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CONSUMPTION

THE GRANT COUNTY NEWS.

For The Year 1890.

WILL

Be non-partisan in politics; will devote a considerable amount of its space to the favorable mention of every new enterprise to be inaugurated during the year in Grant County. Mines will be as extensively "Boomed" as our conscience and the development work upon them will admit, but in no case will false hood be substituted for truth, because the NEWS want to be a reliable exponent of facts and nothing but facts, and to sustain a reputation for truth in its most sacred sense.

Furthermore, we desire to retain our claim to a portion of that inheritance vouchsafed to all good Editors and we know to a certainty that "Ly-ing lips can never enter there."

During the year we want new subscribers by the train load—but no kickers. If you intend to subscribe for the paper and then ok you will regret the act afterwards please don't do it. THE NEWS would be pleased to visit your home, but likes to be appreciated, and made to feel that it is worth your money, and not taken for sweet Charity's sake.

Finally Brethren & Sisters, we need some additional clothing and a sack or 2 of flour.

Do you remember that little piece of poetry beginning:

When the Dew is on the Ne Wspa Per.

ADVER TISE!

HOODOOS OF THE TURF.

Some Peculiar Superstitions Which Prevail Among Racing Men.

"Say, Mickey, dere's a man wid a cross eye. I'm a goin' ter fly der coop. I feel"

To the average reader the above remark may be a trifle obscure and enigmatical, says the Sporting World. To the traditional race-track habitue, however, robbed of its melegance, it embraces a world of meaning. In fact, no occupation or walk in life can be truthfully said to be more susceptible to superstitious influences than the turf of to-day.

The man whose eyes are cut on the bias, and who appears to be looking around the corner for Sunday, leads the category of individuals whom the speculator dreads to encounter on his way to the track. If he happens to meet a pair of eyes which should exchange positions with each other, and hasn't the moral courage to reverse his steps like Cully did, he invariably expectorates three times, crosses his fingers, does a flim-flam or two to offset the hoodoo, and proceeds with a nervous mind upon his way.

Contraries rule to a certain extent upon the turf, and where one poor afflicted mortal is abhorred another is petted fondly. Not only figuratively, but literally. The individual referred to during his youthful days had the misfortune to fall off an eight-story tenement house, which overlooked the Liffy "in the land where I was born." The fall did him no harm. Never does, but his efforts to bore a hole in the earth culminated in a fracture of the rectangular tissue, which, as the child grew older, formed into bone. This resulted in an enlargement and a perfect hump was formed. He was too youthful to appreciate how this misfortune would be beneficial to him, nor was he fully alive to it until those patronizing slaps on the back, followed by a "Beg pardon, old fellow; thought you were a friend. Big joke, eh? Ha, ha! Good day," became too frequent. He was commenting upon the singularity of the thing one day when an obliging friend whispered in his ear: "Begorra, they tooch your hump bekase they think it gives 'em luck." This, with a significant wink and a leer. From that moment the hunchback man became an object of envy among his friends. He first loaned his hump to be touched "for a consideration." Now he has a fixed schedule of prices. Stick a dollar on the hump and get a winner.

Afflictions are not the only things that form a medium for superstition. There is the lucky horse shoe which the race-track darkey places over the door of the stable, confident in its traditional virtue as a harbinger of luck. Next we have the man who patiently and diligently studies the almanac, so as to be on hand when a new moon comes around and get the first glimpse of it over his right shoulder.

The man who dreams the winners is another well-known individual. Lying on his back on his couch, with mouth wide open, instead of catching the proverbial fly, he perceives the winners in all shapes and forms parading before him.

MICE AND REPTILES.

A Battle Between Rodents, Scorpions and Centipedes.

In an English work, called "The Life of a Soldier," we find the following account of battles between mice, scorpions and centipedes in Barbadoes. The brief narrative is full of interest:

In clearing the ground for the camp we disturbed a variety of noxious reptiles, such as whipsnakes of an extraordinary length, but not thicker than a goose-quill; centipedes of a large size, whose backs were plated like a lobster's tail, and scorpions. Having heard that mice were natural enemies to the two latter, I procured a few, that I might be a witness to their combat.

The arena was the space circumscribed by a glass bell; and upon letting a mouse and a scorpion loose in it, a grand display of maneuvering ensued, the mouse flying to bite off his opponent's tail, which terminates in a sting, and the scorpion watching for an opportunity to strike him with it. Should the former succeed in his first object, the latter falls a prey; but if stung the mouse swells up and dies in convulsions. However, the mouse is generally the victor.

Equal generalship is required in the engagement with the centipeds, which defends itself with two small nippers, placed at either side of its mouth, near the poison bags. One of our men found a large tarantula on his shoulder one morning when he awoke, and it suffered itself to be removed without doing him any injury. He brought it to me, as an amateur, and accordingly I placed it under the bell with one of my hardest bitten mice. It immediately reared itself on its hinder legs, remained motionless in this posture, while the mouse ran around the bell, evidently unwilling to face its new antagonist. This continued a short time; and then, as if under the influence of an irresistible fascination, the mouse jumped suddenly into the arms of the tarantula, which quickly seized him with two nippers, resembling the claws of a cat, and situated at either side of the head, and with such deadly effect that the little quadruped instantly swelled up and burst. I next let loose two or three mice at a time on the tarantula, but they all shared the same fate.

GAZING AT THE STARS.

How the Heavens Became One Grand Carnival of Constellations.

It was at Spirit Lake, at the very limit of the pier, says the Omaha Republican. They were all alone. There was no moon, but the stars were big and bright and so full of self-conceit that they looked at themselves in the water and winked. Far out a boat sfid noiselessly along. In a nearer boat a fair tenor voice carelessly half hummed, half sang a common love song. From the hotel came now and then a twang of the strings of the orchestra of mandolins. On such a night as this did Dido stand upon the wild sea bank and wave her love to come again to Carthage. On such a night as this did Jessica—but a truce to the bard! It was the sort of a night on which a man could make love to his own wife! and those two, Edouard and Alicia had not yet bespoken their vows.

"Do you know any thing about the stars?" inquired Edouard in a voice like the murmur of the wind in summer trees.

"A little," answered Alicia, tenderly. "I know some of the constellations—the Great Bear—the—"

"Yes," interrupted Edouard, "I know all about the big bear and I can find the north star; but right over there is a group. Do you know the name of that?" And Edouard threw his arm across Alicia's shoulder and pointed to a cluster of shining worlds in the East.

Alicia leaned towards him. "I don't know what that is," she breathed, as one who did not care.

"And there is another constellation just over our heads!" Edouard passed his arm around her neck, and placing his hand under her chin so tilted it that it would be easy for her to see. And then to Alicia's eyes the heavens became one grand carnival of constellations. Shooting stars chased each other athwart the firmament, comets played riotous games among the planets, and finally there came a soft and radiant hue which hid them all.

Edouard had kissed Alicia.

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BRONCHITIS	Throat Affection
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Deputy Inspector.

John Day, Or., May 26, '89.

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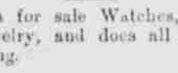

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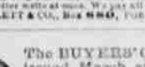

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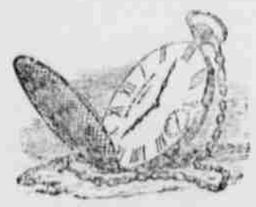

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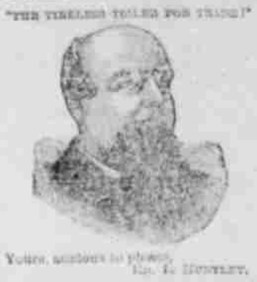

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