A Story of American Frontier Life.

By Capt. CHARLES KING. U S. A., Author of "The Colonel's Daughter," "From the Ranks." "The Deserter " Etc

Mr. Ewen had grown red with the inposity and rapidity of his talk. He removed his hat and mopped his face and how with a big silk handkerebief, and then glanced again at Perry, who had istened with absorbed interest and who was now silently thinking it over, looking curiously at Ewen the while.

Have I bored you half to death?" asked the Englishman, somewhat ruefully "I never told that story before, but it has been smoldering for years."

"Hored? No! I never was more interested in my life. I was thinking what a afferent sort of fellow you were from the man I met out youder the other day pld they never do anything to clear the matter up? In our country it never would have been allowed to rest there." th was too far gone, and when the boy killed himself the thing was ged by all the government paperscou'd call them 'administration or rans' -as a confession of judgmest. When the Lancers came frome there was some talk but it was soon husbed. Maitland had shut up the old place by that time and gone no one knew where, but I read it in one of the London papers-Truth, I think-n story that two of the irregulars and quarreled with their fellows and after the war was over told a tale that made a sensation in Cape Colony. They sid that the young officer was a maligned man; that up to midnight he had pashed on, but every scout and patrol they met warned them that thousands of Zuius were ahead, and that it was endness to try. The men began whispering among themselves, and begged the sergeant to attempt to dissuade the Lascer officer; and he did, and they all began to talk, but he refused to listen. At last they balted at a little stream

and flatly refused to go a step further Pandered, begged and implored. He promised heavy reward to any one of their number who would come and show kin the way tien they heard the night cristor signals of some war parties across the fields, and the sergeant and most of the men put spurs to their horses; the others followed, and they rode back five miles until they were within our patrolled lines; then they bivouncked, supposing of course, the Lancer had followed them fat be badn't: he never joined them all next day, and likely as not he had done his best to get through that strange country by night alone, and had tried to carry his dispatches to the detachment They knew they must tell a straight story or be severely punished. They were twelve against one when it came to evidence, as the sergeant pointed out and so they agreed on the one that sent him to Coventry.

Some of the Lancer officers got hold of this and swore they believed it true. but meantime the government had had the device own time in tiding his lord in the general over the numerous hunders he had made in the campaign and the Lancers were summarily or bred off elsewhere. There was no one iff to take up poor Archie's cause at home, and the thing died out."

By the Lord Harry, Mr. Ewen, it wouldn't die out here! We Yankees wald resurrect such a thing if it were

"Sometimes I think old Maitland would be glad of the chance to do it even broken as he is, sometimes, Mrs. Cowan says, he walks the floor all night and holds Archie's last letter in his hards. She thinks he charges himself with having driven the boy to suicide. "Do s Miss Maitland never revisit the

old home?" asked Perry, after a mo-

She goes with her father-everywhere the is never here more than twice Eyear and seldom for more than six weeks at a time. Were it not for her, he would settle down here, I believe. He wat to Cape Colony and tried to find the men who gave out that story, but one of them was dead and the other had siterly disappeared. There were still sitsurvivors of that escort, the sergeant smong them, and he was a man of some position and property. They stuck to the original story, and said the two men who had started the sensation were mere blackmailing vagrants. Maitland ad vertised every where for the missing manbut to no purpose. I think he and Miss Gadys have finally abandoned all hope of ever righting Archie's name. She was only a child when it all happened, but the worshiped him, and never for an metant has believed the story of his hav

where this morning, by the way "Who! Miss Maitland?" exclaimed Perry, with a sudden start and a Bash of ager light in his blue eyes. Even smiled quietly as he answered.

ing funked. She's out here riding some

Yes. She needed exercise and wanted become down to the gate and meet Dr win. She went on up the valley, and wonder she is not back."

The bright light faded quickly as it came, the glad blue eyes clouded heavi-Ewen looked at the young soldier, prise in his florid face: surprise that nickly deepened into concern, for Perry urned suddenly away, as though look-

ag for his comrades of the hunt-"I think they're coming now," said be manager, peering up the valley unerthe stading willows. "Yes Won't

on stop a bit?" Not now," was the hurried reply Thank you for that story; it has given ea lot to think about. I'll see you cain." The last words were almost douted back, for, urged by sudden dig of the spur. Notan indignantly tashed his beels, then rushed in wrathful gallop mards the eastern bluffs. It was no willful pang his rider had inflicted on his stand comrade; it was only the involstary transmission of the shock to his wa young heart-a cruel, jealous stab. at came with those thoughtless words, She wanted to come down to the gate and meet Dr. Quin, and went on up the would not even look back and see her riding by that man's side.

O USE the expression of Mr. Dana, "Ned Perry seemed off his feed" for a day or two. The hunt had been pronounced s to success, despite the fact of Perry's ection—he had not even joined them a huncheon—and it was agreed that it big, handsome Ned Perry looked only

should be repeated the first bright day like one in a maze; then he bent over MICAWBERS OF WASHINGTON after muster. That ceremony came of her in genuine concern: on Monday with due pompand formality "Why, Mrs. Beiknap! What has hap- Still Thousands of Office-Seekers at part of the post commander. It was do you mean by unkindness? vatched with interest by the ladies, and Mrs. Belknap even proposed that wher it possible you profess not to know?" the barracks and kitchens were being the lunt, and announced his willingnes

to enery her suggestion to the colonel parent conquest by a show of womanly displeasure at his conduct, and an asday had been delightful and his failure to accompany her had been of no conset wronged and sorrowing womanhood. way in which he took it was simply a 'stunner" to the little lady.

So far from being piqued and jealonjustified the oft expressed opinion of her sisterhood to the effect that "men were groment she was too dazed to speak. By ant time he had pleasantly said good ight and vanished, nor had he been but that there was a goddess in the shaps stant. Believing that no other womar her hands, almost sobbing: could have unseated her, Mrs. Belknay simply could not account for such utter friends!" uca unutterable, complacency on the part of her lately favored admirer in his lay him prostrate. Fancy the utter invirtual dismissal. All Sunday and Mon adequacy of his response day she looked for signs of sulking or surrender, but looked in vain.

tion; but whatever comfort she might have derived from that knowledge was ut | the other method was more dramatic. terly destroyed by the way he brightened topped to speak with her on the walk rending. holding out his hand and fairly beaming upon her, she icily received these demonstrations, but failed to chill them or him pangs of the jilted by clinging to Dana's tight. "Please tell me," he pleaded. arm and smiling up in Dana's face, and then she suddenly started: "Ch. Mr. Dana! How could I have been so thoughteyes spoke volumes as they looked up doctor. into those of her escort-"Mr. Dana is Dana feel mawkish and absurd. Perry frankly responded that he only won May day celebration on new principles-Mrs. Belknap resolved upon a change of

Dana was officer of the guard and over

t the pard house, but nearly all the ther officers were chatting about the eranda and the gate of the colonel's quarters. Thither had Capt. Bellmap scorted his pretty wife, and she was s usual, the center of an interested group. Perry came strolling along after eporting the result of tattoo roll call to be adjoinnt, and Capt. Stryker called o him and asked some question about he men on stable guard. The orders of he colonel with regard to watching the novements of the men after the night all call were being closely observed, and when the trumpets sounded "taps," a few noments later, several of the troop comnanders walked away together, and this eft a smaller party It was just at this juncture that Mrs. Belknap's sweet voice was heard addressing the commanding

dieur: 'Oh, coloneli Ever since Thursday I nave been telling Capt Belknap about hose lovely albums of yours, and he is so anxious to see them. Could be have

a look at their to-night?" "Why, certainly," exclaimed the colonel, all heartiness and pleasure. "Come ight in, Belanap, come in-any of you ail of you-where it's good and light." And he hospitably held open the screen loor Perry had seen the albums a dozen times, but he was for going in with the others, when he felt a little band press ure on his arm, and Mrs Bellinnp's great dark eyes were gazing up into his with mournful, incredulous appeal

Don't you know I want to see you?" she murmured so that only he could enr "Wait!" And, much bewildered, Mr Perry

wnited She stood where she could look brough the screen door in the parlor be and, watching furtively until the party vere grouped under the hanging lamps and absorbed in looking over one anther's shoulders at the famous albums. then, beckoning to him to follow, she ditted, like some cerie sprite, on tiptoe to the southern end of the veranda where clustering vines hid her from view from the walk along the parade Perry began to feel queer, as he after wards expressed it, but he stalked along after her, declining to modulate the

around, looked at him warningly, besecchingly. "What on earth's the matter?" was all the perplexed and callow youth could ind to say, and in a tone so utterly devoid of romance, sentiment, tenderness -anything she wanted to hear-that in all her experience-and she had had not a little-pretty, bewitching little Mrs Belknap could recall nothing so humil

thunder of his heavy beels upon the re-

ounding gailery. She put her finger to

her lips, and, after a nervous glance

hiting. "How can you be so unkind to me?" at last she whispered, in the tragic tremolo she well knew to be effective; it had done execution over and again. But

and much rigidity of inspection on the pened? What has gone wrong? What She faced him, indignantly now: "Is

"By all that's holy, Mrs. Belknap, I visited they should go along. Dana has haven't an idea of what you mean to been her devotee ever since the day of charge me with. Tell me, and I'll make every amend I know how."

He was bending over her in genuine but Belknap declined. She wanted a few distress and trouble; he had no thought words with Perry, and did not know but to assure her of his innocence of any how to effect her purpose. When he conscious wrong. She was leaning upon stopped and spoke to her after parade or the balcony rail, and he rested one strong Saturday evening and would have made hand upon the post at the shaded corner, peace, she thought to complete her ap above her head, as he bowed his own to

catch her reply. For a moment she turned her face surance that, thanks to Mr. Dana, the away, her bosom heaving, her little hands clasping nervously, the picture of quence at all. The utterly unexpected His blunt, ragged honesty was something she had never yet had to deal with She never thought of him as an actor she might toy and play with indefinitely before, but this, said Mrs. Belknap to before bestowing the final coup de grace. herself, looks like consummate acting But instead of it, or anything like it, Had she known of or even suspected the here stood the tail, handsome young felexistence of a woman who had interposed low, utterly ignoring the possibility of and cast her into the shade the explana | her having wronged him, and only begtion would have occurred to her at once | ging to be told how he had affronted her, that he might make immediate amends. of Gladys Maitiand within a day's ride It was simply exasperating. She turned of Rossiter she never dreamed for an in suddenly upon him, hiding her face in

"And I thought we were such-such Even that suggestive tentative did not

"Why, so did I!" This was too much. Down came the hands, and were taid in Perry seemed unusually grave and frantic appeal upon his breast. He did silent, was Parke's report of the situa not bur the way; she could have slipped from the corner without difficulty, but

"Let me go, Mr. Perry," she pleaded. up and tooked pleased whenever they "1-1 might have known; I might have chanced to meet. Monday evening he known." The accents were stifled, heart grades between the Ebbitt House and a

without telling me what-what I've State Mr. Blaine was talking to Sir done." And poor Ned imploringly seized Julian Pauncefote. When the English Then she essayed to make him suffer the the little hands in both his and held them | Minister had gone Mr. Blaine turned to

less—and this is your wounded side! And her great dark eyes, swimming in a common political heeler by any Dana protested that her slight weight tears, were raised to his face, while with means. His black frock coat showed was soothing balm, not additional pain faint-very faint-struggles she strove considerable wear and his hat needed and Perry promptly asseverated that it to pull her hands away, relenting in her turning, but for all that the man looked he were Dana he would beg her not to purpose to go the moment she felt that like a refined and educated individual. quit his arm, and her eyes looked scort he was relaxing the hold in which they at him as she said, "How can you know were clasped, but suddenly wrenching anything about it, Mr. Perry? You've them from his breast and darting from never been in action or got a scratch his side, leaving Perry in much bewilwhile Mr Dana"-and now the dark derment to face about and confront the

A little opening had been left in the one of the heroes of the fighting days of railing at the south end of the verandathe regiment." Even that failed to crush the same through which the post surgeon bim while it had the effect of making had passed the night Mrs. Lawrence had shown to Perry the answering signal light; it was the doctor's "short cut" belered the women ever could find time to tween the colonel's quarters and his own how any civility whatever to fellows side door, and soft, unbetraying turf lay was the reply. like him, when there were so many wisc there between. Absorbed in her melono apology-gave utterance to this uncompromising sentiment:

"Mrs. Belknap, this is the thirtieth-

not the first-of April." "And what has that to do with your sudden appearance, Dr. Quin?" answored the lady with smiling lips but flashing eyes. She rallied from the shock her own white, gleaming shoulders have been in office, except for the past needing no aid from the young fellow who stood there, flushed, annoyed, yet too perturbed to say a word even had there been a chance to get in one edge wise. Blunt as he was, he could not but realize the awkwardness of the situation And to be so misjudged by such a man as Dr. Quin! All this was flashing through

his mind as the doctor answered: "Nothing with my appearance, Mrs Belknap, it was yours I remarked upon You seemed to think it All Fools' day." "Far from it, doctor, when I thought

you mfles away." "Well, well, Mrs. Belknap," said Quin shrugging his broad shoulders and laugh ing at her undaunted pluck, "I've known you fifteen years, and never have found you at a loss for a sharp retort."

"In all the years you have known me doctor, as child, as maid, as woman clearly that you would taunt me because

"Whew-w-w!" whistled the doctor suddenly on the young officer, "let me at once apologize for a very misleading observation. When I spoke of having known Mrs. Belknap fifteen years she instantly thought I meant to make her out very much older than she is, and hence these recriminations. She always objected to me because I used to tease her when she was in her first long dresses-the prettiest girl at Fort Leavenworth-and she's never gotten over it. But her father and I were good friends and I should like to be an honest one to his daughter. Good night to you both." "One moment, Dr. Quin," said Perry springing forward. "You have seen fit to make comments and insinuations that have annoyed Mrs. Helknap at a time

when she was under my escort"arm. "Not a word of that kind, I im plore! Hush! here comes my husband." "Ah, fielknap," said the doctor blandly, as the big captain came hur

riedly forth with searching the dark gallery, "here you find me, a usual trying to be devoted to Mra B whenever I can get you out of the way Why the jeuce can't you stay?"

(TO BE CONTINUED.

the Capital

Secretaries Blaine and Tracey Besieged by Them, But the Postmaster-General Suffers Most-A Contest for Office That Had a Romantic Ending.

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[Special Washington Correspondence.] "Uncle Jerry"Rusk is a philosopher of no mean order, despite the fact that his departmental duties have chiefly to do with "seeds and garden sass," as Congressman Martin says. I was in Secretary Rusk's office the other day when that dignitary was in a mood both communicative and philosophical. "I tell you what it is," said he, pointing impressively at a prize onion, "this town of Washington has more discontented people within its limits than any place of its size in the world. More people come This indeed was "game worth the here on hopes than go to Europe on the candle," but something of a higher order steamers. It's just awful to think of and huffy, as she expected, Mr. Perry than the threadbare flirtations she had how many ambitious people come to found so palatable heretofore. She had Washington and go away disappointed expected him to be revealed by this time within six months or a year after the simply past all comprehension" by as the admirer who had only been play- installation of a new administration. brightening up instantly and expressing ing a part in his apparent acceptance of Why, I know -" here the Secretary's such relief at her information that for a the situation of the last two days; she flow of sympathetic rhetoric was stopped expected to be accused of coquetting by the advent of a lot of Western farmwith Dana, of neglect, coldness, insult ers who wanted to talk "crops" and histowards himself; and this she would tory, and I lost a valuable reminiscence. ar her since, except to bow and look have welcomed; it would have shown The idea that struck "Uncle Jerry" is a pleased when she walked by with Dana him still a victim in her toils, a mouse correct one, and inquiry revealed a good deal about the people who come here for Ministerial positions or fat Consulates and finally go away with nothing or stay to take a \$900 clerkship. Washington is a reservoir of disappointed ambitions whose possessors stay here in very much the state of mind of Micawber, and with very much the same success. The army of office-seekers of whom one hears so much do not come with a swoop and then depart. They trickle in steadily from the month after election and stay as long as their finances allow. Just now they are really thinning out, and not a few are right here in Washington without money enough to go home.

A brilliant example of the class called on Secretary Blaine the other day. He was from the West. Nearly months ago he had come to Washington secure in the belief that his letters and "pull" would secure him a good place. Week after week passed, during which time he went through all the six-dollar-a-week boarding-house. When "Don't go yet, Mrs. Belknap; don't go he entered the office of the Secretary of the suppliant from the West with an in-"No, no! You would not understand; quiring glance meant to signify "what you do not see what I have to bear. Let can I do for you?" Nervously coughing me go. I beg, please; I cannot stay," the man stepped forward. He was not

> "Mr. Blaine," he began, "I am an applicant for a position. When I came here I wanted an office, but now I simply want a position where I can make enough to live on."

> After some little conversation he produced a lot of letters showing that his claims for recognition were not unfounded.

"Why don't you ask your Congressman to help you?" inquired the Secre-

"I have done so, but to no purpose,"

After a little Mr. Blaine promised to bad records. She was completely at a drama, Mrs. Belknap had failed to note see what he could do for him, and the loss to fathom him, and when tation the coming of the intruder; absorbed in applicant left. Then turning to me the his own stupefaction and his fair part Secretary said: "Do you think that's an all discussing the project of a run with ner's apparent depth of woe, Ned Perry unusual circumstance here? Well, it's he hounds for the coming morrow-a heard nothing but her soft words and not by any means. Visitors like that softer sighs, until a deep voice at his average half a dozen or more a day. Ask shoulder-a voice whose accent betrayed any of the Cabinet officials and they will tell you the same story, and then you can estimate for yourself how many

such people there are in Washington. I then went over to Secretary Tracey and asked him if there were any officeseekers left in the city.

"Thousands," was the emphatic reply. "They stroll in here every day." Here Mr. Tracey thought a minute of sudden volley like the veteran she and continued. "There is a man who was, and took the brunt of the fight on has come here every other day since I



AN OFFICE-HUNTING TRIO. you are the only man in the army what two weeks. When he first came his apever put me on the defensive. I see pearance was that of a well-to-do business man. I could not give him what of this interview with Mr. Perry. Honi he wanted, as it was not within my soit qui mai y pense, Dr. Quin! You are power, but he kept coming all the the last man in this garrison—cavairy same. Finally he told me he had spent and all—who can anord to throw his last dollar and could not even get home. That was a little before Christmas. I lent him enough to get home "What a little spitfire you always were, and four days ago the money was reto be sure! Mr. Perry," said he, turning turned to me. The return of the money made such an impression on me that I finally found something for him to do in his home city and sent his papers to him the other day."

Secretary Noble has a good many such callers, but is not so tolerant of them as the Secretary of the Navy. The Postmaster-General is the favorite prey for office-seekers, on account of his known wealth and extensive reputation for charity. Not long ago went through a very trying ordeal.

In a little town in Maryland there were three candidates for the office of postmistress, and the three candidates all came in to see the Postmaster-General. One was about thirty-five, unmarried, and somewhat masculine in supearance. Another was fair fat and forty, and the third a pretty brunette "Oh, Mr. Perry, no! nof exclaimed hardly twenty-five years of age. Now, Mrs. Belknap, taying her hand on his instead of each one coming and presenting their letters and recommendations and then going home to wait the outcome they would come in all together, wait for a chance to see the Postmaster General, and then all talk at once, Albert, the colored messenger who stands at the door, is authority for the statement that the candidates would appear one by one, each evidently not wanting either of the others to get a all three arrived they would descend on their aid, and they have pupils, too .the Postmaster-General in a bunch. Jamestown News.

Finally the fat one gave out and went home. Then the remaining two worked things for awhile, but the money of the elder gave out, and the young one alone remained. A few weeks ago she went home disappointed to all appearances, for a young man was finally appointed, whereupon the last one to leave promptly married the young man and they sent eards to Mr. Wanamaker a day or two

Not all the office-seekers, nowever, come from outside the District of Colum-



the city looks upon himself or herself as a ward of the Government. There are over 16,000 employes of the Government in the city of Washington, of which

over 4,000 are women. At least one out of ten of these women have children and every woman wants to get her son or daughter into Government service. With this end in view they besiege Congressmen and Senators until they succeed. Many of the residents of Washington enough to live on and only want a Government tob to enable them to live more comfortably. Congressman Joseph Cannon of Illinois, Butterworth of Ohio, Spinola of New York and Me-Kinley of Ohio are the favorite targets or applicants on account of their readiness to listen to the stories. On an average these gentlemen have from six to ten callers a day who are anxious to draw salary from the Government. The geography and does not bother himself as to whether or not he is a constituent of the Congressman or Senator to whom

heapplies. A great many of the office-seekers from other towns and distant States stay until their money is all gone and then actually beg for tickets to their homes. Major Moore, the chief of police, has had dozens of applications from parties who claim to have been promised positions under this administration, but who come here only to find that they must go home at their own The wives of the members of Congress have the hardest kind of times with the office-seekers, and now and then are brought into exceedingly mortifying positions through the nerve of the female office-hunter. Last week a woman exceedingly well dressed applied to the wife of a Senator for intuence in securing a position. She was to all appearances a well-bred and educated woman, and, the Senator's wife not liking to treat her brusquely, took the trouble to talk to her about the matter. On the next Senatorial reception day the woman called and sat around the parlor until some one spoke to her, whereupon she spoke of the hostess most familiarly, and, some ladies thinking she was a guest of the Senator's, exchanged cards with her and invited her to call on them. . With that as a start the office-huntress began a heavy social career, and last week, backed by some of her newly-made friends, was about to secure ber place when a conversation between one of her new friends and the Senator's wire led to an explanation, which resulted in the ambitious woman losing all the advantage she had gained and her new friends

beside. Had her scheme not been discovered one would have certainly succeeded, as social prestige here will do more for an applicant than all the political influence maginable, as it is shown forth through the efforts of home Congressmen. Every now and then some wise office-seeker comes here with a lot of money and regularly enters the social swim with a view to getting a position, and if the ladies of his house are bright and enter-

taining the chances are a hundred to one that he will succeed. It is the army of office-seekers from out of the District that is prominent now, owing to the fact that they are "on the move." Congress has settled down to work for the session, and the offices are nearly all full. The few vacancies will be filled too slowly for the financial abilities of the remaining applicants, so they must leave. The hotel-keepersare to some extent the only mourners, and even their grief is not overwhelming. for they have had to cut down a great many bills to meet the purses of the departing guest whose political ambitions have been "doomed to disappointment," as the Secretary of Agriculture puts it. The owner of one of the largest hotels here told me that he had been forced to let no less than nine men who had come here for positions leave without paying their bills because to his certain knowledge they had spent all their money in their dreary wait for the positions which never came. "Much of this oftimes sad disappointment," says cretary Rusk, "Is due to a political ondition which centralizes the giving ower and makes Government postions a reward for political services."

Young Forepaugh's Monkeys. Three or four years ago young Adam Forepaugh was over in London. He had spent about \$10,000, and didn't dare ask for any more money. So he wired over to the governor that he had a great chance to get some new attractions for the show. He said that he could get a Project Aiming to Preserve the Animal two monkeys that were larger than horses for 85,000. The governor congratulated himself on having such a smart boy, and cabled him the money. He was telling every one about his new attractions, and if any one doubted the reality of the alleged big monkeys he would answer angrily, "Pshaw! What io you know about the interior of Africa? Of course they have monks Next day came there as big as horses." a cablegram saying: "Money received;

E. P.

The

conkeys after that.-Chicago Herald. -The okra plant is likely to come forward in prominence as a substitute for jute, the fiber being superior, and the cost of production much less.

monks dead; much obliged, pap."

-One's eyes are regular educational

NATURAL INEQUALITY. Will Be a Dream.

phrase that "all men are born free and equal," which gallicized Americans, who were as much "philosophs" as their inherited common sense and their practical acquaintance with men and with affairs would let them be, put forth as This may look like an exaggeration, but the foundation of the "Declaration of Independence?" I have seen a considerable number of new born infants. Without wishing to speak of them with the head of Dry creek and the remainder the least disrespect-a thing no man can at the head of Porcupine creek; in Wyodo, without, as the proverb says, "foul- ming, a few stragglers from the Nationing his own nest"-I fail to understand al Park; in Colorado, "two bunches of how they can be affirmed to have any mountain bison, one of 25 head and the political qualities at all. How can it be other of the which probably no longer said these poor little mortals who have exist; in Dakota none, although there not even the capacity to kick to any had been 23 two years before, and at the definite end, nor indeed to de any thing same period "27 in Nebraska and about but vaguely squirm and squall, are equal politically, except as all zeros may be said to be equal? How can little Ratons, in the northwestern part of the creatures be said to be "free" of whom Panhandle, and 8 in the sand hills on not one would live for four and twenty the Staked Plains north of the Pecos hours if it were not imprisoned by river." kindly hands and coerced into applying Correct or not, this is the detailed its foolish wandering mouth to the counting, and, at all events, no one breast it could never find for itself? How is the being whose brain is still too millions of this fine race of animals is pulpy to hold an idea of any description to be a moral agent either good or bad? Surely it must be a joke, and rather a which it furnished for uncounted genercynical one, too, to talk of the political ations of the Indians of the continent status of a new-born child! But we left its enormous numbers not materialmay carry our questions a step further. If it is mere abracadabra to speak of men being born in a state of political freedom and equality, thus fallaciously confusing positive equality-that is to man's proposal, in days when the idea say, the equality of powers-with the was current of an impending conflict equality of impotences; in what con- between the red men and the white, ceivable state of society is it possible to bring the former to terms by making that men should not merely be born, war on a grand scale upon the buffalo but pass through childhood and still re- and exterminating it. It was too soon main, free? Has a child at fourteen been free to shoose its language and all have been superfluous. The wanton the connotations with which words be- slaughter of buffalo, elk and antelope came burdened in their use by genera- throughout the West speedily reduced tion after generation? Has it been free many Indian bands almost to starvation, to choose the habits enforced by precept and they became mendicants, supported and more surely driven home by ex- on the Government reservations. ample? Has it been free to invent its. own standard of right and wrong? Or, rather, has it not been as much held in

bondage by its surroundings and driven slaughtered for their hides." This statehither and thither by the scourge of local office-seeker cares nothing for the fortune and the state state at the fortune and the state of the stat ble and intangible? Surely, Aristotle slaughter of these animals occurred. was much nearer the truth in this mat- Hunters for skins to sell were helped in agree with fact than "born free," what is to be said about "born equal?" Rousseau, like the sentimental rhetorican icans are, sagaciously fought shy, as we have seen, of the question of the influence of natural upon political equality. But those of us who do not care for sentiment and do care for truth, may not evade the consideration of that which is really the key of the position. If Rousseau, instead of letting his children go to the enfants trouves, had taken the trouble to discharge a father's duty toward them, he would hardly have talked so fast about men being born equal, even in a political sense. For, if that merely means that all new-born children are political zeros, it is, as we have seen, though true enough, nothing to the purpose; while, if it means that, in their potentiality of becoming factors in any social organization-citizens in Rousseau's sense—all men are born equal, it is probably the most astounding faisity that ever was put forth by a political speculator; and that, as all students of political speculation will agree, is saying a good deal for it. In fact, nothing is more remarkable than the wide inequality which children. even of the same family, exhibit, as soon

> spontaneously becomes a polity. Among the children, there are some who continue to be "more honored and more powerful than the rest, and to make themselves obeyed" (sometimes, indeed, by their elders) in virtue of nothing but their moral and mental qualities. Here, "political inequality" visibly dogs the heels of "natural" inequality. The group of children becomes a political body, a civitas, with its rights of property, and its practical distinctions of rank and power. And all this comes about neither by force nor by fraud, but as the necessary consequence of the innate inequalities of capability. Thus men are certainly not born free and equal in natural qualities; when they are born, the predicates "free" and "equal" in the political sense are not applicable to them, and as they develop, year by year, the differences in the political potentialities with which they really are born, become more and more obviously converted into actual differences—the inequality of political faculty shows itself to be a necessary consequence of the inequality of natural faculty. It is probably true that the earliest men were nomads. But among a body of naked, wandering savages, though there may be no verbally recognized distinctions of rank or office, superior strength and cunning confer authority of a more valid kind than that secured by acts of Parliament; there may be no property in things, but the witless man will be poverty stricken in ideas, the clever man will be a capitalist in that same commodity, which in the long run buys all other commodities; ne will miss opportunities, the other will make them; and, proclaim human equality as loudly as you like, Witless will serve his brother. So long as men are men and society is society, human equality will be a dream; and the assumption that it does exist is as untrue in fact as it sets the mark of impracticability on every theory of what ought to be, which starts from it.-Prof. T. H. Huxley, in Nineteenth Century.

THE AMERICAN BISON.

From Total Extermination

Mr. Plumb, of Kansas, in the Senate, and Mr. Peters, of the same State, in the House, have introduced measures setting apart a tract in No-Man's-Land for the propagation of buffaloes. Mr. Plumb goes to the extent of proposing to reserve for that purpose during twenty years all the land in the so-called Neutral Strip, on the border of Texas, by leasing to Mr. J. C. Jones, of Kansas, who has already a herd of bisons and cross-breeds, and would put it on the Dovernor never could stand a joke about reservation. Those who want that land open to settlement will oppose so extensive a scheme.

As to the particular method of trying tardily to repair a damage already accomplished, it may fairly be said that Yellowstone Park is practically a National preserve, somewhat analogous word with Mr. Wanamaker alone. When institutions. We learn a great deal by to that which Mr. Peters and Mr. Plumb would establish in No-Man's-Land. Everywhere out of that spot the bison

is fast vanishing from the New World. So Long as Men Are Men Human Equality Last spring Mr. Satterthwaite, making up an estimate from his personal ob What is the meaning of the famous servation and from information which was furnished to him, concluded that there were fewer than three hundred buffaloes within the Yellowstone Park, and not more than three hundred in the whole United States outside of that tract. he gave the details from which his estimate was made up. He noted about a hundred buffaloes in Montana, some at 56 more in the Indian Territory and Kansas;" in Texas, "32 head near the

questions that only a remnant of the left. Hide hunters and sportsmen have been fatal to it, when the subsistence ly impaired. The extent to which the aborigines were dependent on the buffalo and a few other animals for their supply of food was shown by General Sherevident that this organized attack would

Colonel Dodge once declared that in the years 1872, 1873 and 1874 alone "more than five millions of buffaloes were ment may be difficult to believe; but it the fetters and the whip may be invisi- the close of the civil war a prodigious ter than Hobbesor Rousseau. And if the their work of destruction by British predicate "born slave" would more nearly tourists and others who merely sought to kill as many as possible without even taking away the hides. Yet more than half a century ago Congress prohibited that he was, and half, or more than by law the reckless slaughter of game half, sham, as all sentimental rhetor- in the Territories; and the extermination of the buffalo has been carried on in violation of that statute. The animal was destined, of course, to gradually retreat and disappear before the march of settlement, but indiscriminate and wanton destruction settled its fate generations too soon.-Washington Cor.

> A QUESTION OF RANK. How a Student Learned a Lesson in Distri

terested Honesty. To be honest upon the ground that it is the best policy is the most ignoble of motives, and yet the proverb which puts honesty at the head of the list in matters of practice is wise in its way, asex-

perience is continually showing. It is to be supposed that a student in a boys' boarding school not a hundred miles from Boston has some notion of this fact as the result of a recent experience. He had during all the first half of the year been shockingly careless in the preparation of his lessons in algebra, the consequence being that his rank, of course, was very low. While he was at home for the vacation at the end of the as the mental and moral qualities begin fall term of the school, his father promto manifest themselves, which is earlier ised him a watch if at the end of the than most people fancy. Every family year his rank came above a certain average. The lad reflected that his poor rank in algebra would probably spoil his chance to gain the prize, and on his return to school he hit upon a plan to mend matters. He went to the teacher in mathematics and asked him if he was willing to let him make up this branch of study as if he had been out of school when the class went over it.

"I feel," he said, "I did not do it as I should have done, and I am anxious to really master it; so that if you are willing to examine me, I will do it as extra

work this term." The teacher assented, and the boy went diligently to work to make up for past neglect of the hated study, secretly supposing that in so doing he was putting himself in a fair way to win the coveted watch. In due time he went to the teacher and passed a very good examination in the whole of the work for the term before. The instructor expressed his approval, and the student,

greatly pleased, said to him: "And what will my rank be now, sir?" "Your rank?" the other repeated. "Oh, this does not change that. I thought you wanted to go over the algebra for the sake of knowing it. If you had said that it was the rank you was after, I should have told you in the first place that I could not change that." The student went away sadder and in

more senses than one wiser, but his chances of winning the watch are still in doubt.-Boston Courier.

The Proper Weight of Man. Prof. Huxley asserts that the proper weight of man is 154 pounds, made up

as follows: Muscles and their appurtenances, 68 pounds: skeleton, 24 pounds; skin, 101/2 pounds; fat, 28 pounds; brain, 3 pounds; abdominal viscera, 11 pounds; blood, which would drain from the body, 7 pounds. The heart of such a man should beat 75 times in a minute, and he should breathe 15 times a minute. In 24 hours he should vitiate 1,750 cubic feet of pure air to the extent of 1 per cent -a man, therefore, of the weight mentioned should have 800 cubic feet of well-yentilated space. He should throw off through the skin 18 ounces of water, 300 grains of solid matter and 400 grains of earbon ic acid every 24 hours, and his total loss during that period should be six pounds of water and about two pounds of other matter. -St. Louis Republic.

-"Yes, sir-yes, sir-we are being taxed to death in this country!" he shouted, as he stood on the rear plat-form of a street car. "How much taxes do you pay, for instance?" quietly asked one of the group. "How much? How much do I pay? I-I-well, I'm not talking for myself, but for my brother. His taxes would have been at least \$12 this year if he hadr's sold out "-Detroit Free Press.

-We hear from time to time of severe storms that do vast damage to flahmen's boats, but the number of smacks lost at sea is nothing to the number lost on land .- Rochester Express.