

Virginia Bill of Rights: "All power is vested in, and consequently derived from, the people; Magistrates are their trustees and servants, and at all times amenable to them."

THE AMERICAN

Lincoln said: "This is a government of the people, by the people and for the people."

Vol. I.

MARION, VIRGINIA, THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1913.

No. 3

COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR POSTMASTERS

Those in the Fourth Class Must Show Fitness by Examination

AMENDS THE RECENT TAFT ORDER

Democrats Now Eligible for All Positions Paying Over \$180.—Order May Be Extended to Other Classes Within a Year.

Washington, May 7.—All fourth-class postmasters, except those paying less than \$180 a year, were thrown open to competitive examinations by an order issued today by President Wilson. These positions are retained in the classified service, but about 50,000 incumbents, who were "covered" in the classified service by executive orders of previous administrations will have to meet all comers in competitive examination to hold their positions with civil service protection.

In a statement making this order public, Postmaster General Burleson announced that it was the purpose of President Wilson to extend the classified service to include presidential postmasters of the second and third class, probably within a year. This may require legislation by congress, he said. His plan, which will be laid before the president, would provide for a qualification test for incumbents and "applicants" in keeping with the importance of the office.

Under President Taft's order of October 15, 1912, fourth-class postmasters were divided into two classes, class "A"—those drawing more than \$500; and class "B"—those drawing less than \$500. Competitive examinations were prescribed for future applications for class "A" appointments, while the class "B" petitions were to be filed upon recommendations of postoffice inspectors.

Today's order leaves only the offices paying \$180 or less to be filled upon inspectors' recommendations.

Rules and regulations to govern the administration of the new order will be worked out and announced by the civil service commission as soon as possible. In his statement the postmaster general said:

"I feel that President Taft's order of October 15 last did not go far enough in that it failed to apply a merit system to the entire service it was aimed to cover. It had the effect of placing within the classified service a large number of postmasters who have not been required to demonstrate their fitness for such appointments.

"Fundamentally a reform movement has for its purpose the righting of an existing wrong. Therefore, if the application of the merit system to the postal service was needed to correct an existing evil, then the scope of the order effecting the change should have been broad enough to have corrected as far as possible, the condition then existing as a result of the former system, as well as to accomplish the desired results in the future.

"Political considerations have in the past very largely controlled the selection of fourth-class postmasters, and under this order Democrats must be held responsible for the wise and safe administration of these offices.

"Under the circumstances the Taft order violated, at least, the fundamental purpose of the civil service law, because it placed permanently in office without examination or other test as to merit or efficiency a great number of persons. If left in this condition and permitted to operate without proper examination into its workings, the order would make honest civil service a farce and prove a setback to its proper administration and future progress. My effort is to correct the evil and save the merit of the order and duly safeguard civil service and efficiency."

The new order, which substantially amends the Taft executive order, retains in the classified service all fourth-class postmasters, but specifically requires a competitive examination and a selection by postoffice inspectors from among the first three eligible applicants. The order places the age limit for appointees at 65 years.

Secretary Burleson, in his description of the situation, indicates that the Wilson administration wishes to take the fourth-class postmasters out of politics, but points out that Democrats as well as Republicans will have an opportunity under competitive examinations to show their fitness.

Death of a Venerable Lady.

Mr. John L. Lindsey received a telegram on Monday night informing him of the death of his mother, which occurred at Keystone, W. Va., at 5 p. m. that day.

The deceased was eighty-six years old and was the widow of the late Wm. Lindsey. They lived for many years at Marion and at different points in Smyth county. The cause of death was old age. Mrs. Lindsey is survived by one son, John L. Lindsey, of Marion; and two daughters, Mrs. James Cowan, of Keystone, W. Va., and Mrs. Goodpasture, of Beckley, W. Va. The remains were taken to Graham, Va., and on yesterday buried by the side of the husband of the deceased.

GIBSON McCREADY CAMP CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Will Make Preparations to Send Delegation to Gettysburg

On last Saturday, the 3rd inst., Gibson-McCready Camp of Confederate Veterans held a called meeting in the court house, with the following members in attendance:

G. H. Fudge, commander; W. P. Francis, adjutant; J. H. W. Snider, treasurer; W. E. Copenhaver, first lieutenant. Members: Lafayette Wolfe, J. H. Clark, E. J. Haller, Jno. N. Hull, James W. Duncan, W. G. Haden, Jas. L. Phipps, Samuel Hanshaw, Carey Bruner, Andrew Agee, Thomas Porter, W. J. Vaught, Jacob Roland, John R. Tison, W. F. Goodman, R. C. Tuell, Geo. R. Rider, A. J. Martin, Norman Copenhaver, Philip Epps, W. G. Hawks, Jas. S. Sayers, S. A. Groseclose, Geo. C. Bridgman, Bedford Overbey, A. H. Gibboney, J. M. Boothe, J. A. Mercer, A. J. Harris, W. R. Henegar.

The object of the meeting was to ascertain who of the members of the camp desired and intended to attend the semi-centennial celebration to be held at Gettysburg.

On motion, a committee of three, consisting of G. H. Fudge, W. E. Copenhaver and W. P. Francis, was appointed to wait upon the county board of supervisors and request that body to make a sufficient appropriation to defray the transportation expenses of those veterans who will attend the Gettysburg reunion. Wythe county and many other counties in the State having made such appropriations, it was very proper for Gibson-McCready Camp to ask for the appropriation, and it will be very proper for the board of supervisors to grant its request.

Mr. A. H. Gibboney, a veteran, and former member of Wm. Terry Camp, at Wytheville, was present and, upon his application, was made a member of Gibson-McCready Camp.

The following members announced their intention of attending the Gettysburg meeting: A. J. Martin, J. M. Boothe, A. H. Gibboney, S. A. Groseclose, W. P. Francis, W. J. Vaught, E. J. Haller, W. F. Goodman, Jno. N. Hull, Geo. R. Rider, J. R. Tison, H. B. Copenhaver, J. H. Clark, J. H. W. Snider, W. C. Pendleton and Rev. J. B. Greiner.

Board of Supervisors Meetings.

The Board of Supervisors met in regular session Monday and the usual batch of claims was audited and ordered to be paid, and \$160 was appropriated to pay the expenses of the old Confederate soldiers who are unable to pay the same to the Reunion at Gettysburg. G. H. Fudge and James A. Groseclose were appointed a committee to disburse this fund to the parties entitled thereto. W. J. Long, representing Spitzer, Rorick & Co., of Toledo, Ohio, bankers, appeared before the Board and made them a proposition in regard to the Bond Issue of \$90,000 for road improvement in the Marion and St. Clair magisterial districts, but the same not being satisfactory to the Board, they decided to hold the matter over until the bond market has improved.

Nothing further of importance was transacted by the Board.

Marion Boy Receives Promotion.

Chas. R. Venable, son of J. R. Venable of our town, who is a Marion boy and well known to most of the people here, and who for some years has been in the employ of the Norfolk & Western Railway Co., has just received promotion at the hands of that company. He has recently been acting as route claim agent, but a few days ago was notified of his appointment as chief clerk in the claim department, a very important position, and through which other promotions to higher positions generally come. We congratulate him.

Circuit Court Proceedings.

The regular May term of the circuit court for Smyth county was opened on Monday, with Judge Hutton presiding. The docket was a very light one and court was adjourned until Thursday, when it will take up the civil docket.

A special grand jury was empaneled and returned true bills against several convicts of the State convict road force at Broadford, for escaping. A few weeks ago five convicts overpowered a guard and made their escape. Two of them have been captured and will be tried on May the 12th.

Card of Thanks.

We wish to express our appreciation and thanks to our friends who so kindly offered their services during the illness and after the death of our baby, and assure them that this kindness will ever be remembered.

MR. AND MRS. KELLY C. GROSECLOSE.

On Saturday, May 10th, at 2:30 p. m., services in Atkins Baptist church, baptizing at same hour. Preaching at 11 on Sunday following. Also preaching at Middle Fork on same Sunday at 3:30 with baptizing in the river nearby at same hour. The Sunday services will be carried out with due regard to the Governor's Mother's Day proclamation. All are cordially invited to attend.

A. B. BROOKS, Pastor.

ANCIENT BOOKS FOUND IN WALLS

Account Ledgers Nearly 200 Years Old Discovered in Raising House.

(Richmond Journal.)

When the workmen who were razing the old house, No. 325 North Fifth street, which has been occupied by the R. L. Gill Dye Works, tore out the plastering of the walls a few days ago they found hidden away in the rafters a set of account books which bore dates that showed them to be nearly 200 years old.

The ancient books had evidently been placed there when the house was constructed and before the plaster was put on the walls. They were likely over 100 years old when placed there. Some of the accounts carried are dated 1731. The writing bears evidence of having been done with one of the old-style pens, and is fine and neat, being far better than the average accountant's or clerk's hand writing of the present day and resembling plate engraving.

The books seem to be those of a general merchandise store of the early colonial days. Many of the accounts are credited to ship captains and sailors. They show a remarkable state of preservation considering their age.

Prohibition was no barrier in those days when the books were completed and down their columns of figures there is many an item which showeth beyond a doubt that our hearty forefathers partook not infrequently of what has come to be known as "the alleviating drop in the cup of human misery." But most of this was taken in the form of rum, as thousands of gallons of it are mentioned in the accounts. The books will be kept as a curiosity by Mr. Gill.

Dangerous Runaway.

On Monday night of last week what might have proved a very serious accident happened near the head of Long Hollow, in Rich Valley. Mrs. John D. Barns, accompanied by a young lady and two young men, had gone to attend the exhibition at Pleasant Grove School in Rich Valley. The exercises took place at night. Mrs. Barns and her companions had gone to the exhibition in a carriage drawn by a pair of mules. While returning, when they reached the top of the hill leading down to Long Hollow, the tongue of the vehicle broke off at the breast-yoke and dropped to the ground. This frightened the mules and they ran at full speed down the hill. Fortunately, Clinton Barnes, who was on horse back in front of the carriage, had waited with a lantern at the forks of the road. He heard the mules running and anticipating danger if the frightened animals turned down the hollow, jumped off his horse and struck the lead mule over the head and threw his arm around the neck of the off mule, seized the reins and kept them in the main Rich Valley road. They dragged him about fifty feet when he was thrown to the ground, both mules and buggy passing over him; the wheel passing over his neck and breast. The tongue ran in the ground and turned the buggy over just as the mules stopped. One young man caught it and only let the buggy turn upon the wheels, when Mrs. Barns and the others rolled out in a pile and were not hurt at all. Young Clinton was torn and scratched in various ways, but no bones broken. When his mother told him she was not hurt, he fell over in the road and she thought he was dying; and having no light it was quite a while before help came and found no one dangerously hurt.

Junior Order A. M. Will Celebrate.

We have been requested to announce that the lodge of the Jr. Order United American Mechanics, at Groseclose, Va., will at 3 p. m. on next Sunday observe Mother's Day. The celebration will be held at Pleasant Hill church and an appropriate program has been prepared. The public is cordially invited to attend. One of the cardinal principles of the Order is: "America for Americans," and it is a good one.

Grievance Easily Attended To. The late Senator Quay of Pennsylvania distributed both state and federal patronage, and was "strong for his friends." An old soldier living in Beaver, Quay's home, applied for a job. His pension was insufficient to maintain him.

"Oh, go down to Harrisburg and I'll arrange to have you out grass around the capitol grounds," Quay told him.

"That was in the days of the padded payroll. The veteran presented his credentials. He was not assigned to any work, his chief duty being to remain at his hotel. For three months he drew his salary without giving the state any service. His conscience troubled him and he went to Washington to see Quay.

"I've been at the capitol three months and was paid for doing nothing," he said. "So I decided I would quit and come to see you about it. In fact, senator, there is no grass there to cut."

"Well, why in blazes didn't you wait till the grass grew?" replied Quay.

Bring your wool to The D. H. Mitchell Co., and get the highest market price.

MR. WM. C. SEXTON UNDERGOES OPERATION

Notwithstanding His Advanced Age is Doing Well.

On Sunday afternoon Dr. Motley of the Abingdon hospital performed an operation on Mr. Wm. C. Sexton for hernia. Mr. Sexton, who will be eighty-five years old the 30th of this month, has been a sufferer from hernia for a good many years. On Sunday morning Mr. Sexton's condition became serious and Drs. Dickenson and Sherrill finding themselves unable by the usual methods to bring relief, decided that an operation was necessary. Mr. A. T. Lincoln, son-in-law of Mr. Sexton, determined to take him to Abingdon, but after communicating with Dr. Motley decided it would be best to have the latter come here and perform the operation at home. This was accordingly done. Dr. Motley was assisted in the operation by Drs. Dickenson and Sherrill. The operation was successful and Mr. Sexton has since been in excellent condition, his pulse and temperature remaining practically normal.

Closing Exercises Sugar Grove High School.

The closing exercises of Sugar Grove High School were begun on Saturday night, the 8th inst., with a literary address which was delivered by Rev. W. E. Neighbors, of Sullins College, Bristol, Va. The address, of course, was a fine one, as Dr. Neighbors possesses rare ability for such work. A large audience greeted him and was delighted with the effort.

On Sunday morning the annual sermon was delivered by Rev. T. C. Shuler, pastor of the Methodist church at Marion. The sermon was in keeping with the learning and eloquence of this popular minister, and was heartily enjoyed by a large congregation.

On Monday night, beginning at 7:45 o'clock, the final exercises were held, when the following program was rendered:

Fan Drill—By High School Girls. Pantomime—"Lead Kindly Light"—By Five Girls.

Recitation—"Annie Laurie"—By Miss Margaret Ward.

Play—"The Turn of the Tide." Cast of characters: Jonas Aldrich, Thomas Shuler; Aunt Rebecca, Josie Waasum; Capt. Hugh St. Morris, Garnet Ashlin; Herman Clyde, Ellis Caldwell; Sling-Shot Rube, James Ward; Bowie-Knife Jack, Hampton Calhoun; Susie Aldrich, Miss Greer; Lillian Lacy, Margaret Ward; Frisky, Miss Delp; Col. Ellsworth, William Wright; Pepper, Marion McKinnon.

Pantomime—"Abdewith Me," Misses Dutton and Hash.

Awarding certificates and prizes.

Ushers: Clarence Ward, Hirst Carson, John Shuler, Christian Hutton. An excursion train from Fairwood brought a crowd Monday night, which swelled the audience to a very large one. At the conclusion of the regular program, certificates of graduation were given to Misses Mattie Lou Slemp and Ethel Hutton; medals in the tenth grade were awarded by Rev. A. B. Brooks and Superintendent B. E. Copenhaver.

Chilhowie Good Town.

On last Tuesday afternoon the editor went to Chilhowie and spent a few hours in that pretty and growing town.

One of the first persons to meet and greet us was our old friend, R. B. Greever, who has for many years been one of the leading merchants of that section. He conducted us around the town putting us in touch with many old friends and introducing us to many citizens of the place we had not previously known, and whom we hope in the future to be able to claim as our personal and business friends.

The first person to whom Mr. Greever conducted us was J. W. Christian. He was one of our staunch friends when we published a paper at Tazewell, and moved from that section to Chilhowie something like two years, where he has since been successfully engaged in the mercantile business.

Then we found our way to the splendid furniture store of J. S. Morris, where there is displayed as large and complete line of furniture and house furnishings as is usually found in city stores.

We also visited the large warehouses of the James L. Vance Company, and were profoundly astonished at the magnitude of the enterprise. They carry one of the largest and most complete stocks of farm supplies we have ever seen gathered in warehouses. A special feature of the concern is the manufacture or mixture of fertilizers. They started a few years ago with a modest output of 500 tons a year. This has grown to 5,000 tons per year, and continues to grow.

There are a number of other successful mercantile concerns and business enterprises in the town that we failed to visit, because of our brief stay. Before a great while we shall make another visit to Chilhowie and take in the whole situation.

The special board of the Southwestern State Hospital, consisting of Maj. C. C. Talliaferro, of Roanoke; H. L. Morgan, of Seven Mile Ford, and Geo. G. Killinger, of Marion, will hold its regular monthly meeting at the hospital today.

TAFT SAYS LET'S TRY FREE TRADE

In a Lecture at Yale Former President Speaks His Views.

New Haven, Conn., May 5.—"If we are to have free trade, let's have it," said former President William H. Taft, Kent professor of law at Yale, in a lecture on questions of modern government at the university this afternoon. "Let the party that favors it vote for it. Let's try it." His statement was incidental to a discussion of "The necessity of the political party to efficient legislation."

"The three objects of the new school of political thinkers who style themselves Progressives," said Professor Taft "are to prevent corruption of government by corporations; to create an equality of opportunity for all men, and to equalize property holdings to some extent. Persons who don't concur with this school in the exact method of arriving at the true purpose of popular government which is to make for the happiness of all the people, are called reactionaries.

"Those of us who fall in this category must be content, but we must never cease fighting."

Professor Taft expressed the belief that the sentiment for radical changes in the method of government would recede and that the result would be a happy medium between the old method and the new. Emphasizing the necessity of political parties, the former president said:

"Popular government is impossible without parties. A group of men who are willing to sacrifice minor details for the sake of a consistent course for the accomplishment of a few main things is necessary for efficacy in government." It was in this connection he made the reference to free trade.

ADWOLFE ITEMS.

(Special Correspondence.)

Quite a number of our citizens attended circuit court at Marion this week.

Mr. R. L. Hash, of Piedmont, stayed with J. L. C. Anderson Monday night. Messrs. Roy Houston and Edward Dutton went to Marion Monday on business.

Mr. William Alexander went to Marion Monday and qualified as constable. He fills the place vacated by Emory Ernest.

Mrs. Mattie Crowe, of Emory, was visiting her mother, Mrs. Henry T. Killinger, last week.

Mrs. William Geisler and three small children, of Meadow View, were visiting in Adwolve Saturday and Sunday.

Masters Hunter and John A. Wolfe, of Lodi, were visiting relatives here Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. Edward Reedy went to Marion Monday on important business.

Miss Ida Anderson, of Washington county, is visiting her brother, Chas. E. Anderson, of this place.

Mr. R. A. Anderson and family, of Marion, were calling on relatives here Sunday.

Misses Grace Anderson and Josie Johnson were calling on friends out of town Sunday afternoon.

We learn that the Odd Fellows of Holstein Mills Lodge will have an anniversary sermon delivered at South Fork Baptist church by the Rev. Graham the third Sunday in May. Mr. Graham is an entertaining speaker and we expect quite a large audience at the time mentioned.

Mrs. Rachel Atkins was visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Killinger, Monday.

We learn that Eugene, the small son of Floyd Wolfe, who lives near here, was violently thrown from a horse several days ago and severely injured.

Mr. "Ollie" Buchanan was in town Monday on important business.

Miss Lena Blankenbecker was in town Monday on a shopping tour.

Mr. Arthur Lester went to Marion Monday on business.

The young folks of the town wish to meet Friday, the 16th of May, for the purpose of organizing a literary society, and everyone who cares to take part in this society is invited to be at the school house at 7:30 o'clock Friday evening.

For Roumania's Charity.

Carmen Sylva, the poetess queen of Roumania, is issuing a new series of postage stamps to aid the charities in which she is interested. Unlike most stamps of this kind, the Roumanian queen's issue is good for all mailing purposes. The four designs of the new series will represent (1) the queen of Roumania spinning, the motto on the stamp being "God guide our hand"; (2) the queen weaving, motto "Woman weaves the future of the country"; (3) the queen nursing a wounded soldier, motto "The wounds dressed and the tears wiped away"; and (4) an allegorical picture, motto, "But, glory, honor and peace to all that do good." Another set of stamps of similar character, issued in 1907, bore a picture representing the Princess Maria and her children receiving a poor family at the gates of their palace.

Diplomacy.

Mr. Hobbs—How much ought I to put into the contribution box?
Mrs. Hobbs—Wait and see. If that odious Mrs. Jennings is looking put in half a crown. If not, a three-penny bit will do.

THE ELECT INFANT CLAUSE TO STAND

Roanoke and Abingdon Presbyterians Among Others Oppose the Change

Louisville, Ky., May 6.—For the second time the proposed amendment to the confession of faith in connection with the much discussed "elect infant" clause has failed to receive the necessary three-fourths vote of the Presbyteries of the Southern Presbyterian church. Although defeated on a former occasion, the general assembly last year again submitted to the Presbyteries the matter of changing the language of the confession of faith.

It has been charged that the language of the confession as it now reads "elect infants dying in infancy," etc., can be construed as declaring that some infants are elect and some are not elect. Those who favor the change argue that the church believes all children dying in infancy are saved and that the confession of faith should be revised so as to convey this idea.

They had hoped to receive the necessary three-fourth vote and see the change formally passed, when the assembly meets this month in Atlanta. Returns up to tonight by the Christian Observer, of Louisville, show that twenty-two Presbyteries already have voted against the proposed change, thus insuring its defeat.

These are Abingdon, Albemarle, Athens, Atlanta, Bethel, Central Mississippi, Charleston, Cherokee, Concord, Harmony, Lafayette, Mecklenburg, Muhlenburg, New Orleans, Red River, Roanoke, St. Louis, Tigart's Valley, West Hanover, Wilmington, Winchester and King's Mountain.

TWO OPINIONS AS TO MERIT

Mr. Blank's Verdict on Dancer Did Not at All Agree With That Expressed by His Wife.

At a social gathering a bachelor with a somewhat satirical opinion of feminine prejudice approached a party of women who happened to be speaking of plays and players they had seen during the last season in New York.

"By the way," he ventured casually, "did any of you go to see Gaby Des Lys while you were there?"

"We saw her in London," replied Mrs. Blank.

"What did you think of her?"

"Oh, she was positively nil. She couldn't sing or dance and she was so bold that Mr. Blank and I were both disgusted as well as disappointed," came the ready critic.

The topic changed and the bachelor excused himself to join the men in another room. His curiosity was aroused, and finding Mr. Blank's ears not directly engaged, he singled him out for a chat.

"You saw Gaby Des Lys in London, did you not?" he began.

"Gaby?" responded Mr. Blank with a sudden impetus of interest. "Yes, I saw her in London and I sneaked off and saw her again in New York, too. She certainly is a peach!"

Attar of Roses From Bulgaria. White and red roses are grown, the former being easier to cultivate, but giving only about half as much oil of an inferior quality. The individual growers distill their own oil. Twelve to fifteen kilos of roses are distilled with 60 kilos of water until 12 kilos of distillate are obtained; 8 or 10 such lots are then united and redistilled into long necked flasks, in which the oil separates on standing. To produce one kilo of oil requires 3,000 kilos of roses, or 1,200,000 flowers.

The roses are gathered in the early morning and distilled the same day. The pure oil from the various districts shows variations in odor and physical properties and is therefore, skillfully blended by the distributing houses before sale. Adulteration is very largely carried on by the peasants, who use ginger grass oil, palma rosa oil, geranium oil, etc. The production for 1910 was 3,148 kilos.—Pharmaceutical Era.

Perils of the Air.

Miss Eleanor Sears, the beautiful and athletic young Bostonian, was visiting recently at a country house where a good deal of flying is done.

Miss Sears, one cold and brilliant afternoon, appeared on the terrace of the mansion in a new and charming aviation costume.

"How do you like my new rig?" she asked, as she approached a party of young men and women who were taking tea in the open air behind a glass wind screen.

One of the young men answered, with a look of admiration: "Beautiful! You are always dressed to kill. Today, though, you are dressed to be killed."

Takes No Vacation. Apropos of a gold-mounted electrical massage machine worth \$40,000 that occupies the dressing room of a New York woman's house, Miss Mary Garden said, in Philadelphia:

"Undoubtedly a rich woman can look younger than she really is. What with Turkish and Russian baths, open-air exercise in abundance, temperance in eating and drinking, massage and so forth, a woman can, to a remarkable degree, preserve her figure and her complexion."

She smiled, then added: "But the trouble with fighting time is that time works 24 hours a day."

SLEMP ACTIVE IN PREPARING BILLS

Has Introduced Many in Congress Covering Variety of Subjects.

Washington, May 7.—Congressman Slemp has introduced a number of bills in the House ranging in character from provisions for two cannons for Wise, Virginia, to a bill creating a third judicial district.

One provides for a suitable system of drainage of lands in the counties of Warwick, Elizabeth City, York, James City, Charles City and New Hert, Virginia, at an estimate cost of \$2,000,000, which is to be taken from funds arising from the sale of public lands, that would otherwise become part of the reclamation fund. It provides that the expenses of the project for ten years, shall be assessed against the lands proposed to be drained in proportion to the benefits derived, to be paid in ten annual installments to the State of Virginia, and in turn paid over to the federal government.

Another bill creates a new committee to be termed the house committee on public highways, to which shall be referred all matters concerning public highways.

A mine rescue station and an experimental station for analyzing and testing coals, lignite, and other mineral substances is asked for at Norton, Va., at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.

Another provides for the erection at New River, White Sulphur Springs, Va., of a national sanitarium for disabled volunteer soldiers at a cost of \$250,000, upon land to be donated by the people of New River.

Another is to furnish to the town of Wise, Va., two cannons, with proper carriages and suitable outfit of cannon balls, to be placed in the public square, the town of Wise to pay the cost of delivery.

Another bill authorizes the erection of a monument suitably commemorating the battle of Floyd's mountain, of Floyd's Farm, Va., during the Civil war, at a cost of \$5,000. Two former presidents—William McKinley and Benjamin Harrison—participated in this battle.

Another bill contemplates the establishment of a third judicial district in Virginia by dividing what is now known as the Western district into two districts to be known as the Western and the Southwestern district. The Western judicial district is to constitute the counties of Halifax, Pittsylvania, Charlotte, Campbell, Bedford, Appomattox, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Albemarle, Nelson, Amherst, Rockbridge, Augusta, Rockingham, Greene, Madison, Page, Rappahannock, Shenandoah, Warren, Clarke, Frederick, Prince Edward, Luenburg and Mecklenburg. The other counties in the present Western district are to compose the Southwestern district. Provision is also made for the appointment of necessary judges, district attorneys, marshals and other officers for the new district.

Fifty thousand dollars is asked for cleaning out and removing obstructions so as to assist navigation in Pound river and Russell Fork of Big Sandy river, in Dickenson county, Va., and Pike county, Ky.

Five thousand dollars is asked for doing similar work in Powell river in Lee county, Va., beginning where the last improvement was stopped.

All of these bills were referred to different committees, but no further action can be taken for about a month at the earliest, as none of the committees have been appointed and will not be until probably two weeks after the passage of the tariff bill by the house.

Knights in Attendance at Ascension Service.

We were unable to procure in time for publication in our last issue the names of out-of-town members of Lynn Commandery, K. T., who attended the Ascension Service here last Thursday, the 1st inst. They were as follows: G. S. Boucher, D. B. Koozer and J. O. Midlam, Damascus, Va.; Jno. S. Dix and J. R. Rowe, Crockett, Va.; G. T. Foltz, J. B. Barrett and J. A. Whitman, Wytheville, Va.; Rev. J. D. Darn, Bluff City, Tenn.; J. R. K. Bell, Pulaski, Va.; C. W. Davis, Rural Retreat, Va.; Maurice Hale, Blue Springs, Va.; R. E. Hughes, North Holston, Va.; J. M. Hughes, Chatham Hill, Va.; Jas. E. McSpadden, Chilhowie, Va.; H. L. Morgan, Seven Mile Ford, Va.

The visiting Sir Knights were: Cleveland Hall, Danville, Va.; T. C. Schuler, Marion, Va.; R. M. Ferguson, Rural Retreat, Va.; and C. W. Amsler, Clarion, Penn.

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THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1913.

REFORM IN TAXATION.

We publish in another column a very interesting editorial from the Richmond News Leader, assailing the methods of taxation and the tax laws of Virginia. That these methods and laws need through reform is obvious to every intelligent citizen who is a tax payer. The needed reforms might have come, if the Virginia legislatures of recent years had not been more interested in hunting for new subjects of taxation, to swell the revenues of the State, than they have been in relieving the taxpayers from burdensome taxation. The reason for this conduct of our lawmakers is easily understood when we realize that government in Virginia has become enormously and unreasonably expensive—we might say wasteful.

It will be recalled that one of the chief reasons urged by those who favored the making of a new constitution, was, that the government of the State was too expensive and that there were too many officeholders. It is reasonable to believe that a majority of those who voted for calling a constitutional convention were induced to do so through desire to have the government made less expensive and to reduce the army of officeholders. Have their desires and the wishes of the taxpayers been gratified on these lines? Let the who helped to make the constitution answer.

The Charlottesville Progress, edited and published by Mr. J. H. Lindsay at Charlottesville, Va., in October, 1910, made the following editorial declaration: "As a result of the careless indifference of the voters, the taxpayers of Virginia are suffering today from the most extravagant state government in the South, and are bearing the burdens of more useless, if not incompetent, officials than ever cursed a free people. As a result of this political dry-rot—this deadly inertia among the voters—laws are made for the benefit of officeholders rather than for the protection of the individual pocket book, and the selfish interests of a few are being advanced at the expense of the many."

This editorial declaration was made by a man who was a prominent and aggressive member of the constitutional convention, and a staunch member of the majority party in that body. The expenses of the state government have been doubled and the army of officeholders has been increased in like proportion. Each legislature since the new constitution went into operation has created new offices and new departments of government; and coming legislatures will follow the examples of their predecessors, unless the people demand and compel remedial legislation.

Seven and a half millions of dollars are now required annually to run our state government, where only about three millions were used in 1903. This is why the last General Assembly established a tax inquisition, making the Auditor of Public Accounts the chief inquisitor, with the circuit courts of the State as his executioners.

Are the tax payers of Virginia getting value received for the heavy burdens they are bearing in the way of taxation?

A CURIOUS SITUATION.

The alien land ownership bill which has been passed by the California legislature has been productive of some very strange and inconsistent political situations. Secretary of State Bryan's journey across the continent, at the behest of a Democratic administration, to plead with the Californians not to pass the bill was the first peculiar incident in this matter. It was strange, because of Mr. Bryan's announcement, while on his way to the Pacific coast, that California had authority under its rights as a State to pass any kind of alien land ownership law it might desire to put in force. That is, that the State's rights are superior to the treaty making power of the Federal government and the treaty rights of a friendly nation. Is it strange that the Great Commoner failed so significantly as a diplomat, when he went at his work so unwisely, and asked the California legislature to withhold the exercise of a right that the larger part of the Southern press had been insisting the State should exercise? And was it

not a little odd for this great stickler for States rights to threaten the Californians with interposition by the Federal courts to invalidate the alien land law if it was enacted?

Another curious feature of the transaction is the declaration of Mr. Bryan, made as the representative of the President, that he would look to the people of California through the referendum to nullify the act of the legislature, and in that way prevent the exercise of what the Washington Post has declared to be an inherent right of the State.

Another surprising feature is that the Progressives, who are in absolute control of the legislature and state government of California, have been pushing the bill through and asserting that the rights of the State were superior to the treaty making power of the Federal government, while the Democratic administration has been holding the opposite.

SOMETHING IS WRONG.

There is something terribly wrong in Virginia's registration and suffrage laws. What this something is it may be hard for some persons to determine. But when the citizens of a State who are authorized to register and vote hold back and refuse to qualify and vote, there is certainly something wrong, somewhere. Under our present suffrage laws not one-third of the white men of voting age in the State qualify themselves and vote. And a very large percentage of those who do vote have to be plead with to qualify themselves six months before an election. Then, after they have qualified and registered, they have to be almost compelled to go to the polls and cast their ballots.

The same conditions exist throughout the State. For weeks past all the newspapers in Richmond have been making frantic appeals to the men of voting age to do their duty and protect their citizenship. We publish in another column an editorial on this line taken from the Richmond Journal. Read it.

The Underwood tariff bill puts coal, iron ore, wool, wheat, flour, corn, buckwheat, meats, lumber, potatoes, and dairy products on the free list. This may possibly be to the advantage of the consumer, but hardly so to the producers of the Ninth Virginia district. The cattlemen will have to send another delegation to Washington and try to get the Senate to amend the bill. And General Ayers and his friends will have to have a meeting at Big Stone Gap, or elsewhere in the district, to protest against putting coal, iron ore, lumber and other products of our section on the free list, as was done when the Wilson bill was before Congress in 1893.

We wonder if putting wool on the free list and keeping clothing and woolen cloths on the dutiable list will result as did the putting of hides on the free list and keeping shoes on the dutiable list? Hides, if we remember correctly, were placed on the free list to give the people cheaper shoes. But shoes were advanced in price immediately after the free hide provision became a law, and the prices have been advancing ever since.

It seems that Samuel W. Williams is to have formidable opposition for attorney general of Virginia, Floyd W. King, of Clifton Forge, being the announced opposing candidate. Mr. Stuart's candidacy for governor is likely to greatly weaken that of Mr. Williams for attorney general, as the Democrats are not likely to select their candidates for the heads of two of the most important departments of the state government from the Ninth district.

Even those who may differ from President Wilson on the tariff and other national questions, if they stand for clean politics, must commend his resolute purpose to break up the rule of political bosses in his own State, New Jersey. The people of many of the States, including Virginia, are now more deeply interested in getting rid of corrupt politics and machine rule than in any other matter.

The Virginian welcomes to its exchange table the first number of The Marion American, which was issued last week. William C. Pendleton, a native of Marion, editor and publisher of THE AMERICAN, has returned to his native heath after an absence of over sixteen years—heeding the "call of home"—to establish a newspaper which will "be devoted to the interests of Smyth county and Southwest Virginia," and if the first issue of this neat, newsy weekly is to be taken as a criterion Editor Pendleton will surely make good his promises.—Richmond Virginian.

George C. Bridgman, who lives near Chilhowie, a Confederate veteran eighty-three years old, was in town Monday, and called at THE AMERICAN office. He was a good soldier, is a good man and a good citizen. The editor of this paper has known him for sixty years, and it gave him great pleasure to once more grasp his honest hand.

Quadruple Taxation. (Richmond News-Leader.)

Instances of double, triple and quadruple taxation of the same money under the present laws of Virginia are so commonplace that they have almost ceased to cause wonder or comment. Even cases of quintuple taxation of an identical dollar—and more than a few of them have been found in Virginia by those who make taxation a study—fail to hold the interest of the listener or reader for many moments. This State's tax laws are so archaic, onerous and inequitable that men are ready to believe almost any injustice possible under them.

A writer signing himself "X" pointed out a striking but none the less ordinary case of quadruple taxation in yesterday's News Leader. He concluded his communication by asking, "Is this just?" It is not now, and we can conceive of no circumstance or emergency in the future that would ever justify it. The writer stated that he borrowed \$1,000 on his house, assessed at \$1,800, invested the \$1,000 in a furniture store; and sold the household goods on the installment plan.

Notwithstanding the \$1,000 mortgage on his house, "X" was compelled to continue paying taxes on an assessed valuation of \$1,800—Tax No. 1.

The holder of the mortgage had to pay a tax on \$1,000—Tax No. 2. The borrowed money having been used in stocking a store, it was taxed as invested capital—Tax No. 3; which did not include the merchant's license fee to do business.

Purchasers of the furniture, although they had paid perhaps but "a dollar down," were assessed for the full valuation of the household goods—Tax No. 4.

The merchant was the chief suffer in this case. In the first place, he had to pay interest on the borrowed money, and was compelled to agree to high interest so as to recompense the mortgagee for the taxes on the mortgage. Secondly, when the merchant took \$1,000 out of his house and put it in his store, he was forced to pay taxes, not on \$1,000 but on \$2,000—one tax at his place of business. Thirdly, while he was paying taxes on \$1,000 invested capital, the money had really taken the shape of furniture and the articles were in the homes of other people, being subject to wear and tear, and depreciating in value every day.

When we sum it up we find taxes collected on an \$1,800 house, a \$1,000 mortgage, \$1,000 invested capital and \$1,000 worth of household goods, all aggregating \$4,800, with the dwelling, assessed at \$3,000 less than this amount, as the only taxable item in the beginning.

It must have been obvious to the tax collector that when "X" put a mortgage of \$1,000 on his \$1,800 house he had only an \$800 interest in the structure thereafter. It was equally apparent that when the \$1,000 had been expended for furniture and the latter sold on the installment plan that "X" had to be thankful for was that taxes were not exacted from him on the notes given him by the installment-plan purchasers.

But what has the tax gatherer to do with quadruple taxation? He did not make the laws, nor can he change them. His not to reason why, his but to collect or die.

The remedy is in the hands of the legislators, and the lawmakers are chosen by the people. In the final analysis the people are burdening themselves by their failure to elect to the legislature men who have the intelligence and the will to solve the problem of a taxation in Virginia.

This state is shaking itself from its lethargy over the tax laws. From all sections have come demands for a fair, equitable and just system of assessment. No right-thinking man objects to shouldering his proper share of the burden of maintaining the government which serves and protects him. Under a fair system no man would complain, but with an iniquitous one, every man is rightfully indignant and loth to pay. The result is perjury, secrecy and gross under-valuation on the one hand and over-taxation on the other.

This condition will never be remedied until the tax laws are revised and every man is made to feel that he is paying only his fair proportion of taxes.

The Non-Voters' Last Chance. (Richmond Journal.)

Two more days only remain in which poll taxes may be paid and thus provide the prerequisite to voting in the November election, when a Governor, members of the House and many other officials will be chosen.

Less than one-half of the 5,000 non-voters who promised the Young Men's Registration Club that they would qualify themselves to vote have complied with this pledge.

The law requires that your poll tax must be paid six months in advance of an election to make the voter eligible and his poll must have been paid up for at least three years previous.

A non-voter is not a citizen, and a man who does not pay his poll tax and assume his personal responsibility in selecting good men to control the government, is not only a political drone, but a shirker also.

It is a moral duty that many men cannot afford to neglect, and the payment of the poll tax is a moral obligation that the conscientious man cannot allow himself to put aside.

Two more days to square yourself with your State and your city and your fellow citizens.

Be a full-fledged citizen. Be a man; pay your poll taxes, register and vote!

Mr. W. L. Gollehorn, county surveyor whom we knew as a boy sixteen years ago, called at our office Monday and had his name entered as a subscriber for THE AMERICAN. His father, Jos. C. Gollehorn, was with him.

CAT ENJOYED THE COMEDY

But of the Four Principals Involved, Tom Was the Only One That Had a Laugh Coming.

This is the tale of a cat with a sense of humor. "Mrs. Youngwife went to an east end butcher shop the other day. When she entered, the greeting was a high-pitched shriek. Naturally she shrieked, too, and then looked to see what the trouble was. Mrs. Butcher, in charge of the shop in her husband's absence, stood on a small box. Before her stood a large black cat, a gleam of fun in his yellow eyes and a mouse in his mouth.

A moment the tableau held. Then the cat walked away and Mrs. Butcher started fearfully behind the counter. The cat followed her and dropped the mouse at her feet. Two screams, the flutter of skirts, and Mrs. Butcher again was safe on the box, and Mrs. Youngwife sat on the counter, her feet sticking straight out, her skirts gathered tightly about her ankles.

The mouse ran a foot or two and the cat had it again, and again walked away. Mrs. Butcher stepped off the box, picked it up and, carrying her ark of refuge with her, again tried to go behind the counter. Again the cat followed, and the play was enacted as before.

It went on that way for about ten minutes, when the delivery boy came whistling in. He was hailed as a deliverer.

"Huh!" he grunted. He seized the cat and cast it out, the feline jaws still gripping her prey.—Indianapolis News.

WORTHY OF EMPIRE BUILDER

Cecil Rhodes' Magnificent Tomb Near Spot Which Was Scene of Historic Meeting.

After Cecil Rhodes' death, on March 26, 1902, his body was taken to the Matopos hills in South Africa and interred there near the spot known as World's View. By the terms of his will the land adjacent was set aside as a burial place for men who had deserved well of South Africa.

The Rhodes tomb is near the spot where he had his famous meeting with the chieftains of the Matabele tribes on August 24, 1896. At that time the Matabeles were about to go to war against the British, and Rhodes, fully aware of this, rode into their territory, accompanied by only two men. The risk that he took was enormous, but the result fully justified it. When the Matabeles heard of his coming their chiefs sought him in his camp and laid their grievances before him. He promised to do what he could to have them righted.

"Now, is it peace or war?" he asked, and the chiefs, as one man, cast their spears on the ground, signifying that they were for peace. While riding away from the scene of this historic meeting Rhodes is said to have remarked to his companions: "It is such things that make life worth living."

COUGH DUE TO NERVOUSNESS

Not Dangerous, but Hard to Distinguish From That Where Bronchial Tubes Are Affected.

It frequently happens that persons hitherto in good health are suddenly seized with fits of coughing, which they have considerable difficulty in overcoming. Due to a general neurasthenic or hysterical nervous condition, this cough, owing to its particular characteristics, is termed "the nervous cough."

The nervous cough often cannot be distinguished in any way from the cough due to an affection of the respiratory passages. It sometimes occurs in the form of periodical, prolonged and very painful fits of coughing and sometimes as a continual short, dry cough. Its most characteristic symptom is that it ceases during sleep and begins again on waking. The patients, while often a source of anxiety to those around them, are generally otherwise in very good health.

Another peculiarity of this cough is the absence of any secretion, for even after very prolonged fits of coughing there is rarely anything noticeable except a little saliva. Patients may sometimes succeed in checking the cough, but not for long, and as a rule in such cases the next fit of coughing is all the more severe.

The nervous cough is particularly frequent between the ages of twelve and seventeen. It then often assumes the character of a barking cough. It is unattended by any serious danger, and does not induce any

emphysema. Change of climate appears to have most effect upon it.

DEMAND FOR CURIOUS NAMES

While They Have No Commercial Value, They Are Eagerly Sought by "Collectors."

The more unusual the name the more valuable the signature. This is the latest development of the autograph collecting fad. No matter how celebrated a particular Smith or Jones may be, his autograph counts for little as compared with that of some humble person of extraordinary name.

To make a collection of these curious signatures of value the address and date must be written on the card with the autograph. Without these vouchers no one could be blamed for doubting the authenticity of some of signatures in this type of autograph. For instance, who would believe the name "Turnipseed" ever existed unless Mr. Turnipseed's address was plainly given as a voucher? Mr. Toadvine's identity would seem equally impossible and Mr. Twelveteel would be hardly less probable.

A collector of curious autographs once he is on the track of a person with an extraordinary name loses no time in bagging his prey. The rare specimen might leave his present address and this valuable addition to a collection be lost. So the collector sends a politely worded note, enclosing a blank card which fits neatly into an addressed and stamped envelope. He begs the favor of the autograph and suggests that it be written as legibly as possible.

MORE THAN MATTER OF WORD

Oratory, Though Simple to Those Who Possess the Power, Has Some Tricks as Well.

In answering an opponent, arrange your ideas, but not your words; consider in what points things that resemble differ, and in what those things that differ resemble; reply to wit with gravity, and to gravity with wit; make a full concession to your adversary, and give him every credit for those arguments you know you can answer, and slur over all those which you feel you cannot; but above all, if he has the privilege of making his reply, take special care that the strongest thing you have to urge is the last.

He must immediately get up and say something, and if he be not previously prepared with an answer to your last argument, he will inevitably be bogged, for very few possess that remarkable talent of Charles Fox, who could talk on one thing and at the same time think of another.

Home Dentist.

Iron is very injurious to the teeth and cannot be easily removed with a brush and clear water. It should always be taken, when it is ordered, through a glass tube. After taking it the teeth should be rinsed with a solution of soda and water.

Massage of the gums does much to prevent receding gums, which are dreaded by every dentist as obstinate things to correct. The massage can be done at home, and should be done daily; after the patient is in bed is a good time. With the forefinger of either hand he can rub the gums gently and regularly up and down, backward and forward, for ten minutes or a quarter of an hour.

If no toothbrush is at hand, the teeth can be thoroughly cleansed, in an emergency, with a piece of gauze or a clean handkerchief dipped in water and soda or water and salt, and rubbed thoroughly over the surface of the teeth.

Upside Down.

He was glad to see, the postman said, that persons who persist in writing private and confidential communications on the picture side of souvenir postcards are gradually learning a little common sense.

"They are not yet wise enough," he said, "to refrain from penning private and confidential communications on a card, but they have sense enough to turn the card upside down before writing. That brings the writing upside down when people look at the picture, and those who do not wish to read the message can admire the embarrassing position of reading private correspondence."

GEORGE FRED COOK

Attorney and Councillor at Law Marion, - Virginia Office in Court House—Up Stairs

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 You are cordially invited to attend all the services.
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 REV. E. M. HARRIS, Pastor.

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How the Koreans Talk.
 A Korean convert committed to memory the Gospel of Matthew. When he was asked how he did it he replied: "I had great difficulty in making the text stick, but one day I decided that as I read it and tried to commit it by memory I should practice it verse by verse upon my neighbors, and I found that as I practiced it somehow it stuck."

When a Korean wishes to know whether he should take his medicine before or after meals he says, "Shall I put this medicine under my rice or on top of it?" A Korean Sabbath school secretary in his report instead of giving the average attendance gave the average absences. Such is an illustration of the difference between the Korean way of thinking and speaking and ours.—Christian Intelligencer.

Had No Right to Dodge.
 A witness in a civil damage suit over the breaking of a plate glass window in a German town testified that as he was passing down the street he saw a stone come whirling through the air and had just time to dodge it to avoid being hit. The witness was questioned as to whether the stone that broke the window would have struck him had he not dodged it, and the magistrate held: "Inasmuch as if the witness had not unfortunately ducked his head the glass would not have been struck by the stone he is hereby adjudged responsible for the breaking of the window and is ordered to pay to the owner the value of the same."

She Couldn't Say Garters.
 The Sweet Young Thing entered the department store, and after glancing around in a helpless way for a few moments approached a floor walker.
 "What can we do for you, miss?" asked the floor walker.
 The Sweet Young Thing blushed and then said:
 "Where can I find those elastic bands capable of being elongated and put around the lower extremities of the locomotive members to keep the proper position and the required attitude for the habiliments of their tibias?"
 Ten minutes later strong men led the floor walker away. He was a raving maniac.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Up-to-Date Farmer.
 The up-to-date farmer is always busy laying his plans for the next season's work, no matter whether it is summer or winter just ahead.

HE FOUND HIS OWN

Fireman Unknowingly Rescues His Own Baby Girl From Burning Building.

By HAROLD CARTER.
 The first loud clang of the alarm had hardly ceased to echo through the quarters of the sleeping firemen when Halloran had sprung to his feet, his eyes still closed with sleep, found the thick pole, and slid down to the stable, first of his companions. Underneath the horses were neighing excitedly in their stalls. They pictured the gallop through the streets, to the blaze, with the loaded ladder car clattering behind, the urging shouts of the driver. Halloran pictured it grimly, too. It was not his first fire, but it was his first big one. Everybody knew that it was a big one. Why, a whole block of tenements was burning on the East side!

He was at his post upon the car now, holding on grimly as the vehicle swung from side to side. The horses dashed through the deserted streets, and from a thousand windows heads were thrust out and cries and questions showered upon the men. Nobody answered, nobody thought of them. All eyes were turned toward the east, where a line of flame lit up the sky. Halloran's mind went working back during that wild journey. He had been a fireman only six weeks. He was an ex-civilian. Nobody knew that—nobody except Chief Porter. And Porter had believed in him and had kept his secret faithfully. After three years in Sing Sing for a crime that should, at most, have merited a short period of detention in Elmira reformatory, Halloran had been embittered against society. And Porter had found him and plucked him out of the mud and given him his post. Porter believed in him.

But Eileen, his young wife, did not. They had been married only three months when he had stolen the purse,



Stood on the Sill for an Instant.

to give her those little comforts which she needed so badly. She had stood in the court beside the pen and watched him with eyes full of anguish and yet of hope. But when the dread word "guilty" was pronounced she turned and walked slowly away with out a word to him. That was the last Halloran had seen of her, or heard, either. She had never visited him in prison, she had never answered his letters. When he came out to freedom Eileen was gone. Her friends could not be found. Her family had dispersed. There was no trace of her.

Then Porter had found Halloran and picked him out of the mud and made a fireman of him. Some day he would show Porter that he was worthy of his confidence.

The wild journey was ended in front of a block of flames that sent up columns of smoke and spouted fire. The street was guarded by police, who kept back the gathering thousands. Lines of dripping hose writhed like long serpents over the cobblestones and sidewalks. Halloran's company was the last of three to arrive; but there was nothing more to be done except to play the hose upon the burning walls. All the occupants of the tenements had long since been removed or fed to safety.

No! Suddenly a cry went up from the multitudes. Far up on the seventh story a child was leaning out of the window, uttering a feeble cry. A little brown-haired slip of a girl, with outstretched arms and clinging night robe, crying in terror as the colling smoke surged round her. Ladders had been run up. "Too short!" shouted a man. That was all Halloran knew. He was already upon the lowest part of the ladder and climbing steadily.

He rose and rose above the sea of faces, until he neared the top of his slender, quivering perch. Then for a moment he looked down. A sickening horror swept over him as he saw the human ants beneath him, with their upturned faces, silent in the face of this tremendous battle. Then he looked upward again. The child still hung in the midst of the colling smoke wreaths and he was at the top of the ladder, and a full two stories beneath her.

He poised himself and sprang and caught the sill of the window of the fifth story; caught it and hung there.

Then he drew himself up, stood on the sill for an instant, and plunged into the hell within.

would the agony of burned flesh and scorching clothing impel him to cast himself down? Halloran prayed for strength, but it was only that slight figure in his arms that gave him the courage to wait.

Slowly the ladder unrolled itself until it reached the sill. Halloran felt for it through a cloud of flame-tipped smoke in which whirled fiery, stinging sparks, clung to it with his feet, perched himself upon that swaying thing and thrust the child into the arms of the steel-helmeted man who clambered up to him. And then, when she had passed downward along the line, Halloran collapsed into his rescuer's arms.

At the foot of the ladder was a woman who had broken through the police lines. So tense was her face with anguish that they had suffered her to pass; and now she clasped the child to her breast and laughed and crooned over it, oblivious of all else. The child was scathless. Not a hair had been burned. Halloran's thick coat, scorched to a crisp, bore witness to that. And Halloran, a fire-blackened ruin, with burned-off hair and singed eyebrows and hands that rested limply in the surgeon's bandages, opened his eyes to find the woman kneeling over him.

"He'll do well now," exclaimed the police surgeon.

"Sure he will!" cried the voice of Porter, the fire chief, and in his tones was something that set Halloran's doubts at rest for ever.

But it was not of Porter that he thought that moment. The burned eyes opened widely, staring into the face of the woman at his side. And he whispered:

"Eileen!"

She knew him, had known him. She crouched lower beside him and laid her head upon his breast, her tears falling on his face like rain.

"Tom!" she whispered. "She's ours—your child and mine. And we shall be waiting for you, Tom dear, to make a new home for all our lives."
 (Copyright, 1912, by W. G. Chapman.)

RIGHT CARE SELDOM GIVEN

Altogether Too Few People Know How to Deal With Child When Afflicted With Sickness.

When a child is in seeming good health, uncertain foods and unfiltered water are consumed without notice, and it is only when the child is actually ill that some sort of attention is paid to it. However, if the special attention was of the right sort, the child might even at the eleventh hour escape serious illness, but with the usual ignorance in regard to the laws of health and the nature of disease, parents in general are almost certain to do the wrong thing and then the child is sure to have something. Windows are closed, if by any possible chance they had been open; extra clothes are piled on the little one and it is coddled and given anything it wants, because it is sick.

Of course the child grows worse, until finally a doctor is called, who also proceeds to make matters still worse with the usual drugs or "antitoxins." If the youngster manages somehow to pull through the doctor is given the credit, and if it dies, well—"He did the best he could!" Of course he did. He means well, but instead of getting the poison out of the little body, he unthinkingly puts more into it.—Edith M. Bates Williams, in Physical Culture.

Long-Lived Hen.

It is possible that South Paris holds the record for an aged hen. At any rate, a hen long a pet with the family of I. F. Evans was peacefully laid away a few days since which the family know to have been either twenty-three or twenty-four years old last spring. The only authority the Democrat has been able to find says that "domestic poultry rarely exceed twelve or thirteen years," and we know that they are not often allowed to reach that age. The Evans hen has laid until within two or three years—not largely, but perhaps half a dozen eggs in the course of a year; enough to say that she had not entirely outlived her usefulness. For the last two or three years she has been on borrowed time—kept for the good she had done. She was of mixed Leghorn blood.—Oxford (Me.) Democrat.

Domestic Relations.

George Barr McCutcheon, the author, said at an artists' dinner in New York:

"Artists, especially artists of the Washington square set, are, I am afraid, a sad lot. The wife of a Washington square artist gave a tea the other afternoon, and during the tea the little daughter of the house played in an adjoining room with her dolls."

"It happened to slip in on the little girl. At that moment she took up a doll, shook it, and gave it a slap. Then she said:

"So you have tum home at last! Just look at the clock. Where? Humph. You've just dot to have your studio here in the house after this. Now go to bed. This room smells like a brewery."

What Novel Readers Like.

That old question whether the poor prefer to read stories about themselves rather than about the rich has been revived in England and discussed by serial writers. Some believe that most readers, whether poor or rich, prefer novels dealing with a class different from their own, and some maintain that the majority of readers are more interested in their own class. Nobody knows. But something undoubtedly depends upon the novelist himself. Dickens had no difficulty in interesting everybody in the poor. Thackeray made the well-to-do and the rich interesting. So does Mrs. Wharton. And innumerable others.

On the other hand, Jack London, Kauffman, James Oppenheim and possibly two or three others have sketched wonderful pictures of lowly and obscure lives. The "great American novel," which may have been written, but is still awaiting publication, will deal neither with the rich nor with the poor exclusively, nor with the middle class, but with all sorts and conditions of men. It will be a novel of democracy—neither aristocratic nor proletarian.

LEARNING TEXTURE OF SOILS

One May Learn How Much Water Different Kinds of Soil Will Hold by Simple Test.

If anyone wishes to prove to himself how much more water some soils will hold than others, let him take three tomato cans of the same size. With a nail punch a half dozen holes in the bottom of each. Then fill all three cans, one with sand, one with still clay and the other with a rich loam soil well filled with humus.

If such soil as the last cannot be had, then fill the can with the dark, rich top soil from the woods lot, after scraping away the leaves and other coarse materials. Pack the soil in all of them down solid, and put in all they will hold. Put these cans of soil in some place where they will dry out thoroughly. A good place is in the kitchen behind the stove.

When they are all well dried, pour a half pint of water slowly over the top of each can of soil. Repeat this, putting the same amount of water on each soil, until the water begins to trickle from the holes in the bottom of the cans.

The water will begin to run from the can containing sand first, and if this can be placed so that the water can be caught and measured it can be told how much less water this sand will hold than the clay soil, and by the same method it may be seen how much more water the soil full of humus will hold than even a heavy clay soil devoid of humus.

FATTEN SHEEP FOR MARKET

Cull Animals Can Be Prepared Earlier in Season by Turning Them Into Rape as Pasture.

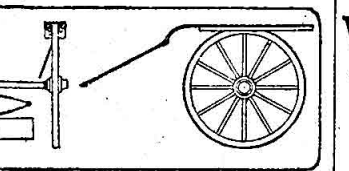
All old and such young ewes as the owner does not desire to keep should be culled out to fatten a short time before the ram is turned in with the breeding ewes. The cull sheep can be fattened earlier in the season by turning them into a rape field as pasture, but if you put off too late special food is required. In pure-bred flocks the ewes are often kept until they die of old age, as their lambs are worth more than they are, but in a graded flock it does not pay to keep ewes that do not have sound mouths. An old ewe is likely to prove unsatisfactory.

In selecting rams the aim should be to select those that are strong in the points in which the ewes are weak. For instance, ewes that have an open coat and are narrow breasted should be bred to rams that are strong on those points. By this method a very uniform flock can be established in a very few years. It is a good idea to turn the ram with the ewes in the evening after he has been fed and take him out in the morning before being fed. A ram should be well fed. Bran, oats, roots of vegetables, make a good ration with clover as roughage.

QUITE USEFUL WAGON BRAKE

Attached to Any Stationary Part of Vehicle, it Will Effectively Hold on Steep Grade.

While traveling through the mountains with a horse and carriage, I found the brake shown in the illustration exceedingly useful, writes W. C. Thompson of Millington, N. J., in the Popular Mechanic. It is constructed as follows: The base is made of an iron wagon tire, 28 inches long and three and one-half inches wide, with a slight curve on the front so that it will not catch in stones or



A Wagon Brake.

other obstacles which are firmly set in the roadbed. The sides are made of one-inch square hickory sticks bolted to the base with three bolts for each guide, the rear ends being curved to allow the wheel to enter easily, and a hole is punched in the front for a rope or chain, the other end of which is attached to any stationary part of the wagon. If the wheel is allowed to rest in the center of the brake it will effectively hold the wagon on a steep grade.

Advice About Reading.

Be sure, then, to read no mean books, shun the spawn of the press in the gossip of the hour. Do not read what you shall learn, without asking, in the street and the train. Doctor Johnson said he "always went into stately shops," and good travelers stop at the best hotels; for though they cost more they do not cost much more, and there is the good company and the best information. In like manner the scholar knows that the famed books contain, first and last, the best thoughts and facts. The three practical rules, then, which I have to offer are: First, never read any book that is not a year old; second, never read any but famed books; third, never read any but what you like.—Emerson.

Rape Seeding.

In seeding rape broadcast from three to five pounds of seed are required to the acre. If sown in drills from one to two pounds of seed are sufficient. The quality and condition of the soil will give the exact amount, lighter seed being used on rich and clean ground. The condition of the seed bed should be fine, firm and moist.

A light top dressing of manure may be applied and the crop responds very readily to such treatment. As a soiling crop, it is desired to secure all the growth possible, so the more perfect we can make the conditions the greater will be the results.

Keep Poultry Healthy.

Pure air, pure water and pure food, as well as thorough cleanliness, are all essential to the chicken's health. The fowl's power to resist disease is due to these.

ROOT CROPS FOR DAIRY COW

Where Large Quantities of Turnips Are Fed Directly After Milking No Bad Flavor Results.

No matter what some people tell you, turnips and other roots make fine milk-producing feed. Turnips will not affect the flavor of milk if fed at the right time.

If turnips are fed in large quantities, and two or three hours before milking, they are likely to give the milk an unpleasant taste, but if fed directly after milking, no flavor whatever will be noticed.

A peck of turnips to each animal per day is sufficient in most cases. A good plan is to feed directly after hay in the early morning, and once a day is often enough.

A little salt scattered over the turnips, which should be chopped in quarters or smaller, add to their palatability.

Roots make a very valuable addition to the winter ration, because they add to the variety of the feed, and no animal on the farm appreciates variety more than the dairy cow.

In Wisconsin, Iowa, and other western dairy states the root crop is becoming a very important part of the crop of the farm.

Drainage of Wet Lands.

For management of wet lands the usual advice is to tile drain them, but an intelligent German farmer now living in this country suggests that it sometimes pays better to make artificial ponds. In Germany, he says, an acre of fish ponds is often reckoned worth more than an acre of wheat.

The dams can be built with farm labor at small expense, and the ponds add considerably to the beauty of the scenery. Very often, also, the ponds can be used to some extent for irrigation, and irrigation will work wonders.

If you want to raise your young Chickens after they are hatched feed them Staley's Chick Feed. Especially prepared for baby chickens. Cracked Wheat and Cracked Corn blended in a scientific way to produce health and early maturity. Phone us you orders, \$1.00 per bushel. Mail orders filled promptly.
 H. B. STALEY CO.,
 Marion, Va.

A Checking Account

with this bank will focus on your business the helpful interest of a strong financial institution; paying your bills with

The Marion National Bank

checks will impart some of the prestige of this large bank to your affairs. Your income may be administered with safety, convenience and conservatism through the helpful medium of a checking account with this bank.

THE MARION NATIONAL BANK

MARION, VA.
 Capital \$40,000.00 Surplus \$25,000.00
 W. L. Lincoln, Prest.
 H. B. Staley, Vice-Prest.
 T. E. King, Cashier.
 Jno. A. Groseclose, Assistant Cashier

You Can't Afford

to be without the news of your county.

The American

will consider of first importance the matter of thoroughly covering the news of Smyth County. News of the State and Nation will be given in condensed form.

The subscription price of The American is

One Year \$1.00
 Six Months .50

Leave your subscriptions at The American office.

STALEY'S HEALTH FLOUR

For Brown Bread, Griddle Cakes, Etc.

THIS is a brain, nerve, bone and muscle building Flour, especially prepared for the invalid and particularly for that large class who suffer from weak indigestion, acidity of the stomach and constipation.

For dyspepsia and indigestion it is an invaluable remedy, as proper diet is indispensable for relief. This flour prevents irritation and promotes digestion. If your grocer does not handle our flour have him order some at once, or write us; we will send 6-pound bag by parcels post for 40 cents in stamps.

Packed in Barrels, and 96, 48, 24, 12 and 6 lb. Cotton Bags.

H. B. STALEY CO.
 Marion, Va.

Brighten Up



NOW is the time for repainting your house, both for protection against the weather and for the sake of its appearance. Then there is nothing that will show better returns for the time and money spent at house-cleaning time than paint and varnish used inside the house. Tell us what you wish to paint or varnish and we will show you a Brighten Up Finish that will do it—and do it right.

SHERWIN-WILLIAMS Brighten Up Finishes

are a line of Paints and Varnishes which do exactly what they are intended to do—give a right treatment to each surface. It is impossible to obtain one paint or varnish that is suitable for a wide variety of uses, so it is very important to obtain a product that is exactly suitable for the purpose you have in mind. Come in and talk it over. We may be able to help you with suggestions.

STALEY & GREEVER HARDWARE CO.

Marion, - - - - - Virginia

Power of Habit

To have a habit is better than to have a maxim. For a habit is a living maxim. It is the steam applied to the engine.

You can make a dozen maxims of business economy, but they are not, all combined, as powerful as the habit of using the best

Paints and Varnishes

Almost any man can select low priced goods. But that's not the question. Generally speaking, economy is universally related to low priced goods. This is especially true of Hardware and kindred lines.

The question is, what will the goods return to you on their cost? That's where the question of long distance business sight comes in. And that's where

KURFEE'S PAINTS

SHOW THEIR ECONOMY

Everyone who selects Kurfees Paint shows that the calibre of his judgment isn't dock-tailed—he can "look to the end," as Lord Clifton said:

"He who pays too much for a good thing, loses something.

"He who pays little for trash, loses ten times as much; for he has nothing at either the beginning or the end."

At our store no trash is ever found. All merchandise sold is good. Yet the prices are always little, and the economies always safe.

Spring Things

This, May 1st, and the weather man is not doing business at the old stand—don't forget that. Better think about garden tools—hoes, rakes—and think about Kalsomine wall finish.

SPRING SUNSHINE—It's timely to talk about poultry wire, lawn mowers, screen doors and windows, hammocks, fishing tackle and baseball goods. If you are posted on the value of such things, just drop in and take a look.

Everything for the springtime in Hardware and kindred lines.

Marion Hardware Co.

The House for Quality

MARION, - - - - - VIRGINIA

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS

We are engaged printing the catalogues for Marion Female College for 1913.

Mrs. Dona Johnston, of Rich Valley, is visiting her aunt, Mrs. E. F. Groseclose.

Bring your wool to The D. H. Mitchell Co. They will pay the highest market price on day of delivery.

Hon. John M. Parsons, of Independence, Va., was a visitor here on last Monday.

On Sunday morning, the 4th inst., a daughter was born unto Rev. and Mrs. R. E. Kern.

Miss Leona Jordan, of Dublin, Va., is in Marion, visiting her aunt, Mrs. E. H. Buchanan.

10 dozen work Shirts, best 50c value, at 39 cts. THE W. E. HODGES CO.

L. P. Summers was attending court here on Monday and called at THE AMERICAN office.

Misses Grace Robinson and Blanche Snider were in Bristol last Tuesday on a shopping expedition.

Mrs. Frank Wheeler, of Atkins, Va., was in town yesterday the guest of her brother, J. O. Stephenson.

The family of the editor of THE AMERICAN is expected to arrive at Marion on next Wednesday or Thursday.

We keep in stock Screen Doors and Window Screens, and put them in on short notice. SEAVER & MORRIS.

We now have a phone in our office. When you have any news or an order to give us just call up THE AMERICAN.

C. A. Lacy, traveling representative of the Roanoke Times, was in our town yesterday and called to see us at our sanctum.

Mr. Walter A. Hull, of Eckman, W. Va., spent last Sunday and Monday with his parents, Captain and Mrs. D. D. Hull.

Mr. F. B. Kegley, of Wythe county, was in town yesterday. Mr. Kegley has charge of agricultural work for this section.

Mr. T. M. Rosenbaum, a friend of former years of the editor of THE AMERICAN, made a pleasant call at our office on Monday.

One lot of Overall Jackets, \$1.00 value, at 47 cents. THE W. E. HODGES CO.

W. M. Brinkley has just completed a nice six-room cottage with bath and lights, on the corner of Iron Alley and Water street.

Mr. and Mrs. Jos. L. Lee, of Lynchburg, Va., are at Marion to spend a few days visiting their daughter, Mrs. H. B. Jeffrey.

Married—At the Baptist parsonage on April 30th, Mr. James Byron Weimer and Miss Flora V. Moser, Rev. E. M. Harris officiating.

Mr. J. J. Dungan, Commissioner of Revenue for Marion district, accompanied by Mrs. Dungan, was a visitor to Marion last Monday.

When your subscription expires for Country Gentleman, Saturday Evening Post or Ladies' Home Journal, have it renewed. R. J. MITCHELL, Agent.

Rev. A. B. Brooks, preacher in charge of the Baptist churches at Sugar Grove and Ataway, was a visitor to THE AMERICAN on Tuesday.

The dwelling house that is being built at the hospital for the Superintendent is ideally located and is rapidly advancing toward completion.

Married—At the Baptist parsonage May 7th, Mr. Archie Taylor Sprinkle Smith and Mrs. Sina Catherine Brown, Rev. E. M. Harris officiating.

The wheat crop throughout Smyth county is very promising. There is a large acreage and it was never looking better at this season of the year.

We now have an electric motor attached to our job press. If you want your job work done with dispatch, send or bring it to THE AMERICAN office.

Big lot of men's pants, \$1.50 and \$2.50 values, at 98 cts. per pair. THE W. E. HODGES CO.

Herbert Thomas, who for some time past has been living in West Virginia, has returned to Marion and will do business with the Marion Hardware Co.

Mrs. J. B. Sandow and two little daughters, Freida and Virginia, of Abingdon, spent Monday in Marion, visiting Mr. Sandow, of the W. L. Hodges Company.

Misses Mamie Cole and Susie Copenhaver left this morning for Roanoke, where they are to enter a hospital for treatment. They were accompanied by Mrs. Z. V. Sherrill.

No services were held in the Methodist church last Sunday morning owing to the absence of the pastor, Dr. Schuler. Services were held at night, conducted by Rev. J. A. Early.

Saturday, May 10th, we will have 85 dozen men's fancy Half Hose, regular 15 cts. value, which we will sell for 11 cts. per pair. THE W. E. HODGES CO.

Dr. Don Peters, of Baltimore, who had been visiting relatives at Marion for a few days, left Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. Peters and infant daughter for their home in Baltimore.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. W. Duncan, who had been living near Chatham Hill, in this county, for several years, have gone to Falls Mills, Tazewell county, Va., where they will now reside.

Mr. J. Walton Thomas, of Pocahontas, Va., was in town yesterday visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Thomas. He was accompanied here by Mr. Nicholas Walters, of Pocahontas; and while here Mr. Walters bought a very fine cow from Legard Keller.

The Ladies Tea Club is meeting this afternoon with Mrs. Geo. W. Richardson.

Our old friend W. A. Wolfe, of St. Clair Bottom, was in town today, and called to see us.

T. Bane Ward, of Chatham Hill, came up from Abingdon this morning, where he attended the Federal court.

Mrs. Geo. R. Rider went to Bristol on last Monday to have her eyes examined and treated by a specialist.

Dr. Motley, who operated on Mr. Sexton last Sunday, came up from Abingdon this morning, and found his patient in excellent condition.

The executive committee of the Women's Club met this afternoon. This club is doing much for the civic betterment of the town.

Henry T. Killinger, an old Confederate veteran, and the friend of the editor of THE AMERICAN since the latter's childhood, was in town today. He is very active for an octogenarian.

Rev. Carl S. Matthews, of Pulaski, Va., filled the pulpit at the Presbyterian church last Sunday in the morning and at night. Large and well pleased congregations attended both services.

Mr. W. W. Hawkins is preparing to greatly enlarge his residence; in fact, to transform it into a new house. The plans are prepared and we hear certain portions of the work have been let to contract.

Dr. P. P. McGinnis, of Dublin, Va., who recently purchased the residence property of Mrs. C. M. Wolfe on East Main street, was here the first of the week. He will not bring his family to Marion for several months.

Mr. J. T. Calhoun, of Teas, called to see us on Monday. He is one of our old time friends, and from what he tells us Rye Valley is now progressing more rapidly than any section of the county. We are anxious to go there and see what has been done since we left here sixteen years ago.

The pulpit platform or rostrum in the Methodist church, which was placed there when the church was built, more than twenty-five years ago, has been torn out, and a new one is now being built. The platform is uniform in height, which will place the organ and choir on the same level with the preacher.

The Marion Foundry and Machine Works is now making a street sprinkler recently ordered by the town council. It will be used for sprinkling Main street and such other streets of the town as may become dusty during the dry seasons. The sprinkler will be a great comfort to those who live on and travel our streets.

Rev. W. A. Patton, now located at Canton, N. C., a member of the Blue Ridge Conference of the M. E. Church, and presiding elder for the Clyde district in North Carolina, was at Marion yesterday. He was born and raised in Marion, but left here in 1882. He is well remembered here and was glad to meet his old friends once again.

Squire E. F. Groseclose was called to Groseclose on last Saturday to hold court for J. W. Leonard, who is justice of the peace for that section. Mr. Leonard has been in ill health for several months past, but is now improving, and his many friends hope to see him going about soon and attending to his business as usual.

Mr. J. W. McInturf, postoffice inspector for this division, with Mrs. McInturf, spent last Friday and Saturday in our town. Mr. McInturf was here for the purpose of laying out the route for the free delivery mail service which is soon to be established at Marion. In locating the route he was assisted by Postmaster Anderson and Mayor Greer.

Dr. J. H. Wilson, financial agent of Marion Female College, preached at Zion church, Wythe county, on last Saturday and Sunday. Rev. D. S. Fox, is pastor of the church. On Sunday morning there was communion service. The people who are members of the congregation are taking a lively interest in Marion Female College, and gave a pleasing and substantial response to Dr. Wilson's call for assistance to the institution.

Mr. T. M. Rosenbaum received on Monday a letter from his son, Captain O. B. Rosenbaum of the U. S. Army, dated Fort Shafter, Honolulu, April 20, 1913. He says that the California alien land bill is alarming the people of Honolulu quite a bit, there being a great many Japanese in the Hawaiian Islands; and it is considered that these islands would be Japan's first objective in the event of war between that country and the United States.

Mr. J. B. Richardson came here from Richmond last week, and announced his purpose to take up his residence in that city. He has for a number of years been one of Marion's most popular and useful citizens, and general regret is expressed by the people here over his departure. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson and their little son, J. B. Jr., left on Monday night for their new home, attended by the well wishes of their numerous friends in Marion.

Fair Warning.
A golfer at the Haworth club, in the jolly little suburban village of that name, got off one of those beautiful grass-clipping drives, the sort that start low and bend upward as they fly. But unfortunately it struck a man on the head; and the golfer hurried up with terror in his heart.

"Who done that?" asked the stricken man gruffly, turning toward the golfer.
"I am very sorry," said the golfer. "I didn't see you. I am very sorry."
"Youse people want to be careful," said the man. "You'll be hurting somebody first thing you know."

JIM ELLIOT'S MISSION

By GENE D. GRANDE.

It was a sharp gust of wind coming furiously around the corner and filling Jimmy Elliot's eyes with dust that was responsible for the accident. For being partially blinded, he darted forward in the path of a street car, which promptly knocked him over and against the edge of the sidewalk, where he lay senseless, while the breeze caught up his unsold newspapers and scattered them along the block.

Miss Elsie Moore, who, with her escort was just about to enter the theater close by, saw the accident and ran to the boy's side. She placed her dainty handkerchief over the gash in his forehead, while the gentleman with her picked up the lad and carried him to a near-by drug store.

Fortunately the injury was not serious and Jimmy, having recovered his senses, overflowed with gratitude when expressing his thanks to "de swells" who picked him outen de gutter." Gerald Osborne laughed as he complied with his fiancée's request to recompense the little news-vendor for the loss of his papers. Jimmy naturally looked upon his adventure as a lucky one. The cut on his forehead was a trivial matter, and the five dollar bill Osborne had given him was of much importance.

As it chanced he was destined to see his benefactors on more than one occasion. Osborne and his fiancée were regular theatergoers and it frequently happened that they passed the corner where Jimmy had his headquarters. At such times the boy was always sure of a bright smile and kind word from the girl and a tip from her escort. It was late in the fall when he first noticed that his two favorite customers had not paid his stand a visit for an unusually long time. When the winter days came on and they were still missing Jimmy came to the conclusion that they must have been married and left the city.

Three months later on a wet afternoon he suddenly spied among the throng at the corner waiting for the passing cars, the slender form of his former patroness.

"So you missed me, Jimmy?" she queried softly.

"You bet I did, Miss," responded the boy. "I 'ought youse mebbe got married an' went away somewheres wit' that gent."

The girl shook her head sadly. "No, I didn't get married, Jimmy," she said. "Things have changed with me since I saw you last. I'm just as poor as you are now, Jimmy."

The boy stared at her in utter bewilderment. He noticed that her dress was old and worn, though neat and carefully mended in places.

"Where's Mister Osborne?" he asked. "Don't he know nothin' about it?"

Elsie shook her head again. "I don't know where Mr. Osborne is at present," she said. "We have not seen each other for a long time, not since I became a working girl."

"Did he trun youse down when you loses yer dough?" demanded the small squire of dames wrathfully.

"I guess that must be it, Jimmy," responded the girl, as she turned to board her car.

The boy's eyes followed her wistfully. "I wonder," he murmured thoughtfully, "if she's still stuck on dat guy. Wisht I could see him some-where."

Two days later a familiar voice hailed him and Gerald Osborne tossed a coin on the stand as he caught up a paper.

"Say, youse ain't no friend of mine no more," spoke up Jimmy sturdily, "after de way youse treated Miss Moore."

Osborne dropped the paper and caught his shoulder.

"What do you know about Miss Moore?" he asked excitedly. "Do you know where she is?"

Jimmy recounted his interview with the girl, and Osborne listened attentively.

"It was all a mistake, Jimmy," he said. "I have been hunting for Miss Moore for a long time. When you see her again, follow her, find out where she lives, let me know and I'll reward you well. Don't say anything to her; she wouldn't understand; her mind has been poisoned against me by lies."

True to his trust, Jimmy tracked the girl to her humble home the next time she passed the corner, and a few hours later Elsie stood face to face with her supposedly unfaithful lover and listened to his explanations.

When Mr. Moore's wealth was swallowed up by an unlucky speculation, and the family went to live in a poor section of the city, Osborne, summoned suddenly away on a trip to the east on business, was astounded to receive a curt note from his fiancée breaking off their engagement, but giving no reason for the action. He was unaware that his sister Ethel, who had never liked Elsie, had informed the girl that Gerald had bowed to the wishes of his family and was anxious to break off an engagement which was no longer desirable. Elsie's pride was aroused and considering no further explanation necessary, she took steps to release her lover at once.

It did not take him long to establish his innocence in Elsie's eyes, and before the night was over the reunited lovers started forth in search of Jimmy, the accomplishment of whose mission of gratitude had brought them again together—never to part in this life.

Foxy Old Kaiser.
Kaiser Wilhelm decided that the new war automobiles that his army is going to use should be so constructed that if one of them broke down the dispatch the war lord might be sending to one of his generals could be delivered promptly instead of waiting until the old buzz wagon would go again. So he had them built with big pockets on the side, and in each of these a motorcycle will be carried. Then, if something goes wrong with the motorcar the motorcycles can be used to deliver the message.

SPEAKING OF CHANGES

By COSTER BYLES.

There was not a wilder boy in town than young Cuthbert Tanhurst. All the mothers with marriageable daughters, held up their hands in horror at the mere mention of his name, and the men-about-town were unanimous in pronouncing him a thoroughbred. It was partly the fault of his education. His father had been a most successful speculator, and had taught his son that he must spend his money like a gentleman or not at all.

The young fellow had imbibed aristocratic desires from his earliest days, he had learned never to stint himself, never to do anything himself that others could be hired to do for him, and to believe that the one great object of living was to extract from each day as much pleasure as the hours would hold.

Then his father dropped suddenly from the position of millionaire to that of pauper, a not unusual change on the stage of speculation. A grand coup went wrong, and Tanhurst, Sr., was out of the game for good. The shock killed the old gentleman, and when the lawyers were done with the settlements, Cuthbert found himself penniless.

It was against his grain to go to work, so he became an habitue of the poker rooms at fashionable clubs, and a prominent figure at the race courses. It was at this time that his name became as a red rag to the good people of the town. With a very few exceptions all the strictly proper folks who had been glad to accept the hospitality of Tanhurst, Sr., turned away their heads when they saw the son.

At the close of a summer day he was walking home in a sullen mood. It had been a bad day, misfortune had dogged him persistently, and he was asking himself what was the use of continuing it all. He was of no good to himself, and there was no one else in the world who cared for him, or of whom he dared think as caring for him. In the old days of luxury he had always hoped to call Marie Fairborn his own, but now it was too late.

He had said to himself in the years past that after a taste of life there would be nothing like a quiet home shared with Marie. She had never disguised her liking for him. But now? He had not dared to go near the Fairborn house for over a year; when he had seen Marie he dodged round corners and avoided her. Now she was in his thoughts as a prize that he had long ago forfeited and must forget, with other things. His thoughts encompassed him in such a mist of gloom that he hardly looked where he was going. The lake was before him and he was walking toward it. He never noticed the figures that were approaching him. A sweet voice, like the memory of an old perfume, aroused him.

"Why, Cuthbert!" Marie Fairborn stood before him. He saw a look of wonder and pity within her eyes.

"I beg your pardon," he exclaimed confusedly, "I was not thinking—I never noticed—" he moved as though to pass on, but the girl stopped him.

"Cuthbert," she said, "why won't you speak to me? I haven't seen you for ever so long."

"Marie," he returned desperately, "I'm not fit. If people should see you talking to me! Really, I'd better go."

"What nonsense, Cuthbert. You're fit enough for me. Come, you shall walk with me and tell me everything."

With much incoherency Cuthbert told the story of his downfall, or as much of it as he could relate without breaking. Somehow the soft eyes of the girl by his side led him to tell the story as he would have told it to no other human being. He spoke of his sins, his sorrows, his hopes, and of his present despair.

"So you see, Marie," he said at the finish, "I'm of no use at all. I might as well get out of the running altogether. Why should I take the trouble to work and struggle? I do not care enough for myself, now, to do that."

"But if there was some one else that you cared for, some one who would try to teach you to win back your self-respect, would you not try then?"

"But there is no one," he responded. "Perhaps, if there was—but why think of it?"

"But there is some one, Cuthbert." A little hand touched his gently, and he turned from his moody gazing to look down at the girl.

"Marie," he exclaimed, almost fiercely, "don't play with me. Are you in earnest? You don't really mean that you will—that some one, do you? You can't—you can't—what?" He stopped and kissed the gloved hand fervently.

"Now don't be an absurd boy," said Marie. But for the rest of the walk Cuthbert behaved himself like a boy just out of school.

About a year later a number of men were enjoying an after-dinner chat at the Bellevue club. "Speaking of changes," one man was saying, "did any one ever see anything to equal the change that came over Cuthbert Tanhurst after he married. Used to be the most worthless scamp in town. Buckled down to work like the mischief, and now he's doing fine. How'd you account for it?"

"You remember the French philosopher's rule," replied his friend. "The rule he applied to all sorts of cases, good and bad. 'Find the woman.' It was a woman in that case. She used to be Marie Fairborn, she's Mrs. Tanhurst now."

"Graham Dyke."

The Graham Dyke, is the later name of the Antonine Wall which crossed Scotland from the Forth to the Clyde, a distance of thirty-six miles. It has nothing to do with Graham, despite the local pride which has provided a heroic charge of one Robert Graham. In its earlier form of Grymsdyke, which occurs at several similar spots in England, it is seen to be associated with the Teutonic devil Grim. In later years the solidity of Roman fortification might well have seemed supernatural.

CALLER WAS HARD TO PLEASE

Mrs. X Made Many Guesses as to Visitor's Identity, Until a Great Light Dawned on Her.

"Miss Jennings, madam," the maid announced. The visitor was a sweet-faced girl, quietly but prettily dressed in black. She greeted Mrs. X by name and calmly seated herself without invitation, saying: "Will you pardon me while I readjust my hat, the wind is so very high?"

The hostess vainly tried to recall her visitor. Her name meant nothing and her next words threw no light on her identity.

"I see you have a dear little parakeet; is he tame?" she asked.

The hostess, still wondering, said the bird was quite tame. Then her caller began:

"I suppose you have heard of me, Mrs. X."

"I am afraid I haven't," was the reply, coupled with an engaging smile to offset any suspicion of rudeness.

"Then you haven't heard of the great movement we are engaged in. We are trying to interest children and grown people, too, in Sunday school work."

Mrs. X thought she saw the ray of light; of course, the rector must have sent her visitor.

"You see," said the girl in dulcet tones, "so many clergymen and mothers have told us how impossible it was to get the children to come to Sunday school, because they found the Bible so uninteresting."

As she spoke she loosened her long coat. "Now I have here," she went on, "something I should like to show you," and she drew from a pocket in the lining a large, black volume.

At last Mrs. X understood. Her amiable caller was a book agent.

APRIL FOOL JOKE, ALL RIGHT

Grocer, His Wife, and Unknown "Sucker" All Mixed Up in Peculiar Little Comedy.

"Oh, no, there won't be any divorce," said the grocer. "Wife and I won't speak to each other for the next three months, and then we'll begin to get friendly again. You see, I had changed small bills for a fifty, and when I went home that night wife wanted a new dress. I told her I couldn't afford it, as I had had a bad fifty passed on me, and when she doubted I showed her the bill. She took my word for it and said she'd wait."

"That was good for her," said the listener.

"So it was, but you wait a minute. I shoved the bill into my vest pocket and thought no more of it 'till next morning—April Fool morning. The bill was gone and I humped for the house like a cyclone. Had she seen it? She had. She had found it on the bedroom floor. Thank heaven."

"That was lucky."

"And then she told me that being it was a counterfeit, and being as it was April Fool's day, she had taken it out to the sidewalk and then watched a man picking it up. She was laughing at his feelings when he found himself stung."

"And you told her she had flung away fifty gold dollars?"

"Yes, and that her mother must go, and the hired girl must go, and we'd have to make a pound a butter do us for a week, and a hundred other things. I jumped up and down. I swore. I smashed things."

"And then?"

"Oh, she just called me a fool and let it go at that, and I guess she's right."—Exchange.

All Not Lost When Youth Has Gone.

Youth may not believe that there is something left in life when youth is past. The "rowsy old frumps" on whom wits and caricaturists expended their shafts are no exceptions. The bright old lady, keen of wit, active in mind and cultivated of spirit, has replaced her. She is bound by no hard and fast conventional rules of dress or conduct. Like the people who do away with furs on a certain date and resume them on another are the women who "begin caps" at thirty-five and wear "dowager dresses and mantles" at fifty. Far more sensible are those who wear what is comfortable and do what is permissible in the way of travel in far lands, when home ties drop away from them, as they are likely to do at sixty or seventy years.—Ladies' Pictorial.

Anti-Swear Gong.

"Please do not swear when the bell rings. That is the signal a lady is buying something out front." This is the sign that is stuck up in the big poolroom of a Virginia town, where the young men are inclined to cuss when they miss an easy side-pocket shot or "scratch" on an easy play. In front of the poolroom is a magazine and stationary stand, and the owner found the only way to keep both his pool trade and magazine customers was to stop the boys from swearing when women were near. The gong does it.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Robinson and their son, Mr. Monroe Douglas Robinson, of New York City, accompanied by Mrs. Selmes, of Kentucky, arrived at Abingdon today on the Memphis Special, on their way to Laurel Farm at the foot of the White Top mountain, and will spend two or three weeks in that section. They were met by Mr. W. W. Hurt at Abingdon with a special train to convey them from that point to Konarock, Va., which station is near the Douglas Land Company's Laurel Farm.

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