

Dr. Frithjof Nansen will start for the north pole in a few days. He will land as far north in Greenland as possible and then push north with small boats and sledges. As travel by sledges is better in winter than summer, he has chosen the winter season for this bold push for the northern "hole in the ground." He will cut loose entirely from any base of supplies and will not undertake to establish relief stations, but will depend entirely upon what he can take with him or can find for food. No "rescuing parties" have yet been organized, and it is generally conceded that none will be needed, for if he does not come back unaided there will be nothing to rescue.

One of Portland's pulpit heavy weights took a little spin into the country a few days ago to lighten up the gloom of that benighted region with a few mental coruscations. His success may be judged from the following notice in the local paper. "The room was well filled at 25 cents each. The lecture proper was good. It conveyed little or no originality; its witicisms were all borrowed from country newspapers; the principle taught was excellent; the wording was well arranged, if not grammatical, and the crowd was more or less pleased, as the case may be." Verily the star actor's plan of writing his own notices hath its advantages.

When a man "feels his oats" a little too much and takes eager advantage of an opportunity to be officious and show his authority in an unreasonable and offensive way, he often starts a train of circumstances leading to unfortunate results. This reflection is suggested by the developements in regard to the beginning of the difficulty that sent young McDevitt to his grave and will probably bring Gibbs to the scaffold.

Nothing emphasizes the progress the world has made in the last century more than the bloodless conversion of Brazil from an empire to a republic. Thus has disappeared the last monarchy in the Western Hemisphere, and there now exists in all America no taint of royalty and "divine right" save in Canada, Cuba, and a few other countries that are content to be decorations to the tail of some European royal kite.

San Franciscans are raising a popular subscription to purchase an elegant silver service for the new cruiser named in honor of their city. What will Chicago and Baltimore do? Perhaps a ham and a plate of raw oysters will express their sentiments.

The first fast mail train on the Union Pacific earned its title by jumping the track and sticking fast in a snow shed. Prince Hatzfeld, the great European fast male, is still on the track.



Waving fields are stretching  
Far away,  
Meeting mountains reaching  
To the sky.

Moss wreaths low are clinging  
To the eaves,  
One wild rose is flinging  
Ragged leaves.

Through the roof are creeping  
Sunbeams bright,  
Where the stars come peeping  
In at night.

Step the door-all over,  
Worn in twain;  
Gone the feet, to never  
Come again.

Sorrow, sigh and laughter,  
Years ago,  
Rose to each dark rafter,  
Bending low.

Happy, loved and-loving,  
O'er their day,  
Forgiven and forgiving,  
Gone are they.

All through life have hurried,  
Bid adieu;  
Let the old be buried  
Near the new.

Pass a hallowed hour  
Near the spot,  
Plant one little flower,  
Forget-me-not.

ROSE WILCOX.