

Geneva and the Casino

Grizzly Describes His Wanderings Through Europe—A Hard Game to Beat.

HOTEL BEAURIVAGE, Ouchy-Lausanne, Aug. 21.—Our ride from France to Switzerland was a beautiful one and, although advised to accompany my friends in Paris, I shall never regret having taken it in the day time. I saw questions of transportation solved for themselves by so doing, and felt myself more than ever now too old to learn. The morning broke dark and cloudy, as we left the gay French capital behind us, and the air was decidedly sultry. A friend in Los Angeles had told me that the Rhône, outside of Rome and Paris. Certainly, the Rhône river, virtually ended at Paris, whereas nothing could be farther from the truth, although no large sailing vessels come above that point, and the navigation it cannot be surpassed by any body of water of the same cubic dimensions.

As far as possible, the Seine is converted into a sort of canal, by means of dams, which back up the water and make it navigable for vessels drawing nearly seven feet. Just above the foot of each level created by the dams, they have a lock capable of admitting barges of about 100 feet in length and about 22 feet beam. Some of these are merely built-up and equipped for carrying merchandise, while those designed for coal and timber, are less expensively built and painted black. As there is no current (except in the lowest rapids), the boats are pushed or pulled by means of a cable, a boat of one hundred horse-power can easily handle twelve of these barges, no matter how they may be loaded. The barges generally look rough from the passage of these rapids, and the steamer can pick them up.

The Canal. As we rolled along and left the scene behind, we began to come upon the canals, the boats of which are drawn along by horses as in our own country, but the tow-paths are simply beautiful colonnades of Lombardy poplars or else planted with a dwarf spruce which grows as straight as a pine for about 20 feet and the branches out laterally, somewhat like the Japanese umbrella trees that are planted so much in Southern California. Boats loaded at one end of the canal, and from Paris make their way down to tide-water at Honfleur, and make the voyage profitable all the way, by carrying wine or other farm products to the metropolis and manufactured articles thence to the sea. If it had not been for these very cheap methods of transportation, the railways would have had a genuine Huntingtonian "clinch" on the produce of France, and the indemnity demanded by Prussia and paid in seven years after the close of the Alsatian War, would not have been paid until today—any day for that.

In 1869 Charles F. Reed, of Knight's Landing, in Yolo County, California, attempted to incorporate a canal company to take the water of the Sacramento River at Red Bluff, and turn it back again into the same stream at Cache Creek Slough, just above Rio Vista, in the County of Siskiyou. The project fell through, for there was a want of local capital, as the bonds were to pay only 7 per cent; and every bank in San Francisco was charging 20, except for the very best of the old-fashioned money. Mr. Reed had only gone to work to create a series of locks and dams between Red Bluff and Colusa, and also between Bakersfield and Shasta, similar to those on the Seine, he would have already saved millions to the producers of California, but now the chances for such legislation—to build the locks and dams by state aid—would be worse than they were then. The Legislature of California are peopled with corporation attorneys, who would jump on such a measure with both feet and never allow the bill to reach a third reading.

Burgundy. By noon we were in the Province of Burgundy, and saw some very large vineyards, as well as big dairy farms, for that province exports quantities of butter and cheese, as well wine and live beef. We were now in old France, among farm houses that had stood since the days of the migration of the Gauls. The houses were the millions of a King with "irreverent ribald." "I tell thee, reviler of these gray hairs, when this snow melts there shall come a deluge. Avenge! My name is Richelieu and I defy thee. Lead blindly on. Behind thee stalks the headman. God save my country!" The cattle of Burgundy are mostly pure white or very roan-colored, and while they are inferior to those of the Channel Islands for making butter, they are superior to them for cheese-making, as they give from 20 to 25 quarts per day, I should advise the milkmaid to take any chaise-car in America; and for just 5 cents more than I had to pay for the rusty omelet and rancid butter of the chaise-car on the day before, I should have been made in Louisiana; fried omelet from Chateau, near Marseilles; a pie called "wilt-vent, made with beefsteak and mushrooms; tender omelet with hot potatoes; mutton chops, with fried potatoes; omelet soufflé, followed by some of the finest fruits I ever ate, and three kinds of cheese, which cost me only just 80 cents. Vive la France, hip, hip, hooray—trier, Ah!

French Railway System. It was about 4:30 when we crossed the rushing Arve, and the clouds, which had been gathering all day, burst into a violent storm with wind and rain, lightning and the heaviest thunder I ever remember to have heard. In one little railway station we saw several hundred bedraggled wretches, who had come to attend a Sunday variety show and had forgotten to bring their umbrellas. As the train did not stop at any one of the next three stations, we were obliged to seek shelter from our outfit, and so we left them lamenting.

I must say I deem the French railway system far superior to the English. Instead of having you jockeyed up in a compartment with seats for eight people, they have corridor cars with a long hall passing into a vestibule platform; and you can go from one end of the train to the other through this corridor, which is beautifully enclosed in glass, enabling you to see out all over the country, and to stand up in looking at which is often a great relief in a long ride.

The shades of evening were rapidly falling as we crossed the low divide at Avanchat and entered the valley of the Rhone, a larger stream than the Sacramento or Willamette, but never very safe for navigation. Still, reefs go down every year with loads of timber for consumption in Lyons and other large manufacturing towns. At last the river became a foaming, roaring torrent, dashing and splashing over the rocks, and at last it makes a "kink" like the Turn-of-the-Truckee. At this point the storm broke out with renewed vigor, and in the midst of such a downpour as Oregon never saw except in the great flood of 1881, and with her streams running all sorts of rivers, we landed at the historical city of Geneva, and were driven to that well-kept and beautifully appointed hotel, the Paix, on the Quai de Mont Blanc, where I met a dozen Americans ten minutes after my arrival.

Geneva. "You ken good even wan gran" shower of rain," said the amiable Fred Weber, as he shook my hand and assigned me to a room, "but set will be clear demar, and den you will see de cite which has more historie san any other of her size in de world."

The pleasant landlord of the Hotel de

you play two numbers with one piece of money and one of them wins, they pay you at the rate of three to one, when it is four to one that you do not win either. I saw a man win 100 francs in five turns by playing "pair," for it came 2, 6, 4, 8 and 6 successively, and all that he risked was a 5-franc piece. But such cases are exceptional, and the unskilful "punter" generally goes home about 3 A. M., cursing his luck and kicking the asphalt out of the sidewalk.

The theater connected with this lair of "the Royal Bengal" is beautifully fitted up and has more comfortable seats than any theater on the Pacific Coast. The show opens at 8:30 and closes at 2 A. M., in order to keep the crowd together and help along the gambling. I saw several very clever performers there, among them a Pierrot, in a three-act pantomime, in which he described, by facial movements and gesture, how he had peeped into the dressing-room of the reigning favorite.

STEALING ARID LANDS

DESERT LAND ACT AN AID TO FRAUD AND MONOPOLY.

Enormous Ranches Were Built Upon Hired Men's Rights—Perjury at a Premium.

HELENA, Mont., Oct. 6.—The desert land act is the most iniquitous piece of legislation ever placed upon the statute books," said a prominent Western Senator recently. "Without any perceptible increase in our farming population during the fiscal year ending June 30 over 100,000 acres of Montana's choice farm

per acre per year in improving the land, and that he has actually irrigated within three years from the time of filing every legal subdivision of his claim. The proof of irrigation is the actual ownership of water, the construction of the necessary canals and ditches and the presence of water upon the land in sufficient quantities to produce a crop, as shown by the testimony of witnesses.

To honestly carry out the requirements imposed by the law a man must have an unquestioned water right of sufficient volume and, as experience has proved, make an expenditure of at least \$10 an acre to put this water upon the land in sufficient quantities to raise a crop of some kind which would not otherwise have grown upon his claim. It is a notorious fact that thousands of desert claims are filed where there is no possibility of securing the necessary water. It is an equally notorious fact that the law is used in nearly every instance to prevent others from settling upon the land to secure monopoly

of the building up of homes upon the arid domain of the United States a certain element of fraud might be overlooked in view of greater benefits derived. But the law as it stands today is simply an agency for the monopoly of the country by powerful industrial and political combinations, and should be removed from the statute books without delay. Not only should this be done, but if necessary special legislation should be enacted whereby all land now held under the desert act should be inoperative as to the possibilities of making final proof and the good intentions of those who are holding it, with the view of restoring the same to the public domain in case these are found defective.

To take the place of the desert act it is possible to amend the homestead law, which is now inapplicable to desert lands, so that there would be a possibility of homesteading securing title to desert lands in connection with his homestead by honest reclamation. The purpose

of the North," but that conceit was all taken out in four years' actual war, and now to talk of one section being better soldiers than another is sheer nonsense to men who have seen the actual experience. From the days of the Revolution till now the wars of this Nation have proved that in fighting quality one American soldier is as good as another, whether born north or south of Mason and Dixon's line. ALEXANDER BLACKBURN.

SEEKS ENLIGHTENMENT.

"Student's" Inquiry Regarding Theory of Evolution.

HILLSBORO, Or., Oct. 3.—(To the Editor.)—I was much interested in the communication from Rev. E. J. Hoadley which appeared in your issue of Sunday last, in which he accepts the doctrine of evolution as applied to animal life, including the human race. To me, as to Mr. Hoadley, the evidence in his favor is overwhelming, and although some of its processes are beyond my conception. But the acceptance of the theory of evolution involves a difficulty which I have never been able to settle satisfactorily to myself, and I write this letter in the hope that Mr. Hoadley will be able to throw some light on the difficulty.

The Christian religion, as I understand it, is based upon the theory that man was at one time in a higher and purer state; that through temptation he fell from his high estate to a lower one, and thereby it became necessary for Christ to become a sacrifice in order to redeem man from his fallen estate. This, as I understand it, is the central idea of the Christian religion. Now, if evolution be true and man has slowly and gradually evolved, through the processes of evolution, from protoplasm, he has come from a lower to a higher state, and not from a higher to a lower one, and therefore there was no necessity, it would seem, for a Redeemer.

I do not write this in any spirit of controversy, but in the hope that Mr. Hoadley has been able to solve this difficulty in some way that has never occurred to me.

STUDENT.

FATHER MATHEW'S BARGE

His Gift to Lord Brougham, and What the Latter Did With It.

London, Oct. 6.—Words, the celebrated Irish temperance advocate, that he was extremely abstemious in the matter of wine. In 1841 Father Mathew "smoked" a large party at the house of an Irish nobleman in London by his attempts to convert the noble Lord to teetotalism—"I drink very little wine," said Brougham, "only half a glass at luncheon, and two half-glasses at dinner, and though my medical advisers told me I should increase the quantity, I refused to do so."

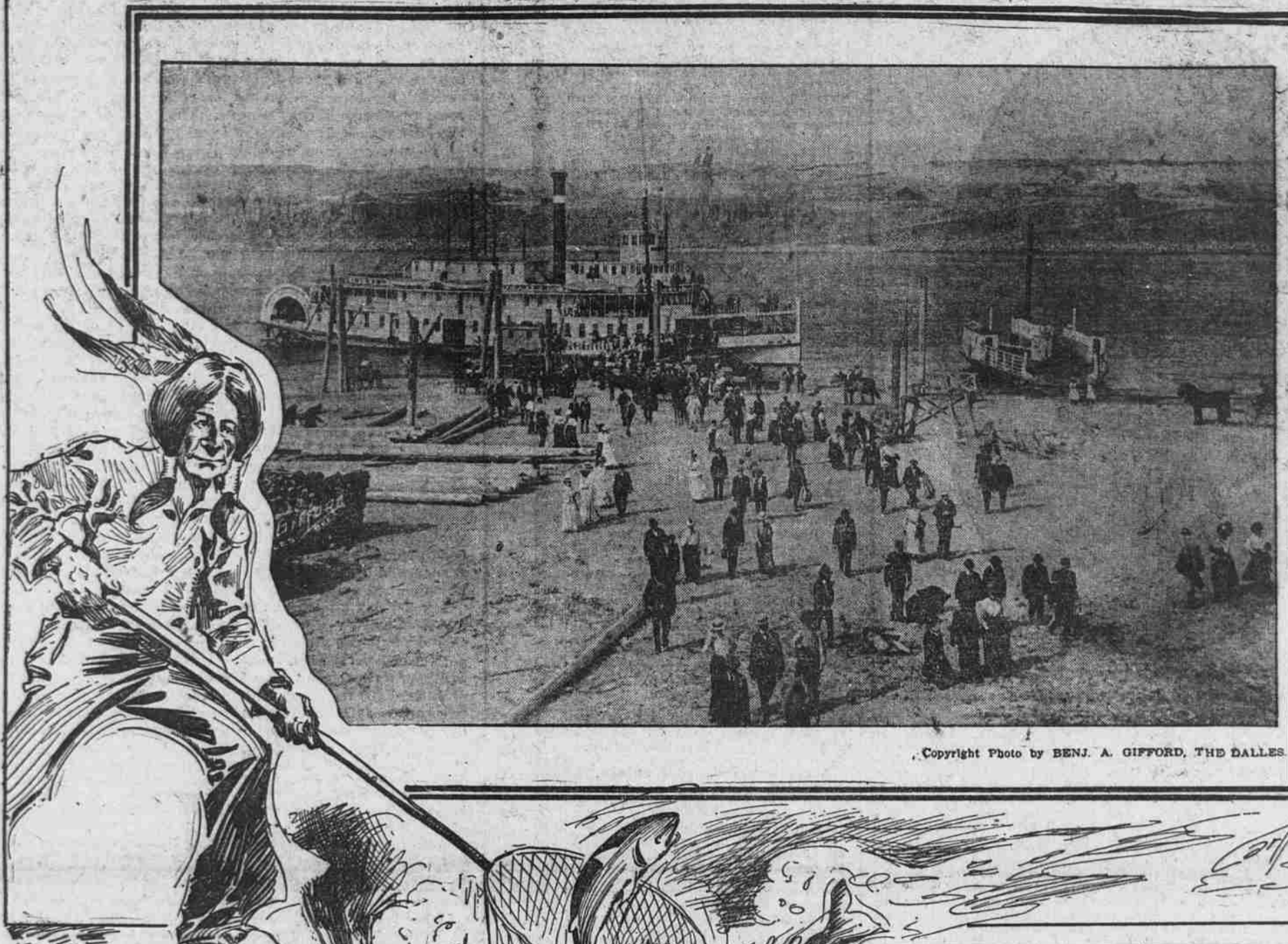
"They are wrong, my Lord, for advising you to increase the quantity," said Father Mathew playfully, "and you are wrong in taking even the small quantity you mention, but I have hopes of you"; and, despite the good-humored resistance of Brougham, he invested his Lordship with the green ribbon and silver medal of the Total Abstinence Society.

"I'll tell you what I'll do," said Brougham, "I'll take the ribbon, to the House of Lords, where I shall be sure to meet old ———, the worse for liquor, and I'll put it on him." This announcement was received with much laughter by the company, for the peer referred to was notorious for his deep potations.

A few evenings later Brougham met him in the House of Lords. "Lord ———," said he, "I have a present from Father Mathew for you," and he passed the ribbon and the medal rapidly over the old peer's head.

"Then I'll tell you what it is, Brougham. By I'll keep sober from this night!" exclaimed the other, and to the great amusement of all his friends, he remained faithful to his vow.

STEAMER BAILEY GATZERT AT DALLES LANDING.



Copyright Photo by BENJ. A. GIFFORD, THE DALLES.

lands were paid for and receiver's receipts issued. It is fair to assume that at least many more acres were taken up during the same period that have not been paid for. How long, let me ask, can this work of acquiring land largely for the benefit of companies and corporations continue before our rich arid domain will pass beyond the reach of settlers and home builders? In view of National aid in the reclaiming of our arid lands, the first step should be the immediate repeal of some of our present land laws and the preservation of public domain for actual settlers. If this cannot be done, Federal aid will only be a dream. It can never be a reality, for the nation will not appropriate money except it be in the interest of actual settlement. When the desert land act is repealed and the leasing of scrip is stopped, as it should have been long ago, and the public lands are held for home builders, then, and not until then, will we have laid the foundation for the upbuilding of agriculture and for an industrial growth never surpassed in any country.

"We can readily understand why capitalists in Chicago, Boston and New York, men in wisely identified with the upbuilding of the Western states, who have invested money in cattle, sheep, water fairs and favored places commanding wide ranges, should look with disgust upon all measures that tend to settlement and growth. But it is not easy to understand how men living in the Western states and taking pride in their achievements should be indifferent to these subjects. With what propriety can we ask the Federal Government to expend millions of dollars in the construction of reservoirs and irrigating canals after all the lands tributary to them have been appropriated by a few men and a few companies? In ninety cases out of ten the proceeds of the desert land act have not been complied with in securing title. In fact, the provisions of the law have been flagrantly violated and title has been secured by the rankest perjury."

of livestock ranges or to monopolize water rights, were the ranks, were a way as to prevent others from using the public range in that vicinity.

Barefaced Swindle.

The manner in which many of the final proofs are made upon these desert claims is almost incredible. In numerous instances no attempt is made to correct existing errors, could be made by repeating the desert land act, and enacting in its place a desert land privilege, to be secured only by bona fide homestead settlers. Congress will be asked this winter to consider this matter at length and in detail, and those who are working seriously and honestly for the development of the Western States are hoping for intelligent and honest legislation in the premises.

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NOT LACKING IN VOTES.

Union Men Fought as bravely as Confederates.

PORTLAND, Oct. 2.—(To the Editor.)—Will you permit a word from one who, in the ranks, were a part of the question discussed in this morning's paper, concerning the fighting qualities of the men of the North and South during the great war. No one rejoices more than I do at the fact that now prevails that the men who were at the front, but nothing is more calculated to stir up the old blood than these comparisons. The real fighters on both sides are willing to concede equal valor all around. It was "Greek meeting Greek." We are all willing to concede that while the South was a great captain, and a man of beautiful private life, but no greater captain than that magnificent patriot soldier from his own Virginia, General George H. Thomas. Stonewall Jackson was a valiant chief, but not more so than Sherman or Sheridan. And above them all, and overshadowing was Ulysses S. Grant. But to the question at issue: "Did the Southern men fight better than the Northern men?" Two military men are quoted in the affirmative, Colonel Palfrey, of whom few of us ever heard, and General Don Carlos Buell. To any who served under the latter in the famous Kentucky campaign with Bragg, his opinion has little weight. He lost the Battle of Perryville for the simple reason that he did not get half his men into the fight. Crittenden's whole corps lay in a camp and men could see the enemy's wagon trains in retreat, and all of them fairly panted for the fray. A man who was removed from command because of his failure at Perryville, and of whom it was truthfully said, "General Buell was too far in the rear to learn through the noise of battle that his army was engaged," is not the best evidence as to the conduct of his troops. This same army, under a different commander, at Stone River, met Bragg's army and there was no lack of fighting quality on either side. (Trier the Union men did not "go into battle as to a feast," nor did the other side, and the result showed that Rosecrans' "mechanics and farmers" were the equal man for man to Bragg's Southerners. At Vicksburg, and Gettysburg, and Chickamauga, in the Summer of 1862, the Union Army displayed fighting nerve and enthusiasm that was unsurpassed by any army that opposed them.)

What Shall We Eat

To Keep Healthy and Strong?

A healthy appetite and common sense are excellent guides to follow in matters of diet, and a mixed diet of grains, fruits and meats is undoubtedly the best, in



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Dr. Julius Remuson on this subject says: Nervous persons, people run down in health and of low vitality should eat Sturt's Dyspepsia Tablets after each meal. Two of these excellent tablets taken after dinner digest several thousand grains of meat, eggs or other animal food in three or four hours, while the malt diastase also contained in Sturt's Tablets causes the perfect digestion of starchy foods, like potatoes, bread, etc., and no matter how weak the stomach may be, no trouble will be experienced if a regular practice is made of using Sturt's Dyspepsia Tablets because they supply the pepsin and diastase so necessary to perfect digestion, and any form of indigestion and stomach trouble except cancer of the stomach will be overcome by their daily use.

That large class of people who come under the head of nervous dyspepsia should be made to solve the riddle, and cure the indigestion is to make daily use of Sturt's Dyspepsia Tablets, composed of the natural digestive principles, pepsines and diastase, which actually perform the work of digestion and give the abused stomach a chance to rest and to furnish the body and brain with the necessary nutriment. Cheap cathartic medicines masquerading under the name of dyspepsia cures are useless for relief or cure of indigestion because they have absolutely no effect upon the actual digestion of food.

Dyspepsia in all its forms is simply a failure of the stomach to digest food and the sensible way to solve the riddle, and cure the indigestion is to make daily use of Sturt's Dyspepsia Tablets, which is indorsed by the medical profession and known to many cases, as at Chickamauga the Union Army was the smaller in numbers. Before the war we heard of "One Southerner whipping five muskulls

des Eaux Vives will compare favorably with anything of its size on earth.

We had a beautiful corner room in the fourth story of the Paix, one window looking out on the lake and the other on the pretty little square where repose the ashes of the great Brunsvick. There is a small stage at the front of the quay and from that run four separate lines (all owned by one company) of gasoline launches or "monettes" as they call them. On these merry little boats you can ride for 20 centimes (two cents of our money) to any part of the opposite side of the city, the bay being about twice as wide as the Willamette River at Portland; and the same price is charged on the street-cars, within the city limits. Several of the suburbs containing the most elegant residences, however, can be only reached by suburban steam railways. One of these is the beautiful Salgney, where resides my old friend, Albert L. Quille, the operatic tenor, whose home is called the Castel des Roses, and said to be one of the most beautiful homes in all Switzerland. I regret very much having to come away without seeing him.

At the Casino.

It rained black dogs and blue devils for three days out of the five that we were in Geneva. On our fifth night it was clear and we went to the Casino, or Kursaal, as it is sometimes called. It is nothing else than a big gambling-house with a theater and a roof garden attached. The game opens at 8 and the theater at 8:30. Had the manly and athletic game of faro been the attraction, I might have taken a hand, for I was a mighty hunter in my youth, and my favorite game was "the tiger." But the Casino of Geneva is very much changed in the past 20 years. The rouage-et-nol and roulette have been abolished. What do they play at now? Why, a game called "La Course," which is 30 times worse than either. It consists of nine little tin horses running around a track, and the one that stops next to the winning-post is declared the winning number. There is a long table, with the horses in the middle, and a lay-out on either side.

The blank spaces on either side pay even money for the four numbers indicated thereon, as do the three spaces at the foot, which mean odd, even, or a repetition of the previous winning number. One old lady thought she had struck a great system by placing a franc on each of the two extreme outer spaces. By and by along came the little 5 and then she howled because she had lost both. If a man will play this game and not win three bets out of 10 he will quit loser. There are nine numbers, and that means that the player has eight chances to lose and one to win. Do they pay you eight for one when you win? Not on your in-dividual life—only six for one, so you see what a big percentage that is. In addition to the "5" which sweeps off all bets except those on it directly or placed upon the square marked "Impair." Again, if

Musidora, to watch her disrobe, and there was a "musical wonder" comedian named Vaunei who did several amusing things, among which was a solo on the "cello, which instrument broke down in the middle of the performance, and he finished it out with a capital imitation with his lips.

It was 11 o'clock on Friday morning that we stood at the front door of the Hotel de la Paix, bidding goodbye to kind old Fred Weber, a man who can keep a hotel, for the reason that he believes in giving every man a just equivalent for his money; and who is getting rich without descending to extortion. He charged us only ten francs more for five days, with an elegant room, than we paid to little Zotti in Paris for two days and a half, in the stuffiest old hole that I ever slept in.

And then we went on board the steamer Bonnavard for this place. She is named after the hero of Byron's poem, the "Prisoner of Chillon," of whom he wrote: "For every step that Bonnavard has trod Shall cry aloud to freedom and to God."

The sail up the lake was something delightful beyond my poor powers of description. At Rolle we came upon an elegant chalet, from which floated the Stars and Stripes. The host had expected some friends in the boat that day, and when we came in sight of the place I rose up and proposed "three cheers for Uncle Sam." And there were about 30 North American Yanks that mounted the pedestals of their hind legs and cheered the dear old flag as if it were to be the last earthly glimpse of the star-spangled mantle of Fort McHenry. At Nyon we saw the castle where Josephine lived after her divorce from the modern Attila. And then, after a delightful four hours' sail as I can ever remember we landed at Ouchy, the port of historical Lorraine.

The President's Opportunity.

Atlanta Constitution. Mr. McKinley wisely declared that we must buy as well as sell while maintaining a reasonable balance of trade. This legacy of common sense has left to his successor, and against it stands the active agencies of the Republican party. The Democratic party cannot but admire the independent attitude now open to the President. He has the opportunity to lead off in the fight against class legislation and trade blundering. It is an opportunity that comes to but few men, and it takes a true statesman to comprehend its meaning.

BUSINESS ITEMS.

If Baby Is Cutting Teeth. Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for children teething. It soothes the child and cures all ailments all pain, nervous colic and diarrhea.

Origin of Desert Land Law.

This Senator but expressed the general view of those who have investigated the workings of the desert land law. This law originated in 1875, when a big cattle company in California, desiring to secure title to a large tract of land, secured the passage by Congress of an act whereby it was able to accomplish its purpose by a pretense of reclamation of Government domain. The process was so easy that the demand for a similar law became general, and in 1877 the desert land act, practically as it now stands, was placed upon the statute book. Since 1877 there have been 39,831 original desert filings under this law in the arid states, covering 9,212,321 acres of public land. Of all these filings made by 10,212 have been proved upon and title conveyed by the Government, these final proofs covering 8,571,986 acres. During each year there are between 2500 and 3000 desert filings made and between 500 and 900 final proofs accomplished, and it is conservative to estimate that fully 25 per cent of the final proofs made on desert lands are entirely fraudulent.

As the law now stands, any citizen of the United States can take up 250 acres of arid land by making a deposit at the time of filing of 25 cents per acre and paying \$1 an acre more when title passes from the Government. The law requires that before securing title the settler shall prove the ownership of sufficient water to irrigate this entire tract of land; shall prove that he has expended at least \$1

By Men of "High Standing."

Many of the men who have availed themselves of these possibilities are of high standing, and who would indignantly resent the idea that they were dishonest in any particular. It has become the custom for a man who desired to secure a title to land to let be understood that such land was worth so much per acre to him as soon as title could be conveyed. The result of such an announcement was a lot of irresponsible people, who file upon the tract which the rancher desires to secure, borrow from him the money to prove up, and after title is secured, they turn the land for a small consideration above the indebtedness to the man desiring the large land holding. The existence of land laws which can be evaded by a form of perjury apparently regarded as legitimate has a generally deteriorating effect upon the public morals. It has come to such a pass that few men seem to hesitate to strain their consciences to cover a government land transaction. This perjury is open, avowed and notorious. When the land title is sought to be investigated a claim to title before title is allowed to pass the investigation does not seem to produce any real results. For apparently any number of witnesses can be secured who will swear to an unlimited number of falsehoods when a government land transaction is to be made.

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The charge of the Army of the Cumberland up Missionary Ridge, without orders, and breaking through Bragg's center, ought to forever put a stop to all talk of the lack of "military aptitude" among the soldiers of the North.

Sherman's campaigns to Atlanta and the sea have few equals in aggressive warfare in the annals of any country. True, the North had a larger army, but it had longer lines and was in the enemy's country. In many cases, as at Chickamauga the Union Army was the smaller in numbers. Before the war we heard of "One Southerner whipping five muskulls

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