

## A VICTIM OF SPEAKING TABLES.

Bad Fate of a Man of Power Who Is Still a Slave on a Vocal Stage.  
There is a man in this town whose work keeps him sitting at his desk all day. He thinks himself fortunately situated, for his employer and confidante in their requirements and liberal in the matter of pay, and his work is agreeable. The others who work in the same room are busy men. Their voices speak, but when they do have something to say it is of a pleasant nature. His modest home has been all their heart could wish, so far as comfort and convenience go. All these things are sources of grateful satisfaction to him, for he is a man of middle age and is no longer consumed by youthful ambition to possess the unattainable. He is of a placid disposition and is, above everything else, a lover of peace. Thus situated he ought to be one of the happiest of men, but he is not. He is wasting away, the helpless victim of continuous and violent contumacy.

Closer to his desk, enclosed by a thin wooden partition, are some iron-speaking tables that run from an upper story of the building to a lower story. These startle certain departments of the same business, and the tables are in almost constant use. The tables are cracked at about the altitude of this man's head, and the wooden shooting is split in places. The cracks in the tables give a curious question sound to every voice that ascends or descends through them. A kind of long winding snare between the office boys and others who speak from the upper floor and those who speak from the lower story. A pleasant word never sounds or resonates. All the hardness of infection that accompanies the harsh words is strongly multiplied by the cracked condition of the resonant speaking tables, and the man of naturally peaceful inclinations has to sit and hear it all.

Unfortunately he is a somewhat sensitive and sympathetic nature. It is impossible for him to remain unaffected when this continuous war of words is going on through the speaking tables. A provocative voice from above causes him to smile with the face for beneath him, and the reply that comes up gives him, and to think that the upper door has been assailed with unpardonable violence. Then there is a rattling exchange of wrangling expressions in angry tones—made more angry to the ear by the cracked speaking-tables—and the man of peace groans and sighs for the quiet of a ledge in some vast wilderness. He has heard these savage exchanges so long and so continually that his conception as to the sound of the male human voice is like that which comes to his ears through these diabolical speaking-tables.

This has been going on year after year, and the fool shows no signs of abatement. Its effect on the helpless man of peace is deplorable. He bows constantly as if he were a party to a never-ending quarrel. He goes out to his luncheon feeling like a man who has just been engaged in a row, and he does not enjoy his food. He sends his most obliging waiter without cause and gives him an increased tip by way of apology. When he goes home, he kisses his wife and children in a perfunctory way and is oblivious of the dinner table. He sits with eyes half-closed. "My dear, you are working too hard." He is not working too hard, but he is exhausted to tell what ails him, for he knows that it would be difficult for even his most benevolent to understand the effect of the continuous speaking-table strife on his nervous system. So he changes the subject and endeavours to make amends by his best behaviour. His wife notices that his plausibility is furred and is a sorry imitation of the genuine article, and this is more annoying to her than his intransigence.—*New York Sun*.

## The Choice of Friends.

Perhaps the dominant charm of Dickens' novels lies in the secret of his ability to portray with skill the workings of an affectionate heart. The Cheeryble brotherhood of our warm sunny days of boyish kindness in every reader of "Nicholas Nickleby," Little Dorrit, Old Blimp, her memory, with her sweet, thoughtful devotion to her companion father and thoughtless brother and sister and wily Miss Prue, with the sympathy of every one. Dear old Peppery, reformed, a genuine hero, honest Sam and his father, poor Little Em'ly, Agnes and Dora, the pinched face and willing hands of the Marchioness, Ruth Pynsent and her brother—and hosts of other heroes come out with genial warmth from the novelist's pages and become under household memorials.

Whatever such heroes are found, in poetry or fiction, in the pages of the novelist or in the busy streets, their power is recognized as unique, beneficent and abiding.—*Harper's Magazine*.

## What a Little Girl Would Do.

A little girl I know is possessed of a particularly progressive and rebellious nature. One day, being in a neighbour's yard, she noticed some heavy wool socks hanging on the clothes line and captured of a lady of the house to whom that national treasure belonged. The lady told her that they were the sole furnished by the United States government for the use of soldiers and belonged to her son, who had then just enlisted in the signal service. The child passed at the moment objects with surging lip.

"Does he have to wear them?" she inquired.

"Yes," answered the lady, "to keep up the fun. He is obliged to wear them."

The child's eyes blazed fire.

"I wouldn't wear 'em," she declared.

"I guess the government."

And so she would.—*Washington Star*.

## Insects Feed the Medicine.

The medicinal insect is in some cases recognized as a medicine, and in some has a reputation for wonderful virtues. Honey and wax, often used in pharmacy, are insect products, while galls, used in medicines for their astringent properties and the gall and tonic and other for this, are also the work of insects.—*London Daily Mail*.

## All Those Who Left.

A soft pale looked out this week on three boys. They are Pie Creek, Bill Byrnes and Dr. Webster McCarthy. A woman was at the bottom of it all. Not long ago she was visiting friends across the river. She was an attractive Kentucky girl and had much company. Also she was here for a good time she treated all the boys graciously and of course expected attention in return. Each thought she was her favorite writer and as a consequence was lavish in his attention to her. All of the boys knew each other, but none knew of the other's preference for the girl. When the time came for her to go home, she had taken advantage and said that she would go in a day or two. Each of the boys asked the girl if she could call on her. She said yes and fixed the evening when she would be at her home in the interior of the state. Each went there thinking that he had a chance or two. One of them rode in a sleigh, the second in a day coach and the third in the smoker. It was about midnight when they arrived at the place, and they went to bed at different hotels. The next morning these boys were strong along the road en route to the girl's home. It was a snowy, cold day and they all got left. The girl remained to remain over a week longer and never thought that the boys would come. When they came to the house one by one and found that the girl had not yet got home, they—wrote. They all came home together. The trip cost them \$2 each. They tried to keep the affair quiet, and they have succeeded at the—cheapest fugitives.

## Lots of Elephants With His Friends.

Hillie, the famous athlete of ancient Greece, the man who was winner at both the Olympic and Pythian games for six different times in succession, and whose name came to fame rests upon the date of running four miles with a 5-year-old ox upon his shoulders, would like his road with stumps could be made London and witness the wonderful feat performed by Sullivan, the modern Samson. Sullivan is only 18 years of age and weighs but 125 pounds, yet he is a giant giant without an equal in the known world. He regularly goes through a routine of feats illustrative of his wonderful strength, the most remarkable being the actual lifting of an elephant with his teeth.

The elephant is not a dumb, to be sure; neither is he small, especially when you come to consider the size of enormous who does the lifting and the usual dimensions and strength of human youth. The elephant daily and nightly strong like a pendulum from Mr. Sullivan's teeth is known as "the infant" and weighs between 1,800 and 2,000 pounds. This remarkable strong man is probably the only one in the world who lifts more than 1,800 pounds with the teeth alone. Another favorite trick of his is that of lifting a barrel of water 200 pounds with one finger.—*St. Louis Republic*.

## The Use of Female Women.

The inspection, toward and onwards, of others seen in walking young men is not always the result of mere as greatly interesting desire, but the positive fondness or mental indisposition, which, under the pressure of narrow means, would not only never have developed itself, but never have existed. "I have succeeded," said a very great statesman, "because I have never had enough to live on."

The silly aristocrats—the old frequently make us in just the same way the result not of lack of judgment, but of a weakening of the existing power of the will. The consequences of unexpected wealth are, however, as often fortunate as unfortunate, for they are the products of the natural character.

We have seen a man who inherited a fortune, very large for his wants, become during the remainder of his life almost or quite incurious, but that was only a large waste the result of the impulse to save, which in a small man had been pronounced a "wise economy," aggravated a little, it may be, by a foolishness about spending, which is constantly noticeable also in men who were born rich.—*London Spectator*.

## Going Out to Beggar.

Bryant was so careful of his robes when he had to say that he would not speak at all and was in the habit of writing his wills on a piece of paper. During the last 10 years of his life he lived at the Bryant House when not on the road. He took his at least three-quarters of an hour to go from his room to the sidewalk. He must get used to the changes very gradually. Leaving the room, he would pass up and down the hall for 10 or 15 minutes until thoroughly "acclimated," as he himself would say, and from there would go to the little to experience for 20 minutes a slightly lower degree of temperature.

At the end of half an hour he would reach the residence, where he would pass another quarter, opening the outer door occasionally to get a taste of the fresh air. When thoroughly acclimated here, he turned his gaze elsewhere about him and stepped out on the pavement.—*New York Tribune*.

## Proprietary Life in Ancient Egypt.

The reckless profligacy with which in ancient Egypt the upper classes transacted every day and free of the people a perfectly startling. As respect, as the movements for removing subsequently prove, they stand alone and without a rival. We may then some idea of the almost inevitable waste when we hear that 2,000 men were compelled for three years to carry a single stone from Elephantine to Sais, that the sum of the Red sea walls cost the lives of 20,000 Egyptians, and that to build one of the pyramids required the labor of 100,000 men for 10 years.—*London Daily Mail*.

## A Patriotic Duty.

Lord John Russell never made an unprofitable joke, and that remark to Mr. Weston is no exception. A ruler was absent in his homestead, at which was solemnly grumbled, "No, no," said Sir John, "the house is bound to the soil."—*London Academy*.

## FISH OF THE PACIFIC COAST.

### Report of the United States Fish Commission.

#### Summer Work.

##### How the Industry Has Grown.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 1.—United States Fish Commissioner W. A. Wilson, of Washington, D. C., who for several years past has been looking after the fisheries in California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska in some extent, is in the city. Wilson has been at work on a voluminous report on the fish of the Pacific coast, and has now well in toward completion. He said: "Last year there was no less than 4,000,000 pounds of salmon taken from the Columbia river and treated at different factories along that stream. The salmon is cleaned, cut up and everything done but smoke it. That is done in the East. These salmon, cured in this way, make fine eating. Formerly the fishermen up there paid no attention to them, considering them a worthless fish. Now the industry is so important that no less than 80,000,000 pounds of salmon went East in a single year, and every bit of it brought 5 cents a pound. In the last year or two, deliveries of halibut in very large quantities have been made in Alaska and other Northern waters. Salmon is some streams are also getting more plentiful, and this is true of many other kinds of fish. Santa Monica, Long Beach, Los Angeles and a number of places at and near to the Southern California coast, have in the last year or two become great shippers of fish to the East. No one would think, without having looked it up, that such vast quantities were being sent. These fish comprise halibut, rockfish, pollock and many other kinds. Fishing and shipping is becoming a great business on the coast, but it is really just beginning. On the Atlantic coast it was the fisheries which first made men rich. Here it is the last thing for men to turn their attention to."

##### THE FINISHING TOUCHES.

##### Workers Four Weeks Ago Are Again Busy at Work.

CINCINNATI, May 1.—Work on the unfinished portion of the world's fair was resumed this morning, and thousands of men were soon busy putting the finishing touches on the great show while other thousands were at work putting the exhibits in place. Teammaded with wonders from the four quarters of the earth passed here and there among the buildings, and locomotives with loaded trains puffed and whistled through the grounds. In the midst of all, through a network spread through the grounds, mostly engaged in getting an idea of the architectural splendour of the exposition which as far as outward appearance goes are complete. This shows a man that can be accomplished in a single day. The immensity of the work grew on the spectators as they moved from point to point and found the amount of exertion necessary to merely walk around the great structures. The more sight of them does not affect a fair gauge of their magnitude all are so large that nothing of ordinary dimensions is in sight to furnish a standard of measurement.

##### Assistance Due to Slaves.

DETROIT, May 1.—The Detroit & St. Louis today further reduced a round trip to Chicago to \$10 and \$12 to St. Louis. The other roads met the cut. It is understood a rate of \$10 to Chicago will be made this afternoon.

##### Peace Among the Cherokee.

WICHITA, KAN., May 1.—Secretary of State Smith has received a dispatch from Indian Inspector Linton, saying that the Cherokee nation was also quite peaceful. The Luddites here and the militia are disbanding.

##### Cherokee Home Returned.

WICHITA, KAN., May 1.—The home for Destitute Children was turned last night. The Indians were removed. Loss, \$10,000.

##### Violence of an Indian.

WICHITA, KAN., May 1.—Baron Robert Peck, president of the extensive educational business journal, *Practical Education*, committed suicide by jumping from a fourth-story window. He was 50 years old. He feared the loss of his eyesight.

##### Black Forest Disaster.

PRAGUE, May 1.—The train with President Cleveland and party passed through here at 7:30 this morning. All the party were safely. The trip at this point was without accident. Tragedy followed at the station on the way in the earlier stages of the journey, but the president was helped and did not show himself.

##### Black Forest Disaster.

PRAGUE, May 1.—There is a big race of pugilists for this country. Several thousand men on the road are headed for the port. The reason for the race are the new immigrants who go into effect against those citizens left Prague, a number which has not been known. The 20,000 men are bound over. There are 10,000 men in migration from other parts equally as large.

## THE EUGENE CANNERY.

### The Best Equipped Institution of the Kind in the Northwest.

We take it following from the *Salmon Northwest* of Portland:

While in Eugene, at the time of the meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural society, the editor of this paper was given an opportunity of visiting the cannery at that place by the courtesy of W. H. Adams, the present manager.

This cannery is probably the largest and best equipped institution of the kind in the Pacific Northwest. The original investment was \$25,000, and \$25,000 more were required to cover up with at the end of the first year's operations. Last year, which was its second season, a new policy was adopted and in spite of the fact that it was an extremely poor fruit year, the cannery paid running expenses, and the management, with good reason, look forward hopefully to a balance on the right side of the ledger as a result of the coming season's operations. The policy which the cannery has adopted is a good one, both for itself and for Oregon. The object of the cannery now is to produce goods which will sell on their quality and no effort will be made to compete in the production of cheap goods. This is the policy which the cannery worked upon last year and the results have convinced the management that it is the best plan for them to work on.

Originally the cannery was designed to work chiefly on fruit but as its capacity is far beyond the present supply of suitable fruit at Eugene, an increased utilization is to be given to vegetables and especially to corn. Samples of vegetables canned last year were tested and found to be of first class quality. This year contracts have been made for 120 acres of corn and a considerable quantity of peas and other vegetables.

In the fruit line it is found that there is the real fruit for Bartlett pears, which is the leading sale for Bartlett pears. Complaints have been made at other canneries in the Pacific Northwest that the Bartlett pears of this section sometimes fail in the process of canning but no means of that kind has been experienced at the Eugene cannery. Mr. Adams states that while peaches are rather scarce about Eugene for canning purposes they produce a finely superior quality of canned from both in appearance and flavor. In connection with the cannery there is a very large drying plant operated by steam. This dryer is capable of turning out from 10,000 to 12,000 pounds of dried prunes per day. It is expected to operate it chiefly upon prunes. It has been determined however to make a specialty of evaporated Wanamaker apples. This variety makes a very superior article of evaporated fruit and it will be put in the cans for family use.

**GOODS FOR TRADE.**

## MURDER AND SUICIDE.

### A Lady's Friend Kills His Employer.

#### AND THREE COMPAGNIE DES SEVRES.

London, May 1.—A singular tragedy is reported from the town of Gresford in Denbighshire, Wales. Mrs. Whittle, a resident of that place had a gross named Steeland. The gross had been enjoying a holiday, and returned to the house of Mrs. Whittle yesterday evening. After his return he allowed his mistress into her bed-chamber. A parlor maid named Taylor, also in the service of Mrs. Whittle, was downstairs at the time, but does not seem to have apprehended anything unusual until she heard a shot evidently from a pistol, in the bed-chamber. The parlor maid ran to the room where her mistress was and found her in a dying condition from the effects of the pistol shot. The gross had a revolver. He rushed up to the parlor maid, pressed the revolver to her head and at the same time threatened to kill her, but concluded to kill himself. While she stood paralyzed with fear, Steeland turned away, and kneeling down, fired up a prayer. Then he turned the revolver upon himself and died. The girl ran out to summon help. When she returned with assistance it was found that he had cut the throat of his dying mistress and lifted her body on the bed. He then lay down beside her and both were dead.

It appears there was a liaison between Steeland and Mrs. Whittle. Her husband is now a councillor of Charlton, a suburb of Manchester. The relations between Steeland, aged 41, and Mrs. Whittle, who was aged 25, began when he was in the service of her parents before her marriage. She persuaded her husband to his son, but he discovered the relationship and sent his wife to Gresford, whether Steeland followed.

#### A HEAVY FAILURE.

##### The Indians Who Have Upset the Business.

ST. LOUIS, May 1.—Assignee E. H. Hartman, of the Union Loan & Trust Company, has made a statement which has created a sensation here. In the original statement of the liabilities of the company when they failed were placed at about \$70,000,000, with assets twice that amount. It now proves from the assignee's statement that the liabilities are immensely greater, amounting to about \$100,000,000. In an interview Hartman said:

"I will be ready in a day or two to file my statement of liabilities. I have not yet got enough to make a statement of the exact amount of the liabilities of the company, but from various sources I learn indefinitely they are about \$100,000,000. This includes both direct and indirect liabilities, the latter being in amount of notes issued by the company. The paper has sold all over the country, and is held mainly by banks."

#### Plains in the States.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, May 1.—Heavy rains have caused and cause weather problems. The danger of a disastrous flood in the Ohio river is not now imminent. The greatest damage was late along the smaller creeks. The Ohio and Miami are higher than since 1884. Along the Little Miami thousands of acres of plowed ground are submerged.

#### Floods in the South.

ST. LOUIS, May 1.—Advises from southern Missouri and northeastern Arkansas are to the effect that a short flood this year in the White and Black river basins, doing great damage to all kinds of property. People are obliged to abandon their homes. Some lands, both in the White and Black rivers, are flooded for some miles. All crops are damaged or wholly destroyed.

#### An Old-Time Superstition.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 1.—E. H. Peck, a member of the first Republican convention held in Illinois in this city a year ago, has died. He was an intimate friend of Abraham Lincoln, and to him was largely due Lincoln's first nomination to the presidency of the United States.

#### A Black Farmer Association.

LOUISVILLE, May 1.—Lady Bunting, leader of the British Women's Temperance association, states that Mrs. J. Ellen Foster, a noted American temperance advocate, will not be allowed to speak at the convention of British Temperance Women's association.

#### Wheat Crop Meeting.

GRANGE, May 1.—The ice jam at Cape Codge moved last night, and started down the river with the tide. The river opposite here is a mile of floating ice