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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1906

PLUTOCRACY IN THE SADDLE.

The extraordinary decision of Judge Humphreys granting immunity to the packers may be reversed by a higher court. If not reversed, it amounts to a ispensation for the packers from the pains and penalties of the Sherman anti-trust law. The case is in itself so important as the first serious attempt by the Government to punish a gang of mocratic freebooters, and its outcome is such a menace to American institutions that no citizen can afford to be ignorant of its principal points. Briefly, then, the packers, meaning

J Ogden Armour, Louis A. Swift, Edward Cudahy and thirteen others, were indicted by a grand jury last Fall for man law of 1890, which declares every contract, combination or conspiracy in every person who is a party to such agreements guilty of a misdemeanor; and fixes the punishment at a fine not exceed one year, or both.

So far we have plain sailing. Had the parkers been a lot of poor devils, a. now have been tried, convicted and sentenced. If the evidence against them had been defective, they would have been broken down in the sweatbox and made to "tell all they knew." But they are not poor devils, they are millionaires. They are not a gang of ordinary thieves, they have plundered a nation; stead of standing trial they pleaded that the law gave them "immunity," meaning that, no matter how guilty they might be, they could not be tried and convicted like common men. Why? Because Mr. Garfield, Commissioner of Corporations, had already questioned them about their beef trust conspiracy and they had answered his questions. They did not say they had told Garfield the truth, even their gall was not equal to that assertion; but he had asked questions, they had given their perjured answers, and that was enough. That gave them immunity. Such was their

It was based upon the Federal statute of 1903, which creates the Department of Commerce and Labor, with the Buresu of Corporations as one of its branches. The Commissioner of Corporations, Mr. Garfield, is the head of this bureau, with a salary of \$5000. The law authorizes him to make "diligent investigation into the organization, conduct and management of the business' binations engaged in interstate commerce, except rfflroads; and, in order to accomplish this purpose he is given the same "power and authority" over other corporations which the Interstate Commerce Commission has over common parriers, including authority to subma witnesses and compel them to answer questions and produce documents under oath. This is all very fine; but now comes in what the vulgar call "the joker." These witnesses are subject to the same "requirements, obligations, liabilities and immunities" as witnesses before the Interstate Commerce Commission. Note the humble and inconcuous "immunities." a veritable Uriah Heep for modest diffidence. Obout of sight behind the obligations and liabilities. But it is there all the same and ready for business when the time

What are these immunities? The act erson shall be prosecuted or subjected to any penalty" for any act concerning which he may give evidence be-fore the Interstate Commerce Commission. The act of 1903 extends this provision to witnesses before the Commissioner of Corporations. So there you are. This is the basis of the packers' plea of immunity. Mr. Garfield, they said, summoned them before him and required them to give evidence. y obeyed. Therefore they must not "prosecuted nor subjected to any salty." For some months now the court has been busy hearing testimony determine, not whether the packers are guilty or not, but whether or not they can be brought to trial. There's divinity doth hedge a millionalry that the law must approach him rever-

The act of 1893, with that of 1903, fur nposes the penalties for perjury upon any person who shall bear false sitness before the Commissioner of Humphreys was therefore this: Did the packers give evidence to Mr. serjand and European Russia, on which through which the bleak winds swept.

Garfield under such circumstances that she has depended for supplies not availif they lied to him they were guilty of perjury? The first half of this question the Judge discusses in his extraordinary | an increasing available supply in Eudecision; the second half he ignores. But they are equally important, as every lawyer knows. He finds that the packers did give evidence before Garfield, not voluntarily, but under compulsion. To reach this conclusion he makes the strained ruling that their knowledge that Garfield had authorify to force them to testify is the same thing as if he actually had forced them. As a matter of fact. Garfield used neither threats nor coercion. Because the packers gave evidence about their business to Garfield they cannot be prosecuted under the Sherman law. Because their evidence was not under legal compulsion they cannot be punished for perjury, however much they may have lied

to the Commissioner. This decision seats the trust magnates becurely in the saddle. Unless it is reversed, the law cannot reach them. The corporations may still be fined, but what is a fine to a plutocratic combination like the beef trust? If Judge Humphreys had deliberately set himself to aid the socialistic propaganda he could not have done it better service than he has by his decision. If we have in this country a class of men whose crimes the law may not even investigate, is it not time to think of changes?

FOR PEACE AND GOOD WILL

President Roosevelt's remarks to Mr. Gompers and the delegation of workingmen may be characterized best by the word reasonable. Making no appeal to passion or prejudice, he addressed them as one sensible man talks to others. That injunctions have been used excessively, and perhaps unfairly, against strikers in recent years few unprejudiced men deny; but the power to issue injunctions must exist somewhere, and the country is finding it indispensable in the warfare upon special privilege. If the courts have wielded their power somewhat more timidly against confederated wealth than against united labor, that is a passing defect which time will remedy. What the President has to say about the eighthour law is indisputable. Excellent as this law is, it is not of eternal and universal applicability. The conditions upon the Isthmus repel all labor except the fickle and unreliable sort. This must be used according to its nature or it cannot be used at all. To enforce the eight-hour law, framed for intelligent white men, upon half-civilized colored labor is neither wise nor practica-

The entire address is worth reading as a model of the kind of talk which makes for peace and good-will in the

world of industry.

INADEQUATE COAST DEFENSES. The United States Army lacks men to serve the guns mounted in the harbor ports of the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts; it lacks not only officers and privates, empiracy in restraint of trade. The but engineers, firemen, plotters, observdictment was found under the Sher- ers and planters-men skilled in the duties relating to the complicated mechanism of modern armament. In the restraint of trade to be illegal; makes event of foreign war, we should be in a disgraceful state of unpreparedness. The necessary trained force could not be drawn from the militia; it must be to exceed \$5000, imprisonment not to provided from the regular establish-

A report called for last year by President Roosevelt through the Secretary sang of ordinary thieves, they would of War shows that the artillery branch of the Army has available less than 24 per cent of the required strength for coast defense. In the computation no account was taken for reserves, supports and infantry defenses, but simply the force required to man the fixed defenses; no question of tactice was involved, or military policy or opinion, and for such men there are special but simply the number of men required of equipment in men was illustrated most strikingly last Summer by the joint Army and Navy exercises about Chesapeake Bay, when, in order to provide only one manning detail for de fense of the forts at Hampton Roads, the Potomac and Baltimore harbor, all the coast artillery stations from Maine to the Mississippi River were practically stripped of their garrisons.

Lamentably weak is the artillery district of the Columbia River, which | comprises two companies at Fort Stevens, one company at Fort Columbia and a detachment at Fort Canby. The number of officers required for one re lief is 67, while the number stationed is only nine; men required, 1446; men stationed, 286. And yet the mouth of the Columbia differs little in inadequacy of men from other fortified har-

bors on either shore of the continent. Representative Hull, of Iowa, chairman of the House committee on military affairs, has introduced a bill draws by the Army General Staff, by which of all corporations and corporate com- it is hoped to relieve conditions that may involve the Nation in disaster. It is proposed to increase the number of enlisted men by 3546, where 18,000 are needed; the mechanics by 88, where 500 are needed, and to make proportionate increase in the other grades. No one can call it a radical measure. The Pacific Coast ought to be a unit in favor of its passage.

GERMANY'S MEAT SUPPLY.

From Berlin comes the report that. owing to the high price of meat, the people have been driven to eating cats and dogs as well as large quantities of horsefiesh. Prussian slaughter-house statistics show that in 1905 there were butchered for consumption 97,000 horses and 1672 dogs, and it is explained that himself instead of waiting and acceptthe number of dogs reported is notori-ously below the number known to have been actually killed for meat purposes Ignoring the possibility that dog, cat of February 11, 1892, defines them: "No and horsemeat may not be unpalatable or lack nutrition, such general use of the meat can hardly be expected except under extraordinary circumstances. These circumstances are undoubtedly quite pleasing to the eminent American "standpatters," who have so vigorously opposed the granting of decent tariff treatment to the Germans. The stereotyped objection to extending to the Ger nans even a mild degree of reciprocity has always been made with assurance that Germany could not strike back. and that regardless of how unfair our death of hundreds of birds from cold treatment might be, she would be and hunger. The incident is also a seriobliged to come to us for certain com-

> The existence of this commercial 'cinch" is again proven by the meat and dogs. Its efficacy might be still the birds were lured too soon from further illustrated if the situation becomes so critical that the Germans are forced to eat each other in lieu of adopting a strictly vegetarian diet. The thought can provide. The loss of large

able at home, have only a limited sur-

The state of the second second

The scarcity may in time force the mit American meats without in turn demanding that we admit on the same terms German products of which we are in need. In thus starving the Germans into submission our eminent hightariff devotees will, of course, claim a great victory for that principle of protection that has built up the greatest monopolies and trusts on earth. And yet it is easily apparent that the Ger-man markets could be thrown open to American stockgrowers without causing the feeling of resentment and hostillty that unfair treatment always provokes. American meats were shut out of Germany partly in response to a demand of the agrarians, but principally in retaliation for our notoriously unfair policy of levying a prohibitive duty other commodities which the Germans had for sale and of which we were in

It is not alone the Germans who are suffering by this dog-and-cat diet. which may yet be productive of "dogand-cat" relations between the two countries, but the American stockgrower and the American consumer of other products is interested. The perfection of fair reciprocal relations between the two countries would enlarge the market for American means and other products, thus benefiting both the American producer and the German consumer. It would also be beneficial to the millions of American sugar consumers as well as the German producers of that staple. In short, the only sufferers by revision of our unfair tariff policy with Germany would be the co lossal trusts that have, by the absorption of high-tariff pap, grown from "infant industries" into Frankensteins of gigantic proportions.

Cats, dogs and horses may satisfy the hunger of the Germans, but it will not improve their feelings of brotherly love for the Americans, nor will it be alto gether pleasing to the Americans who would prefer having them eat good American beef, pork and mutton,

VALENCIA DISASTER PINDINGS

The Canadian commission appointed to investigate the loss of the Valencia has reported findings. The verdict appears to be strictly in accordance with the testimony published in detail in the newspapers, the only noticeable departbeing exoneration of the steamers Salvor and Czar from blame for not standing by while there were still lives to be saved. The men in charge of those steamers were not censured for the stated reason that they had not been informed that people were still alive on which had reported the fact to the steamer City of Topeka. The commission made a number of valuable recommendations, which, if acted on, will prevent a recurrence of such disasters. Now that the Canadian commission has exonerated the Canadian steamers and could have saved life, the American investigators will probably reciprocate by clearing the American steamer.

On one point both must agree. That is, that the reckless pavigation of the lost Captain Johnson was the primary cause of the wreck, and the utter lack measure a stereotyped affair, and as were all under the American flag, even died according to these rules the recommendations made will hardly have much effect on this side of the line. ship when she steamed past Umatilla Reef lightship without taking bearings. sone of the men responsible for the safety of the passengers are alive today. The captain who goes down with his ship is supposed to atone in a deleft him no alternative. He, of course, pays for his carelessness the highest penalty that can be exacted, but it is a question whether or not the example for other reckless captains is as effective as it would be had he lived to suffer a more lasting but not fatal punishment.

In every seaport city we find retired mariners whose one fatal error of judgment has prevented them from ever again holding a position of responsibility on a steamship. That these unfortunate victims of their own carelessness realize their disgrace and feel it keenly is ever apparent, and their presence, even if they escape official punhment, is a constant warning for caution on the part of the men who succeed them. Public opinion, no matter in powerful influence that is feared and be swept by a wave of immorality. At respected. This was fully recognized by the late Captain Ward, of the City of Rio Janeiro. Contrary to orders and good judgment, he permitted the pilot to take his ship into San Francisco in a thick fog. When the steamer struck a rock and all hope of saving a large number of passengers had vanished. blew his brains out with a revolver.

Captain Ward retired to his cabin and His recklessness was not so glaring and inexcusable as that of Captain Johnson, of the Valencia, but it had caused loss of life, and Captain Ward. feeling his liability and believing that he had merited punishment, inflicted it ing the lingering punishment that the orld at times almost unconsciously in flicts on the men who make mistakes which cost life. The Canadian comission having, in a sense, less at stake than the American commission, may be excused from being very severe in its censure of the company which sent out the undermanned, badly-navigated ship with a poorly disciplined crew. In view of the testimony given before the American commission, it is hardly prob-able that the findings made from the Seattle hearing will be more pointed.

weather in Eastern Oregon was the ous one in a material sense, since the war that birds wage on insect pests during the planting and growing seasons is invaluable to farmers and orchardists. Like early Spring flowers, This is one of the incidents of unseasonable weather against which no fore meat supply of Germany has been numbers of sheep on the ranges, of troubling that country for a long time, lambs in the insufficiently protected and as Austria-Hungary, France, Switt-folds and of calves in open sheds,

could have been prevented by foresight. but stockmen took the chance and lost. plus, the outlook is not very bright for It is not thriftlessness, but overconfidence, that sets the trap for stockmen in such a case. It is not quite fair to expect them to prepare extensively each Germans to pocket their pride and ad- and every year for the phenomenal season for which alone such preparation is necessary and which scarcely comes once in a decade. Ranchmen who fed their flocks and herds until the first of March and then turned them out on the range at the invitation of Spring weather and growing grass, only to lose them by the sudden return of Winter. are entitled to sympathy. As to the wretched beasts themselves, their part in the transaction, like that of the birds,

was mercifully short, but called for

genuine pity while it lasted.

The picture in the long-forgotten almanac-weather wise and pretentious -that hung upon the jamb by the wide fireplace in the snow-bound homes of New England and the Middle West in against German sugar, bulbs, toys and far-away years, represented March as a rude, blustering boy, defiant of control, riding the tempest, with "snowfinkes whistling through his wind-tossed hair." 'The present March, with its fierce winds, driving snows and zero weather, must have recalled this picture to the older folk of the great Inland Empire many times in the past ten days. We of the Pacific Coast even may have recalled the figure, but only to be thankful that its exaggerations did not apply to our more favored section. "Violent of temper, but well intentioned and useful," was the description given of March in a sketch entitled "The Plaint of the Dying Year," written by Jane Taylor, an English writer in the early years of the past century, in which the months passed in review before the expiring monarch. Violent of temper, March has proven throughout the land this year, but it is not too much to hope that his temper may prove useful in the domain of growing things by destroying the insect pests that, surviving a genial Winter, prey upon useful plant life.

It is within the capacity of Jacob Schiff and Edward Harriman to join Japan in the administration and financing of the empire's railroads-an enterprise which it is reported they have undertaken. Japan had less than 100 miles of railway in 1880, and has only 4496 miles now. There are 5588 miles in the Union Pacific system, and its gross earnings in 1905 were \$33,958,994, against gross earnings of all Japanese rallways of about \$26,000,000. It is evident that the Wall-street men turned ure from the general run of the stories to by Japan have already done greater things than the one proposed, without considering the fact that the stateowned railways in Japan already earn more than half of the total mentioned. The capital invested was estimated without reference to this development at \$188,102,000, and it is now thought the Valencia by the steamer Queen, that \$250,000,000 will cover the amount necessary upon the proposed basis of twenty times the average profits of the three years preceding the war.

There is likely to be a market in Japan for all the surplus horses of suitable grade that can be raised on the blamed the American steamer that Oregon ranges. Horses to be profitable either to the grower or the nurchaser must be carefully bred and intelligentblaming the tugs Czar and Salvor and ly handled. In this way only can the essential qualities of endurance and intelligent submission to the work required of the animals be developed. Force without judgment, compulsion through cruelty, makes a horse the most of discipline after the vessel struck unprofitable servant. It may be hoped contributed to the unusually large loss that the band of 100 horses purchased in of life. The Canadian report is in a the John Day country for the Japanese government and soon to be shipped the lost vessel, her owners and crew from Seattle have been bred and han-

A movement is reported in some of With the exception of the stupid sec- the Eastern cities among the negroes ond mate, who was in charge of the residing in them to organize a negro party to insist on representation of the race by those of their own color in city governments. Negro leaders have been urging it in many places. Until the negro population of the North increases very largely such a movement will be gree for the fatal error that may have worse than useless. It can accomplish nothing politically, and there is danger that the race problem of the South will force itself upon the North, though in less acute form. Those who advocate such a movement are, perhaps unwittingly, the enemies of their fellow-men.

The traveling public will rejoice to learn that hat checks are no longer de rigueur. A railroad which punished two men for losing their labels was ordered to pay damages by an Illinois Judge the other day. Of course the case has been appealed, but even a start toward emancipation from this annoying bit of corporation tyranny is encouraging.

A correspondent of the Boston Transcript wants the spelling reformers to spell pants p-a-n-c. There is danger. what channel it may be diverted, is a if this thing keeps up, that Boston will any rate, this is the first evidence that Boston ever acknowledged that there were pants.

> The Russian workmen seem to prefer revolution to the sort of parliamentary government offered by the Czar. Their choice is probably wise. A good fight is better than a peaceful fraud.

John F. Wallace wants it understood that "no mercenary influence" caused him to leave the Panama Canal to its fate. The offer of a \$60,000 salary was simply an unfortunate coincidence. The less "family influence" counts in

college discipline the better. Perhaps the Corvallis faculty has learned the lesson sufficiently well already, but others may still need it. Something happens once in a while at

St. Petersburg tending to show that the "Little Father" has recovered his breath and his grip. The Douma is a sad affair. We really can't imagine what Mr. Banfield meant. We only know that he

doesn't intend to pay anybody anything for a highly valuable franchise. Don't blame John D. Rockefeller III. Very few of us are allowed to pick out our grandparents.

Heard at 2 P. M.

Le Familie Journal. Mrs. Oldwon-"John, I've waited and waited for you to come home, until I was frightened half to death."
Oldwon-"Yes, that's just like youalways doing things by halves!

Habit Strong in Jail

Le Journal.

Jailer-"Sir. there's a reporter outside wants to interview you."

Noted Prisoner-"Tell him I'm not in."

THE SILVER LINING. Br A. H. Ballard. Thought for the Day.

The days that pass and I don't see you Are filled with hours hard to beguile; Here's from the man with nothing to do To the girl he thinks of all the while,

Here's that we live our lives each day So we can face each man and say: 'I'm not ashamed of aught I do. And you may go to Pandarus, too."

Among today's duties tackle the most disagreeable first-you'll spend less time dreading it, and the day will go easter. A girl likes to be called up, but she don't like to be called down.

Devote your time to building something up. Five minutes a month are plenty for tearing down.

It is a good old custom to do some one a good turn every day. There are always compensations when

your even can see them. If you don't like the attenuated appearance of the Pertland boys, why, look at the girls.

The mainspring of modern civilization is, "We need the money." It is not who you are, but what you do.

Spare thyself-and fail. Be greedy for work-and succeed. The man who believes in himself is a

power in the world. Dern the people who are always afraid of failure. They'd be afraid to enter the gates of heaven unless they were assured.

In the game of life be sportsmanlike, There is something nice about nearly

that there was nothing unpleasant within,

every one you meet if you will only try to detect it. The pivotal point of any business con-

cern lies in the personality of its head.

Everything must be dreamed first before t can be realized. He who accomplishes things is first a dreamer. He who has no imagination creates nothing. It is the dreamer of dreams, the follower of frenzied imaginative flights, who builds up . . .

When the sun comes out it seems as if there had not been much of a storm, after

Definitions.

(Tips on The Race of Life.) HOUSEHOLD-A house that holds troules and skeletons COLUMBIA THEATER (sometimes alled Belasco - A kind of football. MILWAUKIE-A place where you can

DIVORCE-An arrangement between belligerents whereby hostilities are suspended.

MARRIAGE-A contract to pay a woman's expenses for a given period and then be vilified for doing so.

NOSEY-A kind of person who has no ousiness of his own and busies himself trying to pry into other people's affairs for purposes of gossip. About the meanest and most worthless and most contemptible individual that afflicts the earth. A measly yellow dog is a prince mperial beside of a nosey person. GRIT-The substance out of which real

COWARD-A bluffer is always a cow

SPONGE-A shade worse than a bluffer. LIAR-Worse than a sponge. THIEF-Worse than a llar.

PLUTOCRAT-Worse than all these FOREVER-Used to state the time a man declares he will love any given woman. It means about three weeks, if the she ever did have headaches, and Alviry has stopped telling so long a time as that

When Speech Was Golden.

Judge's Magazine of Fun A ventriloquist now famous was a one time so hard up that he had to walk from New York to Philadelphia, says a daily paper. On that occasion he picked up a miserable little dog, "be-cause it looked so much like he felt."

The first house he came to was a sa-loon. He had no money, but went in. The proprietor, a German, said: "Well, what will you have?" He said: "I'll take a little whisky.

and then, turning to the dog, he asked. "What will you have?"
"I'll take a ham sandwich. The German was so surprised that he

imost fainted. He looked at the dog a moment and then askel: "What did you say?"
"I sald a ham sandwich." Hans thought it wonderful that

dog should be able to talk, and asked who had trained him, how long it had taken, etc., and wound up with:
"How much you take for him?"
"O," said the ventriloquist, wouldn't sell him at any price, but I am a little hard up how, and if you will lend me \$50 I'll leave him with you

till I bring the money."
"All right," said Hans, "I just want him for a little while, so I can show him to some smart people I know around here So everything was settled and the money paid, and as the ventriloquist went out he turned and waved his hand

to the dog, saying: "Good-by, Jack, I'll came back

You mean son-of-a-gun, to sell me for \$50 after all I've done for you. So help me Moses, I'll never speak another word as long as I live."

> How He Saw It. Translated for Tales

Wife-This book says that in India wife with her dead husband. Isn't it Husband-Indeed it is! The poor

husband-even death brings him no Something to Please the Children. Wallace Irwin in Saturday Evening Post

Wallace Irwin in Saturday Evening P
Something to please the children,
Something to entertain!
Shall I dance, my dears, or wiggle my e
Or balance myself on a cane!
Shall I stand at the parlor essement
And sing to the crowd below?
Or point hat tea over Grandpas knee
In a comical way I know?
Something to please the children;
Anything droll will do!
Shall I lash myself to the maniel shelf
And pake my feet up the flue?
Shall I spill hot wax on the carpet
Or cover my nose with soot,
Or gum my halv, or drop a chair
On the top of my gouty foot?
Something to please the children;
Something that's light and gay!
Shall I whistle and scream at the butch
team.

Shall I whistle and scream at the butchesm.
So the horses will run away?
Shall I hang the cat to the curtain.
Or scare Aunt Jake with a mouse?
Shall-I statter and groan through the phone.
And then set fire to the house?
Something to please the children:
Nothing that a trite and tame!
They crow with give as they come to?
I'm naver at loss for a game.
They greet me as Uncle Henry,
And folly good times they see
In the jorial ways and gental plays.
Of an elderly man like me.

ONE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CURE

At Least, Says the Patient Man, It Cured Folks of Telling Troubles. (Reprinted from the New York Sun by re-

quest of Christian Scientists.)
"I'm no Christian Scientist," said the patient looking man to the drugstore man, but I think Christian Science is doing a whole lot of good in the world."

"How?" growled the drugstore man "What good is it doing? Spotting honest "But it's bring a whole lot of peace and happiness into the world, too, doc;

take my word for it." "Thought you said you weren't a Christian Scientist? How is it bringing peace and happiness into the world?"

"By shutting off the poor health bore. Why, the peace that I've had in my family eince my folks took up Christian Science would put the peace conference out "Fact," suid the patient looking indi-

idual. "I've been married 23 years and don't believe there has been a week vidual. during all that time, until my wife went into Science, that she didn't tell me every day about her headache or backache or a cent of cash premium, in considera-her nerves or her dyspepsla or her cough. of receiving the proxy of the assured. Then there was my mother-in-law; she had sciation, and my Aunt Jane had con sumption. My partner had indigestic and he did love to talk about it. Old man Jenkins, my next-door neighbor, had rheumatism. I never could get him around to talkin' about fixing up the line fence or repairing the paving, because he was that absorbed in telling me about his the unation. rheumatism. Our hired girl was subject to neuralgia, our butcher had liver com-plaint, and the school teacher, that boards with us, suffered with insomnia, and I tell you the plain truth, doc, that between the lot of them I was plumb ashamed to mention my little attack of bronchitis that kept me abed for most a month this

"If one of 'em wasn't at it the other one was and our house was that filled up with liniment and cough medicine and mustard plasters and pill boxes that there wasn't room for anything else."
"Yes," said the drugstore man m

fully. "yes, you folks used to be right "Good customers!" yelled the patient looking individual. "Good customers Well, I should smile. Every dollar I made went for doctor bills and medicine. If there was anything left over, we ate. If there wasn't, we sat around the table and talked about our ailments. it was great sport, all right. If we didn't discuss ma's headache we talked about Alviry's neuralgia, or Aunt Jane's cough, or the teacher's insomnia, and if those subjects failed there was always grand-ma's scintica to fall back on.

ma's sciutica to fail back on.
"Sometimes, when I got a little bit
tired hearing all about the home symp-toms I went over to call on neighbor Jenkins, and he regaled me by telling me his, and his wife, Susan, a mighty nice woman, would tell me all about her nervous trouble, and what a number of diseases her father had, and what a linger-ing death he had died.

metimes I didn't sleep very good nights, and then when I went down to the office in the morning there was my partner lying in wait for me to tell me all about how his dinner had disagreed with him the night before."

"Well," said the drugstore man, "didn't you sympathize with them?"
"Sympathize with 'em? I sympathized with 'em until I was nothing but skin and

"Well, what happened to stop it?" asked the drugstore man. "A Christian Science lecturer struck our neighborhood. A lot of the folks went to hear him, and he put it up to them that it was a rank sin to scatter disease thoughts through the world by talking about it. He said that every time they mentioned a symptom or a sickness it not only gave it a fresh hold over them, but it gave old Mr. Disease a brand new lease of life so's he could rush out and tackle some other unfortunate. He allowed that if we'd all stop talking and thinking about diseases for a while that disease would vanish from the world and we'd all be well and happy. "Well, sir, you'd just ought to see the change that's come over our neighborgood. Every time grandma begins discuss sciatics, she chokes up like she'd awallowed her front teeth and goes to

about her neuralgia and has got a ner "Hugh!" said the drugstore man see "Did this Christian Science racket

I don't know whether it did o said the patient looking individual, help-ing himself to a cigar, "but it did me."

WHAT IS A GENTLEMAN.

Definitions Given by the Psalms and

New York Sun. To the Editor of the Sun-Sir: Having read the up-to-date definitions of a "gen-tleman" in your columns, may I submit the oldest and most comprehensive defini-

"He that leadeth an uncorrupt Hfe and doeth the thing which is right, and speak-eth the truth from his heart. "He that hath used no deceit in his tongue, nor done evil to his neighbor; and hath not slandered his neighbor.

"He that setteth not by himself, but is lowly in his own eyes; and maketh much of them that fear the Lord. "He that swearcth unto his neighbor and disappointeth him not though it were to his own hindrance. 'He that bath not given his money upon

usury; nor taken reward against the inocent."-Psalms, xv. Albany, March 15,

To the Editor of the Sun-Sir: Cardinal Newman defines a gentleman as "one who never gives offense." I give this for the benefit of "Piccadilly," and will ask him to compare it with the English definition:
"A man who dresses for dinner," which
he says is the best and truest he has met

JOHN SHARPE.

Kingston, N. Y., March 14, To the Editor of the Sun-Sir: If Mark Twain has not yet found a definition for the word "gentleman" he might use this one: A person whose manners and ways give no annoyance or unnecessary pain. and are based on goodheartedness.

The term "gentleman" has no relation to money or education. There is a black-smith in Kingston who can give points to

a Beau Brummel as to gentlemanliness J. V. HENRY NOTT. Katrine, N. Y., March 12. To the Editor of the Sun-Sir: I leave to suggest to those who are looking for an adequate definition of a gentleman that, after reading Cardinal Newman's

matchiess characterization, they turn to the sixty-second chapter of "Vanity Fair" and read what Thackeray has to say upon this subject. These two authors have given us definitions of the true gentleman which will last for all time

which will last for all time.

SHERWOOD.

Rechester, N. Y., March H.

Pat's Effort to Keep Lent.

London Chronicle.

In an ordinary restaurant a waiter was surprised at being asked with Ireland's inimitable smile for "diviled whale." "Is it filleted shark that ye have, thin?" pursued the Irishman, on being refused this delicacy. Again receiving a reply in the negative, he tried once more. "Thin ye can bring me some roasted porpoise," he said. The waiter showed signs of becoming restive, and Paddy sank back in his seat and heaved a sigh of contentment. "I'll take some roast beef and vegetables," he said, cheerfully, "and sure ye'll not be for saying that I didn't ask ye for fish."

I'm take some roast beef and vegetables," he said, cheerfully, "and sure ye'll not be for saying that I didn't ask ye for fish."

INSURANCE PROXY FIGHT.

(Thomas W, Lawson, in Everybody's magaprogress of the contest for the control of the Mutual Life and New York Life Insurance Companies, shows the faction that he charges are being pursued by Insurance magnates to gain profiles at any cost. He outlines new plans to safely control forthcoming elections of trustees. Extracts from the article fol-low.):

insiders grew seriously alarmed, when the names were announced of the committee of Governors and leading citizens whom I had nominated to be custodiana of my proxies, and who were to continue the fight when I had left it, and when an apeal was made that policy-holders should come to the annual meetings in person. Before the insurance people there loomed a picture of from 75,000 to 109,000 citizens—Big Three policy-holders—all gathered in New York City to attend the annual meetings. In their desperation to procure proxies, the insurance powers sacrificed common prudence and let down the bars. I find them going out of the highways and byways and actually is suing policies on large amounts without a cent of cash premium, in consideration

I have in my possession one such alleged policy for \$1000 bearing the signature of the new president of the New York Life. a dummy for the old management. policy reads that on the death of one Mor-ris Hurtig, of Malden, Mass., the sum of \$1000 will be paid to his wife. The affidavit attached to the policy contains Hur-tig's avowal that he paid no money or other value for the policy, that the latter was delivered to and received by him for inspection only, and that at the request of the agent he signed a proxy appointing Messrs. Claffin, Strauss and Mackaye his proxies to vote for him at all meetings of the policy-holders of the New York Life Insurance Company.

Letters have been sent to me, especially from the West, stating that appeals for proxies from insurance magnates have contained such injunctions to the policysolder as: "Sign this proxy and you will be with the right crowd. . . . Without exception all are giving us this proxy.

. Nobody takes Lawson seriously man from Everett, Wash., writes m 'Agents of the New York Life Insurance Company are taking applications for \$5000 giving free the first two years' premiums, with the stipulation that the applicant gives the company his proxy for two years."

After mature thought, I have decided to ask the committee of Governors to join with the Armstrong committee in asking the New York Legislature for the passage of the proposed law which provides, effect, that:

At every election of directors in any do policy-holder whose insurance shall have been in force for at least one year prior thereto ficutions, in person, by proxy, or by mail The board of directors of each company, at least four months prior to the date of at election, are required to nominate for every vacancy to be filled what shall be described as the "administration ticket." Any 160 or more qualified policy-holders may nominate a ticket with an appropriate title to distinguish it. The companies shall mail at least two months of the companies of the distinguishing the dist months prior to the election the names of candidates commuted and the persons pointed to receive proxics, to all policy-ers eligible to vote. The inclosure shall era eligible to vote. tain a scaled envelope for the return of the se and a blank for the designation of proxies The election of my committee's board will be public notice to the world of the

beginning of the end of the "Sy the trustees we shall elect will have been pledged: First-To find out how much has been

Second-To find out who stole it. Third—To bring suit for restitution.
Fourth—To punish the fhieves.
At this stage the discomfiture of the
System" will be complete.

The Cause Removed.

Le Familie Journal. Marie, "Are you and Ida good friends now? I thought you used to

be enemies. Jessie-'So we were, but since she was lit she has grown so ugly that I haven't the heart to nate her any

CURRENT COMMENT CLIPPINGS

The man who calls it "Aigy Cyrus" shows right away that he has never studied Spanish -- Hoston Globe.

But now and then, it access, it is the hearse that follows the flag.-Richmend Times-Dis-patch (Dem.).

Colonel Bubb will be promoted to Brigadier-General, reads a dispatch from Washington. Isn't be rather young for such an honor?— Rochester Post Express. The Board of Education of Philadelphia

sinuates that school teachers who wear high-heeled shoes haven't completed their elemen-tary course in physical culture. This should bring them down an inch or two.-Cleveland

The wicked trusts must produce the books and their managers must answer all pertinent questions about their business. It's tough times for all kinds of concealment. Publicity is the word.—Boston Herald.

The prediction is made that should, Mr. Bryan run for President on a tariff revision platform he would "sweep the country like a cyclone." Even Mr. Bryan's riends cannot help associating Mr. Bryan's candidacy with wind.—Toledo Blade (Rep.).

The aggressive interest which Secretary

The aggressive interest which Secretary Root is taking in the movement to reform and improve the American Consular system is thoroughly commendable. His notion that the service shouldn't be employed as a confortable roosting place for lame political ducks is correct.—Hartford Times (Dem.). One of the arguments in favor of the alleged

One of the arguments in favor of the alleged spelling reform is that it will accommodate the foreigners who want to learn our language. That ought to settle it. We cannot do too much for the immigrants. If there is anything they want all they have to do is to ask for it.—Rochester Democrat and Chron-

Harper's Weekly nominates Woodrow Wilson for President on the Democratic ticket in 1968. There's another eminent citizen of Princeton, N. J., who has had experience in that line and may have something to say about it before the mominations are closed. about it before the Washington Post (Ind.)...

NEWSPAPER WAIFS.

"You mustn't kiss me until we are formally engaged." "Do you always insist upon that rule" "I've always tried to."-Life.

"You say your first speech made several convertat" 'Yes," answered Senator Sorghum regretfully, "from my side of the question to the opposition,"—Washington Star. "Why do you book agents never shut the door behind you?" inquired the victim. "Is it carelessness?" "No. sir," replied the book agent, "it's caution."—Philadelphia Record.