is called to the subject.

The United States has lately attempted to aid in the amicable settlement of the boundary dispute still pending between Liberia and the British province of Sierra Leone.

The treaty with Hawaii becomes terminable after September 9, 1883, and modifications of it in the interest of our people are commended to congress.

Diplomatic intercourse with San Domingo is recommended by enlarging the scope of the mission at Port-au-Prince.

A recent agreement with Mexico provides for the crossing of the frontier of the armed forces of either country in pursuit of hostile Indians. The attention of congress is again called to the prevalent lawlessness upon the borders, and the necessity for legislation.

A convention for the establishment of the boundary line between the United States and Mexico will if ratified require suitable provision for survey of the line.

Our claims against Venezuela remain still unpaid. That government proposes holding a centennial celebration of the birth of Gen. Bolivar, the founder of South American independence, at Caracas in July next, which will be open to American products. Provision for a suitable representation is recommended.

In the war between Chili and Peru this government sought a year ago to induce Chili to accept a money indemnity for the expenses of the war but without success. Nothing more could be done without the assistance of a military force which would be at odds with our past policy and full of embarrassment. The determination of Chili to exact such rigorous conditions of peace is deplored.

About a year ago invitations were sent to the nations of this continent to be represented at a peace congress to be held at Washington in November, 1882, but as the disturbances between the South American republics were still unsettled and as congress had made no provision for the expenses of such peace congress, the president had postponed the same. He still hopes the time is nigh when international differences will be settled without resort to the sword.

The president renews his recommendation for legislation which will place the United States in harmony with other maritime powers in the adoption of rules for the prevention of collisions at sea. He has directed the secretary of state to address foreign governments on the adoption of a common prime meridian to be used in reckoning longitude and regulating time throughout the world. An agreement has also been reached between this country and the different European powers for an exchange of official publications, which will be carried on in behalf of this country by the Smithsonian institution.

He also recommends a reorganization of the diplomatic and consular service on a salaried basis, leaving fees to inure to the benefit of the treasury. This, he argues, would correct abuses now existing in these branches of public service, and a plan for such reorganization will be matured and submitted by the secretary of state at an early day.

From figures furnished by the treasury department it appears that the revenues of the government from all sources for the year ending June 30, 1882, were: From customs, $220,410,730; from internal revenue, $146,497,595; from sales of public lands, $4,753,140; tax on deposits of national banks, $8,956,794; repayment of interest by Pacific railroad companies, $840,554; from sinking fund for Pacific railroad companies, $796,271; customs fees, fines, penalties, etc., $134,334,800; and from various other sources sums sufficient to swell the grand aggregate of government revenues to $403,525,250.

The ordinary expenditures for the same time were: For civil expenses, $18,042,386; for foreign intercourse, $1,387,583; for Indians, $1,936,747; for pensions, $61,345,193; for the military establishment, and river and harbor improvements, $43,570,494; for the naval establishment, $15,032,046; for interest on the public debt, $71,077,206; and for other items making the grand total of expenditures, $257,981,439.

The president enumerates the different calls for the redemption of government bonds and the amount paid under each call, the total applied from the treasury for this purpose, being $166,281,505.

The exports of the year were, in goods, $750,742,272; in specie, $49,417,479; imports, goods, $724,639,574; specie, $42,472,399; excess of exports, $25,902,683, which is less than any excess of six years.

There are 2,269 national banks—171 organized during the year, a larger number than ever before. Notes in circulation, $324,656,458.

There have been 128 million dollars coined to date, of which 26 millions were coined in the year, but there has been an increase of only 6 millions in circulation. But 35 millions are in circulation altogether. The amount in the vaults are taxing the storage facilities, and becoming a troublesome encumbrance. The president repeats his recommendation of last year that this coinage be stopped and the silver certificates retired. The latter are made still more unnecessary by the supply of gold certificates for whose issuance congress has provided.

The message discusses the surplus revenue at some length. Whatever may be the differences of opinion regarding methods of raising revenue, all will agree that taxation of the best sort is burdensome, and that the burden should be reduced to the lowest point consistent with the proper maintenance of government. The surplus year before last was $100,000,000; that for the year ending June 30 last was more than $150,000,000. These enormous sums have been applied to the reduction of the national debt, but so rapid a reduction is by no means desirable. If the surpluses continue the government will soon be compelled to expend them in the purchase of immature bonds at enormous premiums, or let them lie idle in the treasury a prey to all the extravagant expenditure "which, as experience has taught us, is ever the bane of an overflowing treasury. During the last session the majority of the houses were favorable to reduced taxation; but owing to a divergence of views no measure passed with that end in view. The president recalls his recommendation of last year of the abolition of all internal taxes except those on tobacco and spirits. He now recommends the repeal of all but those on spirits. This would enable the government to retire from 1,500 to 2,000 persons from office, and reduce the cost of collection by $2,500,000. Excise taxes were always unpopular, and have never been resorted to in this country except in exigencies wherein import duties proved inadequate for the public needs. The public sentiment would gladly see all internal taxes abolished, but so sweeping a measure would at present be unwise. It is doubtful if the present import duties would alone supply the government's necessities; the pensions will require 100 millions during the coming year, and probably still more the following years. The total abolition of the internal taxes would also be an unsurmountable obstacle to a thorough revision of the tariff.

The present tariff system is in many respects unjust. It makes unequal distributions both of its burdens and its benefits. The report of the tariff commission will be placed before congress at the beginning of this session, and will aid action upon this important subject. After showing the increase of revenue from customs for several years past, the president says: "If the tax on domestic spirits is to be retained it is plain that large reductions from the customs revenue are entirely feasible. While recommending this reduction, I am far from advising the abandonment of the policy of so discriminating in the adjustment of details as to afford aid and protection to domestic labor, but the present system should be so revised as to equalize the public burden among all classes and occupations, and bring it into closer harmony with the present needs of industry."

Without entering into minute detail, an enlargement of the free list is recommended so as to include within it the numerous articles which yield inconsiderable revenue, and a simplification of the complex and inconsistent schedule of duties upon certain manufactures, particularly those of cotton, iron and steel, and a substantial reduction of the duties upon those articles, and upon sugar, molasses, silk, wool and woolen goods. If a general revision of the tariff shall be found to be impracticable at this session, the president hopes at least some of the more conspicuous inequalities of the present law may be corrected before the adjournment.

The president shows that there have been only a few and quickly quelled outbreaks of Indians during the year. The quietness in other parts has enabled the military strength in the Indian country to be strengthened and no fears are expressed of future trouble there of great magnitude.

The oft-told tale of the worthlessness of our sea-coast defenses, is again repeated, and the president invites the attention of congress to them and the report thereon, made by a board appointed to examine them.

Attention is called to the need of more adequate provisions for arming and equipping the militia. The only laws upon this are those enacted in 1806, which are now entirely obsolete. There is a bill looking to a remedy for this now on the senate calendar.

Attention is called to the fact of an embarrassment growing out of the recent act of congress making the retirement of officers of the army compulsory at the age of 64, while an act of 1878 is still in force which limits to 400 the number of those who can be retired for disability or upon their own application. These two acts when construed together seem to forbid the relieving, even for absolute incapacity of officers who do not fall within the purview of the latter statute except when there chance to be less than 400 names on the retired list. There are now 420. Congress evidently did not intend such a result, and the law ought to be amended.

Speaking of the river and harbor bill, the president says the grounds on which he withheld his signature from it prompt him to hope that no similar measure will be deemed necessaay during the present session of congress. The secretary of war informs him that most of the sum appropriated for the various items remains unexpended. Of the new works which it authorized expenses have been incurred upon only two, for which the total appropriation was $210,000. The president gives a table showing the available balance as $17,734,944. It is plain that no more appropriations will be needed for most of the items in the bill until the end of the present session. In case any action should seem to be necessary in respect to particular objects, it will be entirely feasible to provide for them by appropriate legislation. It is possible, for example, that a delay in making additional provision for the Mississippi river improvements might cause serious consequences. In such a case a just bill would meet with his approval. The president suggests that to group in such a bill as the so-called river and harbor bill appropriations for a great diversity of objects widely seperated either in their nature, in the locality with which they are concerned, or in both, is a course which is much to be deprecated. Unless it is irredeemable, it inevitably tends to secure the success of the bill as a whole, though many of the items if seperately considered, could scarcely fail of rejection. It is urged on the other hand that there are so many works of internal improvement which are entitled to govermental aid that separate bills would be impracticable. Without arguing whether this objection is well founded or not, the president submits to congress an alternative plan which may not be open to the same objection. It is provided by the constitution of 14 of the states that the items in any bill for the expenditure of money approved by the exective shall stand as law, and those not approved shall fail to become law unless repassed over the veto of the executive. The president thinks an amendment of that kind to the fedrla constitution would be a good thing.

As a tribute to their heroism the president gives the names of all the men who lost their lives in the unfortunate Jeannette expedition.

The navy of the United States consists of 37 cruisers, 14 single turret monitors, a large number of smooth bore guns, and 87 rifled cannon. The cruising vessels should be gradually replaced by iron or steel ships, the monitors by modern armored vessels, and the armament by high power rifled guns. The reorganization of the navy has already begun by the construction of two large unarmored steel vessels. Two more of smaller size are recommended; also one fleet dispatch vessel. Appropriations for torpedo service and other harbor defenses are recommended. He also advises the transferrence of the light-house and coast survey service, and the cruising revenue vessels from the control of the treasury to the navy department.

Attention is called to the continued decadence of the commercial marine of this country, and congress is urged to give it immediate attention, but no definite plan is proposed.

The postoffice system of the country is in a satisfactory condition. Changes in the present manner of fixing salaries and allowances, and the extention of the money order system are recommended, but from the adoption of postal telegraphy, recommended by the postmaster-general, the president expressly withholds his concurrence.

The president alludes to the bills before the last session for the reduction of postage to two cents the half ounce, and says he is thoroughly persuaded that such a reduction would be for the best interest of the public. The report of the postmaster-general shows there is already a large surplus in his department, which surplus will amount to many millions of dollars in a very few years unless a reduction of rates is made. He then passes to a review of the history of former reductions, which shows that though they were followed by a temporary loss of revenue, a large influx of business substantially repaired the loss in each case within three years. He is convinced that the change now suggested would result in an equally advantageous experience.

The report of this department brings anew to the notice of congress the necessity of enlarging the present system of federal jurisprudence so as to effectually answer the requirements of the ever increasing litigation with which it is called upon to deal. Attention is also called to the suggestions of the attorney general that better provision should be made in certain judicial districts as to the fees of witnesses and jurors. The star route trials are alluded to, together with the fact that a new trial is soon to take place in the case of those concerning whom the jury recently disagreed, and congress is assured that if any guilty ones escape it will not be the fault of the prosecution. The president hopes for a speedy national bankrupt law.

In referring to the Indian tribes the president renews his recommendation that to such Indians as desire it land shall be allotted in severalty, and that suitable provision be made for the education of their children—not solely in intellectual training, but also in manual labor and such simple industrial arts as can be made practically available.

The president calls attention to the large amount of illiteracy in certain parts of the country, as shown by the last census reports, and he urges upon congress consideration of the question whether immediate national aid should not be extended where the provisions for public schools are grossly inadequate, and whether the efforts of private beneficence, and of state and territorial legislation should not be supplemented by congressional action.

The president says it is not probable that any additional legislation in reference to polygamy will be deemed desirable until the effect of existing laws is more closely observed and studied, and he congratulates congress that the Utah commissioners charged with the execution of these laws, believe that the evils against which they are aimed will be suppressed without a resort to radical measures.

The president calls attention to the rapid and needless destruction of American forests, and urges congress to adopt such additional legislation as may protect the forests still standing on the public domain.

After referring to what he said on the matter of appointments to the public service a year ago, and to the fact that no legislation has been had, the president says action should no longer be postponed. The civil list comprises about 100,000 persons, the larger part of whom must be selected by the president, either directly or through his appointee. This burden is greater than he can bear and give proper attention to things that cannot be delegated to other hands. Much relief may be afforded, not only to the president and to the heads of the departments but to senators and representatives in congress, by discreet legislation. They would be protected in a great measure by the bill now pending before the senate, or by any other, which should embody its important features, from the pressure of personal importunity and from the labor of examining conflicting claims and pretensions of candidates. He trusts that before the close of the present session some decisive action may be taken for the correction of the evils which inhere in the present methods of appointment, and assures congress of his hearty co-operation in any measures which are likely to conduce to that end. As to the most appropriate term and tenure of the official life of the subordinate employes of the government, it seems to be generally agreed that whatever their extent or character, they should be definite and stable; that neither should be regulated by zeal in the service of party or fidelity to the fortunes of an individual. It matters little to the people at large what competent person is at the head of this department or that bureau, if they feel assured that the removal of one and the accession of another will not involve the retirement of honest and faithful subordinates whose duties are purely administrative and have no legitimate connection with the triumph of any political party or faction. It is to this latter class of officers that the Senate bill already referred to exclusively applies, while neither that bill nor any other prominent scheme for improving civil service concerns the higher grade of officials who are appointed by the president and confirmed by the senate.

The president then proceeds to defend himself from the charge of having made an undue number of removals from office, which he says is a misapprehension. Under Mr. Hayes' administration 2,696 appointments were made and 244 removals, or 9 per cent. In the four months of Mr. Garfield's service the appointments numbered 390, removals 89, or 22 per cent. In his own 14 months the removals have been also 89, but they constitute but 2.6 per cent of the whole number of appointments, which have reached 3,459.

He declares his approval of such legislation as may be necessary for supplanting the present provisions of law in relation to political assessments.

In July last the president authorized a public announcement that government employes should feel at perfect liberty to make or refuse political contributions, but he has no doubt that when such contributions are asked by superior officers they have all the effect of enforced contributions, and as such should be prohibited by law. A bill to effectually suppress the practice will meet his cordial approval.

The District of Columbia has interests to be considered, and the president hopes congress will note the fact that its residents are denied the great right of suffrage in all its relations to national, state, and municipal action.

Attention is called to the questions of ascertaining the vote for presidental electors and the intention of the constitution in cases where, from the disability of the president, the duties devolves upon the vice president. He trusts no embarrassment may result from a failure to determine these questions before another national election.

In conclusion the president congratulates the nation on its peace, prosperity and freedom from sectional animosity, and hopes prudence, patriotism, justice and economy may mark the doings of congress and himself.

MICHIGAN NEWS.

The young man who was killed at Wayne last week was a brother of Mr. Sheldon, editor of the Plymouth department of the Wayne Review, and was on his way to visit him when the fatal accident occurred.

A contract has been let to build 10 more cottages at Huronia beach, the Port Huron summer resort.

The Saginaw Courier says the two narrow gauge railroads into that city are proving to be among the best investments East Saginaw ever made, and argues that the city should reach out westward by means of another narrow gauge route.

Berdan's hotel, situated two miles west of Wayne burned last week. It was a widely known resort, being much frequented by dancing parties. A large party was to have been given there Thanksgiving night.

Jere Miller, of Wayne, aged about 17 years, who was employed as a brakeman on the Flint & Pere Marquette railway, fell into a cattle guard while coupling cars at Monroe. He was run over by the train, losing a leg and arm. He died of his injuries.

G. Bowley's shingle and clapboard mill burned recently at Evart. Loss $6,000, with no insurance.

The safe in the store of Markham & Bro., of Hanover, was robbed by burglars. They got $600, and then stole a horse and buggy and drove to Jackson.

A teamster named Winters was killed about four miles from Whitehall, by falling from a wagon. His home was near Alpena.

John S. Newberry, of Detroit, is reported to have given the citizens of Newberry, in the upper peninsula, three town lots, to be used for a church site.

The new $17,000 court house at Alpena will be ready for occupancy in a few weeks.

An incendiary fire at Brockway, burned J. A. Roskins' saloon, J. W. Gustin's new building, D. G. Rogers' harness shop, M. Shanahan's butcher shop, and S. Collins' saloon. Loss $5,600, with but small insurance.

Two intoxicated Indians were seen on the track ahead of the night express near Custer one night. One failed to get off soon enough, and was struck by the engine. The train was stopped, and he was taken to Ludington badly injured. One arm was crushed, but he will probably recover with but the loss of an arm.

The rear buildings of Gehart's bazaar at Niles, used as a candy manufactory, burned recently. An extensive conflagration was prevented by the use of the waterworks.

R. P. Micks, of the firm of Lapierre & Micks, jewelers, died at Niles not long since.

Dr. A. M. Johnson, of Sand Beach, died from the effects of injuries received by his horse having run away with him about five weeks ago.

If the citizens of Niles will advance a bonus of $4,000 a company will build a $75,000 cardboard factory there, employing not less than 60 hands.

Assistant Superintendent Brown of the M. C. R. R. was given a clock 204 years old by his railroad friends at Jackson not long ago.

The Jackson county gang of burglars raided the village of Francisco one night and broke into the store of W. F. Riemenschneider, taking therefrom $75 worth of goods.

Curtis & Grey are building a broom handle, stave and chair timber factory at Evart.

A short time ago J. M. Turner, of Lansing, sold standing pine on certain Ontonagon tracts to the Diamond Match company for $47,000, and more recently he has sold them another lot to the value of $105,000. The great match firm is also understood to be figuring with Tom Nestor for $1,000,000 worth of pine.

George Harrower, who has been an instructor at the state agricultural college for the past two years, has been appointed professor of history and political economy in the institution, with a salary of $1,800.

R. P. Hulbert, a well digger, of Grand Rapids, was buried in a well recently. The accident occurred about four miles from the city and no particulars are known.

Benjamin J. Perkins, a farmer residing in Richfield, was fatally injured by a falling tree at Columbiaville.

Rev. P. Stamm, of Marshall, has been severely hurt by being thrown from a carriage.

Manager Farley, of the Flint telephone exchange, has resigned and goes to Detroit in other business.

Capt. Thomas J. Coneley, of Co. G, First regiment M. S. T., has resigned, and the resignation has been accepted.

Three of our lumber companies are slaughtering the pine at a great rate 'round about Republic. Twenty-five million feet may be cut this winter at these camps.

A. H. Morrison, of St. Joseph, a well-known wealthy citizen, bought up all the turkeys he could find in town the day before Thanksgiving and sent them around to all the widows of soldiers and needy poor in the place.

Peter Glennon, telegraph operator at the Hibbard house, Jackson, was married and two days after he was taken ill of congestion of the brain and died. He was well known to the traveling public of this state.

There were 640 convicts in the state prison the first of the month. During November 13 went out by reason of expiration of sentence, 2 for new trials and 1 was pardoned. Genesee, Cheboygan, Muskegon, Lenawee, Ogemaw, Kalamazoo and Branch counties each furnished 1 convict during the month past, Hillsdale 2, Wayne 4 and Ionia 3.

Cadillac News reports, a terrible and probably fatal accident befell a man working at McCoy's camp. He was unloading logs from a pair of big wheels when the tongue flew backward and the man attempting to dodge was struck in the side with tremendous force, actually tearing his ribs from his spine. It is not though possible that he can recover.

An Adventist's Vision.

A Battle Creek, Mich., telegram of Dec. 5th reads as follows: Much excitement has been caused among the adventists, who form a large and respectable portion of the population of this city, by the fact that Mrs. Ellen G. White, widow of the late Elder White, has had another vision. It is said that this revelation charges Elder U. Smith, editor of the Review and Herald, with worldliness, and that it also fulminates against Wm. C. Gage, manager of the revenue office and the present mayor of this city, and it is expected that both these gentlemen will resign at the next conference meeting. The matter appears to have grown out of these gentlemen having taken the part of President McLean in the late college trouble which led to the closing of that institution.

It is thought that Mrs. White aims by this vision to remove all the leaders in the community, of which she has been so long the virtual head, who are not in accord with her views, and thus allow her to remain at the head of the church as chief director of its widely extended and important affairs.

The followers of the faith here are taking sides in the matter, and serious dissenions are feared. The previous vision was first made public in the early part of January, 1880, and it is well known among outsiders that many adventists don't place as implicit reliance upon the visions as they used to.

He was positive: "You say you heard both shots fired?" asked an Austin lawyer who was cross examining a witness in a murder case. "Yes, sah, I heard bofe shots. Dey was fired simultaneously, sah." "Are you sure of it?" "Yes, sah, before ob 'em was fired simultaneously. I wasn't more dan forty feet off at de time." "But on the direct examination you swore the shots were fired one after another, and now you say they were fired simultaneously?" "Jess what I said, sah. Bofe shots were fired simultaneously-like, one after anuder."—Texas Siftings.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

WASHINGTON.

IRISH SUBMITS HIS REPORT.

The annual report of Col. Irish, chief of the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, shows that during the year there were completed and delivered 7,641,108 sheets of notes and securities of the face value of $309,857,700; 24,251,459 sheets of internal revenue and customs cigar stamps, containing 987,221,149 stamps, and 649,919 sheets of checks, drafts, etc. The aggregate expenditures for the year were $936,755. Of this amount there was expended in the execution of work of the various bureaus of the Treasury Department and other departments, and reimbursed by them from proper appropriations under their control, $588,950. The aggregate expenditure of the year over the preceding year, deducting from the expenditures of that year the amounts paid for paper and expenses thereon, which this year were paid from a separate appropriation, was a little less than twelve per cent. The increase in deliveries was a little over twenty per cent., and the increase in the number of employes about ten per cent. At the close of the year the regular force of the bureau consisted of about 1,000 employes.

FLAT-HEAD INDIANS.

Assistant Attorney-General McCammon has submitted the report of his mission to the Flat Head reservation in the northwest of Montana to secure the right of way for the Northern Pacific railroad. He pronounces his mission a complete success, in spite of the interference of interested whites.

NATIONAL BOARD OF HEALTH.

The annual report of the national board of health, after detailing the occurrence of yellow fever at Pensacola and Brownsville during the past year, recommends additional protection for the mouth of the Rio Grande, and closes with estimates for continuance of the work amounting to $150,000 with an epidemic contingent fund of $100,000.

THE PEOPLES CASH.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the United States says the receipts of the government show an increase over 1881 of $22,251,054 in revenue from customs; $11,233,309 from internal revenue; $2,551,277 from sales of public lands and $6,707,416 from miscellaneous sources, making the total increase in net revenue, $42,742,957, total net revenue $403,525,250 28; the net expenditures decreased from $260,712,887 to $257,981,440, a reduction of $2,731,447, which, added to the increase in receipts, makes the increase of $45,474,405 in the surplus revenues applicable to the reduction of the public debt. The amount of standard silver dollars coined from February 28, 1878, the date of the act requiring their coinage, to October 31, 1882, is $128,329,880, of which $93,006,382 remains in the treasury, and $35,323,498, or about twenty-seven and a half per cent. is in circulation. The proportion of the total coinage in circulation September 30, 1881, was thirty-four and a half per cent. Of the $30,007,175 coined during the last thirteen months, $2,950,072 have gone into circulation, and $27,057,103 remains in the treasury. During seven months of that period the dollars returned to the treasury exceed in amount those issued, the number in circulation running down from $34,950,120 on December 31, 1881, to $31,560,755 on October 31, 1882.

FOR THE INDIANS.

In the Indian appropriation bill submitted by the House committee, the general appropriations were reduced about $67,000, as compared with the amount appropriated for the current year. The allowance for educational purposes is $15,000 in excess of the amount at present appropriated.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The statement of the public debt for the month of November shows the total principal and interest to be $1,910,824,073. Of this $11,100,058 is interest. Reduction during November, $5,534,142.

ANOTHER ONE.

Hannibal D. Morton, principal clerk of the finance division of the postoffice department, has been dismissed for alleged complicity with the star route men.

HAVE FINISHED.

The Garfield auditing board has finished consideration of all claims presented. The greatest difficulty was with the claims of physicians, so much in excess of the $35,000 appropriated. All allowances were agreed upon, but the amounts are withheld from the public for the present.

DEATH OF J. T. UPDEGRAFF.

J. T. Updegraff, congressman from the seventeenth Ohio district, died in Wheeling, W. Va., recently, after an illness of eight weeks. His death makes necessary a special election to choose his successor.

THEY AGREE.

The Sioux have agreed with the United States commissioners upon a reduction of their reservation. As a reward for their concession the Indians will receive cattle, farm implements, schools and artisans.

THE INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL.

The House committee has reduced the Indian Appropriation bill, making the total amount $5,208,955, a decrease of $274,200 from the appropriations for the current year.

REPORT OF THE TARIFF COMMISSION.

The report of the Tariff Commission says: The Tariff Commission has sought to present a scheme of tariff duties in which a substantial reduction should be the distinguishing feature. The average reduction in rates, including that from the entire free list, and the abolition of duties on charges and commissions at which the commission has aimed is not less than twenty per cent. and it is the opinion of the commission that the reduction will reach twenty-five per cent. The reduction in many cases is from forty-five to fifty per cent. If the reduction reaches the amount at which the commission aimed, and if there is any truth in the allegation of the opponents of the present economic system that the duty on articles such as are produced in this county, whether in manufacturers or agriculture, enhances the price to consumers, not only of what is imported, but of the whole domestic production, then the reduction proposed by the commission would benefit consumers to the extent of $100,000,000.

RESIGNED.

Charles W. Clisbee, of Michigan, reading clerk of the house of representatives, has resigned on account of failing health. Jno. S. Kenyon, of New York, has been appointed his successor.

VIEWS OF THE LATE UTAH COMMISSION.

In the report of the Utah commission made to the Secretary of the Interior, a recommendation is made that a marriage law be enacted by congress, which would form a mighty adjunct in the suppression of polygamy. The annulling of the territorial law giving the right of suffrage to women is strongly urged, on the ground of its being an obstruction to the solution of the question. The law denying the right of suffrage to polygamists has been, so far, very successful, and a strict adherence to it, it is believed, will tend to the gradual extinction of this mighty evil. The outlook is encouraging from the fact that the Mormons are regular attendants at the "liberal" meetings. The commission advise moderation, but say that congress should have no hesitation in using extraordinary measures to compel the people of this territory to obey the laws of the land.

CONGRESS.

SENATE.—Dec. 4th.—After the Senate was formally opened, several bills were introduced, among them, one by Mr. Vorhees, granting a pension of $50 a month to the widow of Rear Admiral Scott...Mr. Hale, of Maine, introduced a bill to increase the number of Judges of the Alabama Claims Commission to five... The president's message was read in the afternoon, after which departmental reports were submitted.

HOUSE.—It convened at 11 a. m. The desk of Congressman Updegraff was in mourning... The call disclosed 202 members present...Mr. Moulton presented a petition from John P. Caine, claiming to be elected as delegate from Utah...The report of tariff commission was referred to committee on ways and means...Mr. Herbst, of Alabama, introduced a bill prohibiting political assessments of government employes; Mr. Anderson of Kansas, to create an agricultural commission; Mr. Dingley, of Maine, embodying the points agreed upon by the Committee on shipping, and providing for the importation in bond free of duty of supplies for vessels engaged in the foreign trade, and for the abolition of the tonnage txa on vessels engaged in trade with Canada.. House adjourned at 3:10 out of respect to the memory of Congressmen Lowe and Updegraff, deceased.

SENATE; Dec. 5th.—Mr. Brown, of Georgia, presentad the credentials of Mr. Barrow, of Georgia, and Barrow was sworn in....Messrs. Ingalls and Cockrell presented petitions asking for an increase of pensions for disabled soldiers. ....Mr. Miller, of California, introduced six bills relating to the restoration of American shipping and foreign trade, which were referred to the committee on commerce....Mr. Beck offered a long resolution he said he would call up to-morrow, reciting the fact that the national republican committee had levied assessments for political purposes, and ordering the committee on judiciary to investigate....A long debate took place on the proposition to change the hour of meeting of the Senate from noon to 11 a. m. The resolution to meet at noon was finally adopted.

HOUSE.—In the House the committee on ways and means reported favorably Mr. Kelley's bill to abolish internal revenue taxes on tobacco, snuff, cigars and cigarettes. The bill provides for the unconditional repeal of all internal taxes on all kinds of manufactured and raw tobacco.

NEWS NOTES.

ROLLING MILLS SHUT DOWN.

The north Chicago rolling mills have shut down for want of work, throwing nearly 2,000 men out of employment. The mill at south Chicago, belonging to this corporation, will continue to run, as rails can be made there $5 a ton cheaper than on the north side, because of labor-saving machinery and other accommodations. The steel mills at Joliet have also shut down until the 1st of January. It appears from this that the statement made some time ago when it was rumored that the mills would shut down that the report was started to prevent a reduction in tariff, was without foundation.

AN INJURED MAN REWARDED.

George Smith of Buffalo, who recently brought suit against the New York Central and Hudson River railroad for injuries received at a crossing, owing to the negligence of a flag-man, has been awarded $10,000.

WISE SUCCEEDS.

John S. Wise, of Richmond, Va., has been awarded a certificate for congressman-at-large.

DISAGREED.

The jury in the case of Watson, who was tried for offering bribes to the members of the Ohio legislature, disagreed. The case will be tried again.

A DECISION.

After due deliberation, the attorney-general of New York has announced his decision granting the application of Wm. H. Cameron, stock holder, and Jay Gould, director of the Mutual Union Telegraph Company, for the commencement of action to vacate the charter of the Mutual Union Telegraph Company. The Mutual Union men feel in no wise disheartened by this decision, and say that if crowded much nearer to the wall by the Western Union they will inaugurate a lively war on rates.

AN OLD MAN'S DARLING.

Captain Allen May of Hardin County, Kentucky, aged 101 years recently procured a license to marry a young girl aged 19.

KELLOGG'S RESIDENCE.

J. H. Acklen has submitted a statement to the Governor of Louisiana, in which he stoutly denies that Kellogg is a resident of that state, within the meaning of the constitution of the United States, or a resident of the congressional district in which he claims to have been elected, under the provisions of the Louisiana constitution. He further adds that there is no evidence that Kellogg ever voted in the states, and that he is not a property owner there.

CHICAGO'S LOTTERY BUSINESS.

The law prohibiting the sale of lottery tickets in Chicago, is practically a dead letter, as the business is openly conducted and freely advertised.

POISONED BY FISH.

The family of a laborer named Sullivan was accidentally poisoned at San Francisco by eating fish. Two children have died and another is not expected to live. The wife and two remaining children will recover.

DIED.

Says a Baton Rouge dispatch: General Andrew S. Herron, Congressman-elect from the Sixth District, died very suddenly Nov. 27th of heart disease.

A CHANGE OF NAME.

Fort Point, San Francisco, will hereafter be known as Fort Winfield Scott, and Fort San Jose, in the same harbor, as Fort Mason.

APPOINTED PRESIDENT.

Lieut. Col. Cyrus B. Comstock has been designated President of the Mississippi River Commission, vice Lieut.-Col. Q. A. Gilmore, relieved on account of illness.

GERE GETS THERE.

A count of the vote for Regent of the State University of Nebraska shows a majority for Gere, Republican, of 78. The Democrats have claimed that their candidate was elected.

THE VIRGINIA DELEGATION.

The Virginia State Board of Canvassers threw out the vote of Gloucester County and gave a certificate of election to Mayo, Coalition. The Congressional delegation stands: Six Coalitionists, four Democrats. Notices of contests are made.

DEATH OF A PROMINENT MAN.

President Henry C. Murphy, of the Brooklyn bridge company, died of pneumonia Dec. 1st. He was 72 years old, was mayor of Brooklyn in 1843. He was appointed by President Buchanan as minister to the Hague, and was three times elected to the state senate.

THE FAIR.

The Garfield fair closed last week after being held eight days, and was on the whole, a successful enterprise. The committee are confident several thousand dollars will be added to the fund, though at present they are unable to give the exact figures.

A SATISFACTORY REPORT.

From the report of the commissioner of the Pacific railway, it is seen that the Union Pacific earned $24,000,000, while its operating expenses were $12,000,000.

CRIME.

A DESPERATE GANG.

Sheriff Bush and Deputy Sheriff Miller, of Topeka, were shot, the former in the ankle, the latter in the hip, while attempting to serve a warrant on Chas. William and John Cooke the other morning at 3 o'clock. The Cookes are charged with horse-stealing, hog-stealing and breaking jail in Iowa and Illinois, and are said to be desperate characters. They all escaped from the house in which they were found, and stole three horses and fled.

A DESPERATE VILLAIN.

Two sets of officers attempted to arrest Bill Allen, a colored waiter of Chicago, a few nights ago, the one for assault, and the other for cracking a brother waiter's skull. Allen shot the first officer through the head, killing him instantly, and after emptying his revolver at the other officers, escaped. Jones, the man whose skull was fractured, will die.

SYSTEMATIC SWINDLING.

The discovery has been made that Samuel Munger, one of the best known salesmen of Chicago, and John B. Curtis, both in the employ of the wholesale millinery firm of O. R. Keith & Co., have been systematically defrauding the firm out of $7,000. When Munger made a sale Curtis would raise it $100 on the books and Munger would be paid a commission on ten times the amount of goods actually sold. Munger was last heard from at Detroit, and it is believed he has gone to Canada.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THE LIBERTY OF SPEECH.

Michael Davitt made violent utterances in his speech at Nasau, and the government has taken them under consideration.

WHAT THE WAR COST.

In commons the other day Mr. Gladstone stated the cost of the war in Egypt till Oct. 1 was £3,500,000, including the expenses of the Indian contingent and transportation of troops home. Since October 1, the charge will be borne wholly or in part by Egypt.

SAUNDERS COMMITTED.

The man Saunders, who sent a letter to Premier Gladstone threatening to kill him, was committed for trial in London the other day.

HELD FOR TRIAL.

Poole and Devine the two men suspected for connection in the murder of detective Cox, have been held for trial. In his examination Poole stoutly denied any knowledge of the murder, and said he believed the object of the men who assembled at the time Cox was murdered was to murder himself (Poole).

MADAGASCAR.

In reference to the report that two Americans had been murdered on the west coast of Madagascar, it is learned one was killed and one seriously wounded. The name of the former is Emerson, of the latter Hulet. The native attendant and European interpreter were also killed. An expedition ordered to punish the tribes who committed the murder was prevented from sailing by the French Consul at Tanarivo. In reference to the question of a protectorate, Lord Granville has declared the French have no right to establish authority there. The British government has ordered a man-of-war to the island.

THE DEAN CONSENTS.

A deputation from the Longfellow Memorial committee recently waited upon the Dean of Westminster for the purpose of obtaining his consent to allow the Longfellow bust to be placed in Westminster Abbey. The deputation was introduced by Lord Granville, who asked the Dean to accede to the request, and thus to bind more closely in common feeling England and the citizens of the United States. The Dean unhesitatingly gave his consent, paying a beautiful tribute to the graceful and tender poet, and referred touchingly to Washington Irving, and the pleasant relations existing between the countries.

THE FLOODS.

The forts along the Rhine have been emptied of stores and ammunition. A number of houses have fallen in, having been undermined by the floods. Fourteen persons have been drowned. There seems to be no abatement in the rise of the river.

AN IRISH NEWS AGENCY IN LONDON.

With a view to correct the constant misrepresentations that are said to be made regarding Irish affairs, an Irish news agency has been established in the city of London. If the information that comes from this agency is not less reliable than that which it is established to correct, it will fulfill a good mission.

THE WAY COX WAS KILLED.

Later reports from Dublin say: It is generally believed that firing was begun by the police in the recent affray in Dublin, and that detective Cox was killed by his own comrades. All his wounds were in the back.

OPERATIONS OF THE LAND ACT.

A London dispatch says the arrears act has been since its enactment a subject of anxiety and constant vigilance by Parnell. A subcommittee has been appointed by the Mansion house fund committee, under the guidance of Healy and Leahy, M. P., for the purpose of working the act and advising tenants. Applications are now coming in at the rate of 7,000 every two days. Forty thousand applications have been received and 80,000 are expected by the end of December. The probable result of the act will be to discharge £3,000,000 of arrears of rent. Land Commissioner Litton, in a test case brought by the estate of Sir John Leslie, on the "Hanging Gale," decided in favor of the view of tenants, and that clause was intended to save "Hanging Gale." The result of this decision will be its abolition on nine out of every 10 estates. Thus £250,000 is saved to tenants, and the most serious danger to a successful working of the act removed. Evictions have lessened, falling from 700 in August to 160 in November.

TREASONABLE SPEECHES.

In referring to the recent speeches of Redmond, Davitt and Healy, Trevelyan said that if such incendiary harangues were continued the land league meetings would be prohibited. He declared Redmond's speeches rendered him indictable and he would be prosecuted. It being reported that the men who made these speeches would be bound over for good behavior, Healy and Davitt say they prefer imprisonment to this kind of discipline.

A STAMER SINKS.

The steamer Cedar Grove, 2,181 tons, owned by the New Brunswick Steamship Co., from London for Halifax, struck a ledge and sank off Whitehead, Guisboro. A boat containing the chief officers, engineer and 12 men landed at Canso next day. Another boat with Capt. Fritz and wife, a lady passenger and 12 of the crew, is missing. The steamer was launched in September last and cost $150,000. She was insured for $125,000 in England and $12,000 in St. John offices.

BIG BANK FAILURE.

The municipal Bank of Skopin, in the Province of Riazan, Russia, has failed for over £12,000,000, ruining the whole town, as well as hundreds of families elsewhere.

THE FRENCH DEFICIT.

The report of Ribot, reporter of the Budget Committee, has been distributed in the Chambers. It predicts a deficit of 78,000,000 francs for the current year.

PROVOGUED.

The British parliament has been provogued until the 15th of February next. At the closing session the Queen's letter was read. She expresses herself satisfied as to the amiable relations existing with all foreign powers, notwithstanding the failure to effect a commercial treaty with France. She refers with pride to the issues in Egypt, and says the recent events there have enhanced her obligations in regard to its affairs. She is opposed to any measure likely to disturb the tranquility of the east. Her majesty in speaking of the revenue of Great Britain, says that while there has been a diminution of receipts, it is gratifying to know that this discrease is owing to a falling off in duties on intoxicating liquors. She is hopeful or the future of Ireland, though anticipating distress in some parts of the island this winter. She refers with pain to the recent assassinations rife in Dublin, and urges upon the authorities to use wisely the powers with which they are clothed for the suppression of violence. The Queen is thankful for the passage of measures looking to the advantage of Ireland.

ARABI BANISHED.

Arabi Pasha's case has at last been decided. He pleaded guilty of rebellion and was sentenced to death. The Khedive subsequently commuted the sentence to exile for life.

NOT AFRAID OF AMERICA.

Le Moniteur, official French organ, referring to the contemplated American claim in connection with the recent murder of American citizens in Madagascar, says that American ill-will cannot be much feared while France possesses a navy sufficiently strong to blow up every seaport in America, if necessity should arise.

ARABI GRATEFUL TO ENGLAND.

In a letter to the London Times Arabi says he is grateful to England for her interposition in his behalf. He says he is contented with his fate, and only hopes England will complete the work he commenced and give Egypt to the Dgyptians. He believes the justice of his cause will become apparent in the future.

BITS OF NEWS.

Severe fighting is reported among the Tarhona Arabs in Tripoli.

Postal service is being resumed in the German inundated districts.

The rumor of the probable creation of a number of foreign cardinals by the pope next month is officially denied.

A Turkish commission under Hassim Pasha proceeds at once to America to defend the porte in the action brought by the Providence tool company, which supplied rifles and ammunition to the Turkish government.

A boiler in Sutphin & Wrenn's paper mill at Middlton, O., exploded, killing Adam Forrester and seriously injuring John Jelors, John Ross and Con Dillon.

Manufacturers of nails at Wheeling, West Va., intend to begin making nails from steel instead of iron, claiming that it is a better process and cheaper. This is an important step, as half the nails made in the country are made there.

Clayton McMichael has been appointed U. S. marshal of the District of Columbia, vice Henry, bounced.

Printer's Boys.

Home Companion.

The term "devil" applied to an apprentice or errand-boy in a printer's office, is thought by some to have its origin in the ill-nature of authors who considered themselves persecuted by continual calls for "copy," and anathematized the poor little messenger by way of revenge. Modern refinement is wearing out the term, and now it is probably oftener heard outside the printing office than in it.

An exchange speaks an appreciative word for the boys who carry such an uncanny title.

There is no class of boys for whom we have a more profound respect than well-behaved printer's devils. They know something and are more practical which is more than you can say of all classes of boys. In that respect, we place the boys who work in a printing office head and shoulders above most boys.

Did you ever hear of Benjamin Franklin? Ben was once a printer's devil. He was also one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Hannibal Hamlin, vice-president under Lincoln, was once a printer's poor devil. Schuyler Colfax, who has been speaker of the house of representative for years, was "nothing but a devil in a printing office, at one time. Horace Greeley, who was one of the first journalists on this continent, and an ex-congressman, was a printer's devil. Ex-Senator Simon Cameron, of Penn., was a 'devil.' Thurlow Weed, one of the wealthiest and most influential men in New York, the editor of the Commercial Advertiser was a penniless devil in a printing-office. Ex-Senator Ross, of Kansas, commenced his successful career as a printer's devil. Two-thirds of the editors of the United States were once printer's devils.

Permit us to tell you that the men who once did duty as printer's devils have done more to advance the interests and sustain the good name of America than any other class.

The Language of the Face.

Phrenological Journal.

The faculty of truth—that is, the love of it—is indicated by the muscles which surround the eye, causing folds and wrinkles. Justice is indicated by the muscles which cause perpendicular wrinkles between the eyebrows. Fullness and wrinkles under the eye, for which some persons are remarkable, indicate the love of mathematical accuracy. Curving upward from the lower angle of the eye and eyebrow indicate probity or personal truthfulness. There are three degrees of the faculty of justice. The first is a kind of exactness or strict accuracy in small money matters, which some people would call closeness, and is indicated by a singular perpendicular wrinkle or line between the eyebrows. The second is a disposition to require justice in others, and is indicated by two perpendicular lines or wrinkles, one on each side of the center—a very common sign. The third degree is conscientiousness, or the disposition to apply the rule of justice to one's self, and is indicated by three or more wrinkles, or lines, especially noticeable, extending above the eyebrow when the muscles are in motion. The love of command is indicated by one or more short, traverse wrinkles across the root of the nose, exactly between the eyes. In may be seen in great military commanders, in masters and teachers, and in those generally who are found of exercising authority. In those who are wanting in the power to command, and have no desire to command, this sign is also absent. The faculty of command frequently acts with that part of justice which reprimands or requires others to do right, and both together produce that frowning and lowering brow which is so terrible to evil doers, or to those who love to be approved rather that condemned.

A Burning Lake.

There is in Russia a fountain of naphtha which has formed a lake four miles long and over a mile wide and two feet deep. This sheet of inflammable oil recently took fire, including the central fount, and the effect was most imposing. The quantity of naphtha on fire was estimated at four and a half million cubic feet, and it was feared that the flames would explode the subterranean sources. Even the earth saturated with oil was on fire, but no explosion occurred. The The heat was intolerable except at a distance of one thousand yards from the edge of the fire and the trees and buildings within three miles of it were coated with a thick layer of soot.

Gen. Grant will spend much of the winter in Washington.

He Knocked off Four.

Detroit Free Press.

In riding over to Lost Mountain from Marietta, I came across a young man who was digging post-holes for a barbed wire fence, and when I had told him what I wanted, he replied:

"I'll go with you. I was in that fout myself, and I kin point out every position."

When we reached the ground, he began telling where this and that regiment was stationed, and finally he halted beside a huge boulder, and said:

"Right here, stranger, was where I squatted for four long hours. I rested my gun right thar' on that ledge, and I reckon I killed exactly twenty-eight Yanks that day."

"No!"

"Soleman fact, and I know a dozen men who'll swear to it."

"Let's see? This battle was fought in 1864?"

"K'rect you are."

"That's about eighteen years ago?"

"Jist about."

"And you are about 25 years old?"

"I was 25 this spring."

Then I looked at him for a long time, but he never winced. When we were going home, and after a long period of silence, he suddenly remarked:

"Stranger, don't you believe I was thar?"

"Perhaps you were, but you see you were not quite 7 years old on the day of that fight."

"That's what I've been figuring on," he continued in a very serious voice, "and I tell you what I'm willing to do."

"Well!"

"I'll call it twenty-four instead of twenty-eight dead Yanks in front of my position! That's fair, isn't it?"

I told him that nothing could be more liberal, and cordial relations were at once re-established.

Boarding House Portraits.

Texas Siftings.

This vision of female loveliness is the landlady's daughter. The picture represents her in the act of telling an eligible boarder to "step this way into the parlor, sir," where she will play a tune for him on the upright piano, and sing a song which begins and ends with the line, "Meet me where the flowerets droop." After an eligible gentleman boarder has listened to the mocking bird sing once or twice, so to speak, the landlady asks for a private consultation. She tells him that under ordinary circumstances, owing to her aristocratic birth and associations, she would have to refuse him the hand of her daughter, but that she is a mother, and what mother will not sacrifice her feelings, her pride, her everything, rather than blast her daughter's happiness for life? The eligible young man is surprised, and endeavors to explain, but, with a winning smile, she says she, too, has once been young, and she will not keep him from the side of his inamorata (she invariably drops into foreign languages when she is confidential). There is a tableau, of course, but next day, and forever afterward, the place that knew that eligible young man knows him no more. He has skipped.

This is the picture of a widow who lives at our boarding house. She, according to her own account, has seen better days. She tells how different things were with her before the war, how many negroes her husband owned, and what a dreadful thing she would have considered it in those days to have had to live in a boarding house, and how painful to her it would have been to have been compelled as she is now, to dine at the very unfashionable hour of one o'clock. She and our landlady exchange reminiscences of the past, and of the pedigrees of their ancestors, at the table, when strangers are present, and the very forward young man who sits at the foot of the table says that they often go off together into a closet and weep over the landlady's family plate.

This is the boarder, but he is timid, poor, and although ineligible, is deeply in love with the landlady's daughter, notwithstanding his affection is not reciprocated by either. He is never asked into the parlor to listen to the vocal music. If he sends up his cup for more coffee the landlady scowls, and rattles the silver spoons in the tray. He is never asked if he will not please take another piece of the breast of the chicken or another piece of pie. He is as willing a little creature as ever lived, but he is never asked to fix a day for the nuptials, although he occasionally screws his courage nearly up to the sticking point. He believes all the landlady says about her aristocratic antecedents, and respects her accordingly. He has not a particle of doubt but that the silverware is really solid. He also believes that the curls and teeth of the landlady are genuine. He is the most profitable boarder she has, for the reason that being in love he does not eat much, while he pays up promptly, and even makes advances, not only to the daughter, but also in the mother, the advances to the latter being of a pecuniary character, and yet he is treated like a dog.

Secrets of Success.

Exchange.

Notwithstanding the constant reminder that "in the bright lexicon of youth there is no such word as fail," the fact nevertheless remains that failure or want of success in life is continually occurring. There are numerous reasons for this, many of which it is in the power of young men to overcome. Some fail simply because they have no fixed purpose. With no particular task marked out for a life pursuit, they are here to-day and there to-morrow, till as the years flit by they realise that they have done nothing.

Every young person should early choose the object he or she would achieve, and then devote every energy to that end. Young people will do well to harken to the advice of those older than themselves in making this choice, but when once made energy and perseverance will surely give success. A want of perseverance is almost sure to result in failure. When a vocation is once selected the young man or woman must stick to it. If the task is disagreeable, it should be remembered that there is no position in life without its unpleasant surroundings. If one task is dropped to pursue another, it also may be found unsatisfactory.

The young man, for instance, who is at one thing to-day that disappoints him, and at another to-morrow which affords no greater delight—now farming, then farming, to-day reading law, to-morrow studying medicine—sooner or later finds himself "Jack of all trades and master of none."

Such persons gain no confidence in themselves and inspire less in others, and in the end have no reputation. It may be set down as an axiom that, having deliberately chosen a line of life, it is ordinarily best to stick to it. To achieve success one must devote himself to his calling with energy.

No Micawber has ever accomplished any great purpose. If young men wait for "something to turn up," be they ever so patient, they are almost invariably doomed to disappointment. There can be no permanent success without labor, and the sooner young men realize this fact and devote their most ardent energies to the tasks they undertake the sooner will the goal be reached.

Not only does attention to outside appearances beautify the home, but it pays as well. The painted fence about an inclosure will last no longer than an unpainted one. The gate swinging free upon its hinges is certainly more lasting than if suffered to drag upon the ground, uttering a most unhospitable welcome to the visitor. The scraper at the step and mat at the door, for muddy feet, the tasteful wall-basket for loose papers, the neatly-covered shoe-box, serving for a seat as well—are all little things of great value.

If there are children in the household this attention to appearances will exert more influence than many are aware of. The little one required to have clean hands and smooth hair before sitting down to a meal is not very apt to grow up a man or woman careless of personal neatness. This attention to small things is not an evidence of mental smallness. A sense of order, a conviction of the morality of cleanliness, a nice development of taste, may not be given in the same degree to each one, but in beautifying our homes, in giving due regard to the adornment of our persons, in seeking out various conveniences, which often prove amenities of life, if we can act upon no better principle let us do it "just for looks."

Chickens vs. Ducks.

A citizen called recently at the Water Registrar's office in Boston, and introduced himself and his business by saying: "I'm Mister Jerry Muldoon, and I carries fifty votes. My cellar is full of water, and my hins will all be drowned if it isn't fixed; so I want you to fix it." Mr. Muldoon was informed that nothing could be done for him there, when he again remarked: "I carries fifty votes, d'ye moind, and I want the water out of my cellar." "But we have nothing to do with such matters," said the official; "you should employ a plumber to attend to it, Mr. Muldoon." This suggestion did not appear to strike the caller favorably, for he again declared: "I want you to understand that I carries fifty votes—fifty votes, you see—and I want you to fix my cellar. The water is in it and my hins will be drowned if it isn't got out." There was some further conversation of this kind, and Mr. Muldoon was finally recommended to see the Mayor in regard to the cellar, when he departed. Two or three days later he reappeared. "I come again to see about that cellar," he said; "I'm Misther Muldoon, you know, and I carries fifty votes. My cellar's worse than ever." "But we told you the other day, Mr. Muldoon, that we can do nothing about it here." "Yes. But I carries fifty votes, and my cellar must be fixed or my hins will all be drowned." "Well, Mr. Muldoon, did you see the Mayor about the matter?" "Indade and I did" replied Mr. Muldoon. "And what did the Mayor say?" "What did he say, is it? 'Misther Muldoon,' says he, 'why don't you kape ducks?'"

Posted.

A curious form of German humor appears in a book published at Berlin, under the title "Schultze and Muller in London." Here is a passage: "At 5:45 o'clock we went to the great post-office. The squeeze was tremendous around the newspaper box, where the newspapers are thrust in bales, and it is indeed on a grand scale, since the Times alone has ten million subscribers. I warned Schultz not to go so near the crush; but he did not hear me. As he was standing there, there came a great shock of newspaper-boys running with bales of newspapers, and throwing them in at the window. A bale of newspapers hits Schultze on the head, he loses his balance, and tips head forward into the bureau. Half a dozen officials seize him, stamp him in the stomach, and the unhappy Schultze is despatched in an unpaid newspacket to the provinces. At this moment the box is closed with a snap. I rush against it and cry, 'Schultze! Schultze!' But it is too late—your unhappy son-in-law is already packed in the post-cart. I run into the bureau of the postmaster and demand back your son-in-law. 'Is your friend addressed?' he asks. 'No,' I answer. 'Very well,' said the Englishman, 'M. Schultze will remain in the bureau, and, should no one apply for him, he will be burned as a dead letter.'"

Could Break Off.

When a certain family on the Brush farm took a new cook last month it was specifically stated and fully understood that she was not to have any men hanging around the kitchen. She held to the agreement for three or four nights, and then the family discovered that she had a beau. He came regularly every night after that, and three or four nights ago the Colonel was at the back gate waiting for him. When the young man appeared the Colonel threw a whole iceberg into his tones as he enquired:

"Well, sir, did you come here to spark?"

"I do."

"In love, are you?"

"Yes, sir."

"Who with?"

"Sarah, the cook."

"Oh, I didn't know but that you loved one of my daughters," sneered the Colonel.

"No. I don't at present," said the man, as he seemed to catch a sudden idea, "but the thing hasn't gone so far with Sarah but what I might break off in case you had something better upstairs for me!"

Sarah doesn't work there any more, but the Colonel won't get over being mad for several weeks yet.

Big Rivers.

The river Amazon is the greatest volume of water flowing through any country of the world; but it is but 3,000 miles long. The Mississippi from Lake Itaska to its junction with the Missouri is 2,616 miles long; from that point to the Gulf is 1,286 miles, a total of 3,902 miles; the Missouri runs 2,008 miles to join the Mississippi, and, having had given to it the length to the sea, is 4,194 miles long. To the sacred river, the Nile, must be given the credit of running through the greatest stretch of country. The "American Encyclopædia of 1875," from which the previously quoted figures are taken, says: "It is navigable as far as the district of Fazogle, about 1,500 miles from the Mediterranean. Its approximate length throughout all its windings from the limit of steam navigation above Gondokoro is 3,000 miles. The additional length to Lake Albert N'Yanza can scarcely be less than 200 miles, and consequently the river traverses a distance of about 5,700 miles, or 506 more than the Missouri and lower Mississippi river."

A Letter From Adam to Eve.

In Josh Billings' "Cook Book and Piktorial Receipts" the following interesting letter is found:

EDONIA, December, Year Two.

DEAR EVE—I have been on the rampage now one month, projecting for our new home, and have seen some ranches that will do pretty well, but none of them just the ticket. The old garden is a hard place to beat, but we have lost that, and are turned out to root, hog, or die. We will fight it out now, on this line, if it takes all summer. Eating that apple was a great blunder, but my dear girl, let bygones be bygones; there is a hope for us yet. Just as soon as I strike a good claim I will come back to you. Watch over Cain closely, he is a brick. The weather is raw and cold; I feel that I am too thinly clad. No more now, from your loving ADAM.

P. S.—Has Cain cut another tooth yet?

A Singular Family.

A few miles away from Philadelphia are living a family of triplets, two men and a woman, who are 60 years of age. They are the children of an old Lutheran clergyman named Roillers, and are all hale and hearty. The triplets have always lived together. The brothers are married, but the sister has remained a spinster.