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Terms by Mail: 

Let others frame their creeds; mine is to work To do my best, however far it fall Below the keener craft of stronger hands. To be myself, full hearted, free and true,

To think my own thoughts straight out from the heart, To feel and be, and never stop to ask: "Do all men so? Is this the world's highway?" -Charlotte M. Hall.

### UNMERITED PRAISE OF CONGRESS.

The Republican press of the country is now engaged in administering a coat of whitewash to the Fifty-seventh Congress, and is proclaiming that the has made a record upon which the party can safely go before the public in the next elections. This would not be the judgment of an impartial critic. In many important respects the session was productive of serious disappointments. In the next national campaign Republican orators will find themselves forced to take the defensive, and it will be no easy task for them to gloss over the fact that their party has signally failed to carry out its pledges.

But for the obstructive tactics of Republican Senators, there would have been no necessity for the extra session of the Senate, called by President Roosevelt. It remains to be seen whether even now the purposes for which this extra session was called will be accomplished. Many most important measures in which the people were deeply interested were blocked by the filibustering of Republican Senators. Even the anti-trust law which was passed is of very doubtful utility, and Skill in Pertilizing and Pruning Demany whose judgment is entitled to respect, assert that it will prove but a feeble barrier to the encroachments of those gigantic aggregations of capital which are the greatest menace of our country's welfare. amount to the punder the new Jam there will be a certain degree they removed to the some sum. of publicity as to the operations of the trusts, but more than publicity will be required to check their operations. Nothing is more essentially amdemocratic or more radically at variance with the principles of our government than the destruction of all competition, which is the primary object in the formation of trusts. In the next national campaign, the curbing of the trusts will be one of the chief issues to be submitted to the people, and the record of the Republican party upon this issue is a Borry one.

President Roosevelt realized the necessity of anti-trust legislation, and but for his determined attitude the Republican majority in Congress would have left the subject entirely untouched. But the President's views were far too radical for his party, and the law which was finally passed was lacking in nearly all those restrictions which he regarded as essential.

There were many other serious sins of omission on the part of the Fifty-seventh Congress, and its record is capped by the most extravagant expenditures the country has ever known. The total appropriations exceeded \$1,500,000,000. European governments have looked with utter amazement upon this unparalleled prodigality and the voters of the country

will certainly demand a rigid accounting from the Republican majority. It would be wise for the Republican press to begin the preparation of apologies for the Fifty-seventh Congress, rather than waste time and space in unmerited praise.

# SENATOR GORMAN.

After an absence of four years Arthur Pue Gorman of Maryland again resumes his seat in the United States Senate, Mr. Gorman was sworn in last week and was accorded a tremendous evation as he appeared on the floor of the Senate chamber.

During the interim, in which Senator Gorman's seat was occupied by B representative of the opposite party, placed there by political chance and the heavy Republican landslide four years ago, Maryland did not have the brilliant representation that it enjoyed when Senator Gorman was in power. The defeat and return of Arthur Gorman to the Senate are but another evidence of the peculiar state and doubtful trend of the great game of politics. It marks, in Gorman's case, an epoch in the life of a man, and indicates a gradual return of former Democratic states to the fold and file of true Democracy.

Maryland should never have gone over to the party of trusts, of opulence, and greed. Four years appear long to sufferers, and Maryland waited but four. Her pride was wounded, her patriotism questioned. Then her anger was aroused and plans were considered to save, to reclaim her from the clutches of the Republican party.

The most tangible evidence of Maryland's resentment was the election of Senator Gorman. At the meeting of the senatorial caucus, Senator Gorman was chosen chairman, the office carrying with it the Democratic leadership of the Senate. Senator Gorman's return to the Senate is a cause for Democratic jubilation. He is a man of brains, a great speaker, a sound debater and will make his presence felt among his colleagues.

# THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

Washington advices afford strong ground for the expectation that the Covernment will soon enter upon the great work of improving the mouth of the Columbia. The Secretary of War now has under consideration the report of the Board of Engineers, recommending the construction of jettles, and he has assured Senator Mitchell and Senator Fulton that he will reach a decision within 10 days. It is believed that he will adopt the

The Government is expending very large sums in river and harbor improvement, but it is doubtful whether there is a single case where a similar expenditure will give as great and as beneficial results as in the

The Journal has had frequent occasion to comment upon the necessity of improving Oregon's great waterway. The people of the State will certainly hold the Republican administration responsible, if with all its tremendous outlay of public funds, it is neglectful of this crying need. The appropriations of the Fifty-seventh Congress amounted to over a billion and a half of dollars. In this enormous total were included many large Stems which it would be extremely difficult to justify.

None will be found to criticise any outlay necessary for improving the great natural channel of the commerce of the Pacific Northwest. It is a work of vast importance to the people and will prove of inestimable value in the development of trade.

The Sultan of Turkey evidently expects to crush out the insurrection in Macedonia without any interference from the powers. He doubtless expects the usual flood of diplomatic protests, joint notes and ultimatums, all of which he will calmly ignore. Meantime the Turkish troops will carry on their campaign of barbarities until all opposition is at an end. It is an old story, repeated many times.

Those insubordinate boys and girls at Oregon City who are seeking to compel redress of their supposed grievances by refusing to attend school, are not likely to get much sympathy. The plan of biting off one's nose to spite one's face is never very satisfactory as a method of retaliation. If these young people choose to stay away from school, no one will suffer so much as themselves.

In spite of the vaunted anti-trust legislation by Congress, there are no signs of panic among the trust magnates. .

It took a century for this Government to pacify the American Indians. Will it take as long to pacify the Filipinos?

### THE LAW'S DELAYS.

The mills of the gods grind slowly, but in many instances the mills of American justice grind much slower still. Witness the case of Cordelia Botkin. For several years she has been deprived of her liberty and the state in which she is under arrest has been put to the expense of tens of thousands of dollars in the several trials-and still the question is not finally solved whether she is guilty or innocent. There are, and have been in the past, many similar cases.

It is not necessary for us to pass upon the guilt or innocence of Cordelia Botkin, but it is perfectly plain that she cannot be both guilty and innocent at one and the same time, and if the former, she has lived too long, for the crime with which she is charged is sufficiently helinous to warrant hanging, if anyone should hang. On the other hand, if she is innocent, this woman should not be detained in prison for one moment and has already been deprived of liberty and rights where government should have no power to restrict.

Temper justice with mercy-and there is mercy in speed.

The town of Bloomington, in Missouri, is preparing to move ten miles across country in order to plant itself upon a rallway line. For 52 years the citizens of the town have been praying that a railroad might come their way. Six times their hopes have seemed upon the point of realization, but in each instance they have been disappointed. So at last Mohammed will go to the mountain. The citizens have made up their minds to pick up their homes bodily and move to the nearest railroad. Here's an opportunity for anyone who wants to buy a secondhand town site.

#### ANTS RAISE CROPS.

veloped.

Recent study of ants has added another to the many facts that show the intelligence these insects possess. This

actually plant and raise their own crops. The big leaf-cutting ant of the tropics is the most proficient species in the agricultural line. These ants visit plants and cut little fragments out of the Some times they will ruin a whole plantation over night, leaving the plants with ragged fragments of their follage.

Until recently it was supposed that the leaf-cutters ate the pieces of leaf. But now it is known that they carry the fragments to their mounds, where they chew them over and over, moistening them at the same time with acid secretions, until they have made a soft This is kneaded and spongy mass. worked over and over again until it is a big heap full of small holes.

In this spongy mass the ants deposit the spores of a certain fungus which forms the greater part of their food supply. Different species of ants have different species of fungus.

The most highly developed of them all is grown by a Brazilian ant. It is known as the Rozites gongilophora. This fungus is very rich and full of albumen, which is particularly loved by the ants.

produce most albumen the fungus must not be permitted to seed. Of course this is a simple matter, well known to every florist and agriculturist. But it certainly is wonderful that ants

should have learned it. They attend to the pruning of the fungus stems and suckers just as carefully as a human planter would. As soon as the fungus begins to grow it sends out fine thread-like stems into the air. If these are allowed to grow they will finally bear spores. But the ants do not permit them to grow. They keep certain members of their colonies busy biting them off the moment they

After being pruned for a short time the fungus begins to develop little swellings which are particularly rich in albumen. And after being cultivated for a few months the little swellings are everywhere around the bottom of the

Some species of ants carry fertilizers to their gardens. They bear finely chewed wood, mouldering leaves, dead insects and other similar material to the fungus plantations to enrich the soil and increase their yield.

Chinese Mewspapers. There have recently come to our study table the first issues of three magazines in classical Chinese: The True Light, a monthly magazine published by the American Baptist Mission in Canton; China's Young Men, also a monthly, published by the National Committee of the Y. M. C. A. in China, under the editorship of Mr. D. Willard Lyon of Shanghai; the Lukiang News, an Amoy newspaper started by the Rev. James Sadler of the London Mission, and issued every 10 days.

The first of these is, of course, devoted mainly to the interests of the Baptist Churches in the Canton province, and the name of the Rev. R. H. Graves, one of the best sinologues in South China, in connection with this undertaking, is sufficient guarantee of its The second is published bisuccess. monthly and, as its name indicates, is devoted to the interests of the young men in China, and the low price puts it within the reach of all. We predict for it a large influence among the student class in China. The name of the third is an old name of Amoy, and the paper is designed to be a thoroughly up-todate newspaper pervaded with Christian influence and of sufficient literary finish to secure a large circulation among the literati, as well as the business men of Southern Fukien and the Amoy Chinese who have emigrated to the East Indies and the Isles of the Pacific. The undertaking is financed by a company in which most of the shares are held by Chinese officials and wealthy business

The Shanghai Mercury of May 5, says that "if some philanthropist would only supply a daily under proper foreign editorship with the sinews of war until it was fairly on its feet, it needs no gift of prescience to see that such a paper would in a few years have a million subscribers, and we don't know how many million readers in every province of the The reputation of the for-Empire. eigner for veracity is high, and its news would be read with confidence. more, it would contain, besides a leading article, really leading somewhere, plenty of other useful information now conspicuous by its absence in the usual We are not without hope that the day of such an enterprise is not far distant."-Christian Intelligencer.

# BAR PILOTAGE BUSINESS

ASTORIA, Ore. March 9 .- The control of the bar pilots has always been a prolific source of trouble, and of more or less scandal. Whenever the subject is broached here, invariably creep into the conversation intimations that make one wonder whether or not it is possible to handle the business without these deplorable conditions remaining.

However, it has been the avowed intention of Governor Chamberlain to cause an administration such as will eradicate these abuses, if they exist, and elevate the pilotage business in the estimation of the people of Astoria and of those who go down to the sea in ships. With that end in view, the Governor appointed the following commission under the law of 1893, now in force:

Captain J. E. Campbell, George Noland of Astoria and Sylvester Farrell of Portland.

The board that served under Governor Geer was: E. W. Tallant, Martin Foard of Astoria, and Sylvester Farrell, the last named being reappointed by Gov-

#### ernor Chamberlain. Parrell Has Been Ignored.

The impression is general here that Mr. Farrell, the Portland member, has not been consulted by the two Astoria members in any matters relating to the pflotage on the bar, but has been compelled to confine his attention to the river pilotage. Under the law, bar pilotage is compulsory. Incoming vessels must accept pilotage, when spoken by the pilot schooner, or pay full pilotage rates. Outgoing, they must accept pilotage or pay haff the rates. Pilotage on the river above Astoria is non-compulsory. It is the bar pilotage

that makes what trouble grows out of the situation. The new commission appointed by Governor Cham-berlain will assume jurisdiction on March 13, in the event they accept the offices. Mr. Noland and Mr. Farrell will accept. Captain Campbell has not yet con-He hesitates because, as he stated to The Journal correspondent, he believed the sale of the state's pilot schooner, the San Jose, had robbed the commission of all its power." As a matter of fact, the sale of that schooner is of doubtful wisdom. Democrats here allege that it was a Republican scheme to tie the hands of the appointees of Governor Chamberlain. At any rate, in the judgment of Captain Campbell and Mr. Noland, the schooner should not have been sold, unless provision was made to purchase an-

#### An Expensive Purchase.

The San Jose was bought in San Francisco about 10 years ago. Connected with that purchase is one of the many allegations of "graft" that are incidental to all Astoria conversations anent the pilotage. It is alleged that the San Jose was bought after a former schooner was lost. A man was sent to San Francisco to buy a schooner. The San Jose was lying in the harbor, bearing a sign, "This schooner for sale for \$4,500." But \$6,500 of the state's money was paid for it, the craft was brought here, put into proper condition, some few bottles of wine were opened at several soclai festivities, and, when the San Jose put out to sea as the official Oregon pilot boat, there was left no money from the \$10,800 of insurance the state received from the loss of the former schooner.

The San Jose, therefore, represents a \$10,800 purchase price. She browent \$1,000 when sold the other

The sale was consummated by authority of a resolution which was adopted by the Legislature during the confusion of the closing hours. Few persons here knew of the proposal to sell it. It is understood here that Governor Chamberlain learned of it only three or four days ago when informed thereof by an Astoria citizen who was in Salem.

#### Sale as a Surprise.

"The sale of the San Jose," said Captain Campbell, was a great surprise to me. I am not sure I care to ow that the schooner has been sold. By expending \$1,000 it could have been made seaworthy. It would have been my policy to do that, and have it ready for use next fall. Now, there is only the pilot schooner, the Pulitzer, in use. It is owned by the pilots. "Of course there should be two pilot boats, one cruising north and one south, during the winter season. And one of them should be owned by the state. As it is now, the pilot boat is controlled by the pilots, and the commission is not in a very strong position to give a good administration. There's something wrong about the sale of that schooner."

The importance of all these matters to Portland is great, indeed. The friction that has been created heretofore has been detrimental to the chipping interests. The Oregon and the Washington pilots have been at loggerheads. Charges of corruption have been made against this and that person connected with the Washington commission. Allegations are freely made that the Washington commission has exacted tribute from the Oregon pilots. And, in fact, the whole subfrom the Oregon phots. ject is wrapped in mystery and clouded with charge and countercharge. Every citizen takes a view different from that of every other citizen. for somewhat of moral courage and public spirit to serve on the Oregon Commission.

The present members, however, are all determined to bring order out from chaos, to administer their offices so as to conserve the interests of both the shippers and the pilots, and they may be depended upon to do this during the coming four years. It will be a service of inestimable value to the City of Portland the City of Astoria, the shipping men and the pilots themselves.

# WORK OF THE Y. M. C. A.

Rev. J. Wilbur Chapman, D. D., secretary of the Evangelistic Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, is now conducting a series of services in Toledo, Ohio. In the course of his address to a large assemblage of men Saturday afternoon. he declared that the spirit of evangelism was not dead among the men of the great cities of North America, and cited the remarkable work that has been developed in the last few years by the Young Men's Christian Association in its special evangelistic meetings for men. He said:

# Studies the Meeds of Men.

"I have been connected with the Young Men's Christian Association from my youth up and intimately associated with them in their work for young men. They have always been intensely earnest in gelistic effort, and have constantly studied the needs as well as the temptations of men. With enterprise and persistence they have adapted their services reach the largest number of men of the cities, railroads, and colleges of the country. Since the appointment of specialists to conduct these meetings four years ago, immense men's meetings in thatres have been developed and sustained Sunday after Sunday, crowding the largest theatres in the cities.

"I am indeed surprised myself that even in the City of Washington, a place which has been supposed to be the least responsive to evangelistic effort, to find that for two years a great service has been held with an attendance often exceeding 2,500 men, and averaging for the winter over 1,500. The most men in Washington are found in constant attendance, participating in the actual service with the enthusiasm which characterized the old Moody meetings. Since January 1, 300 men have in these meetings declared their purpose of leading Christian lives.

# Work in Many Cities.

'In the old City of Baltimore a series of men's meetings has been averaging over 1,000 men each week Here over 600 men have signed cards expressing the purpose of leading a Christian life since November 1, and pastors report constant accessions to their churches through these services. Conservative old Springfield, Mass., often gathers over 1,500 men at a theatre service. Kansas City has averaged 1,300 men a week for three months, and in New York, Carnegie Hall is often packed with great audiences of men who listen to the discussions of great moral questions Indeed, the associations spare no expense of effort or money for these audiences, engaging the best music al talent, and often circulating 40,000 invitations for a single service besides posters, newspaper adver-tising, etc., to attract the attention and attendance of men.

# The Men Give Their Aid.

"In some places at least 200 men are engaged on different committees working up these meetings. addresses for the most part are straightforward, vir-ile, manly appeals to the brains and consciences of men, and without wavering or apology men are urged to take an immediate stand for what is clean, manly and Christian. Probably the man who is most suc-cessful in this work for men in this country is Fred B. Smith. For at least 46 Sundays in the year 1 addressing audiences of 500 to 3,000 men, and last year over 1,300 men expressed their purpose to lead a Christian life at meetings conducted by him. No small proportion of these men are leaders in the social, intellectual and business life of their communities. of the most encouraging demonstrations of the fact that the old Gospel has not lost its power, and where men unite with courage and power in under-takings of large purpose, large results follow. What the Young Men's Christian Association has demonstrated is possible in every city and town in this country."



John Weaver, who has just been elected Mayor of Philadelphia, is one of the most able men who ever filled that post. He was formerly Philadelphia's District

#### **HUNTS WITH A CAMERA**

Of all the forms of game that flee before the gunnery of the camera, the shyest and wariest is not the creature of the forest or stream, but the ordinary imported Chinaman. Between lack of comprehension and superstitious fear, he regards the little machine with the snapping shutter in a spirit of mingled awe and hatred. That is why good photographs of American Chinamen are so rare.

There describes or belowers pelot attirity the been really successful in catching the Chinaman as he goes about his daily business. Arnold Genthe of San Francisco. Mr. Genthe has tramped through the almost unknown parts of Mexico, studying the inhabitants; he has carried his cameras into unmapped regions of the Sierras, and has had the wild beasts of the country alt unconsciously to him for their portraits; but when he feels his wits sharpened for particularly difficult work he puts his smallest picture taking apparatus in his pocket and goes down into San Francisco's Chinatown. There he passes for a collector of curios and rare prints, as, indeed, he is. After visiting a few of the

light is favorable and where he himself is not too napleuous. Past him flows the unceasing business and pleasure the Oriental quarter. It may be 15 minutes or half an hour, or even an hour before some eddy of slanteyed humanity will present the phase that he wants. Then comes the sharp click of the shutter, fortunately unheard, as a rule, in the bustle of traffic

Patience is the main requisite for this work, and it often happens that a morning's work will not bring out one first class photograph In the course of the recent New Year's festivities

he took several pictures, showing the festival life there; men, women and children in the gayest of rich apparel celebrating Chinatown's great day. In all his pictures, however, one notices at least one

face on which is imprinted an expression of startled wrath and alarm; sometimes even of murderous hatred This is the face of the man who has seen, too late that he is being photographed. Sometimes the hands are half raised and outstretched. In one picture, a Chinese mother is pathetically grasping at her little child to turn its face from the American devil machine.

Were it not for Mr. Genthe's powerful build and unmistakably athletic bearing, he would probably lose many of his pictures at the hands of the subjects, and perhaps come to injury himself. As it is, he is by no means safe in Chinatown, now that he is becoming

so well known there.

Just what the objection of the Mongols is to being photographed Mr. Genthe has not been able to determine, though many of them have talked to him and protested against his work. They seem to believe that the production of the picture implies a lessening of their own vitality and force, as if a man were made up of a multitude of thin layers and one layer were taken from him to be fixed upon a glass plate. Even the cultivated Chinamen have this dread of the camera.

Once, after Mr. Genthe had secured an excellen street picture and was enlarging it, a polite and richly dressed Chinaman called upon him. The wielder of the camera at once recognized his face as one which, in the picture, was a distorted mass of wistful emotions. "How much do you want for the picture you took of me?" asked the visitor in good English.

"It is not for sale," explained Mr. Genthe. "If you wish a print you are welcome to one. "No; I want the plate that makes the pictures."

"I am sorry, but I can't let you have that." "How much does he give you for it?" demanded the

Chinaman, suddenly, after a pause. "Who?"

"Lo Chung Chi."

"I don't know him." "He is my enemy. He must not have the pictures. What use might he not make of it against me? I will pay you more than he." "Please understand," said Mr. Genthe, "that this pic-

ture is not for sale to you or Mr. Chi, or any one else. It is for my own collection. The visitor was disconsolate. Genthe could determine, he believed that his enemy, by

obtaining the picture, could practice tortures upon which inflictions would be repeated on the person of the original and cause him to pine away. The Chinaman finally went away, only half satis-

fied with Mr. Genthe's promise that the photograph should not leave his own place. "You make it unsafe for us and our wives and our children to show our faces," said he bitterly.

# WRIGGLING IN THE SNOW.

The News takes pleasure in presenting the first fully authenticated and conclusively proven snake story of season. Like all good tales, it comes from Canal. noted for woodchucks and chipmunks. On Saturday, 8. D. Hasson, well known in this city, started to drive to Utica, and when in the vicinity of the Luce farm he saw a snake crawling on the snow. It had been lying on a rock sunning itself and had started for its winter home when Sam discovered it. He took his buggy whip and threw the animal into his sleigh. It measured three feet in length, and was quite angry when captured

Sam drove on to Utica and made the statement that "spring was surely here, as he had seen a snake crawling along the road." There were a number of doubting Thomases there, who immediately inferred that he had been seeing things that were mythical. Sam stuck to his allegations until some claimed that he had not seen any reptile at all, but was lying. Then he took them to his sieigh and brought forth the live snake. It was taken to one of the stores in Utica and placed on exhibition. It is like the common garter snake in appearance, only much larger. The reptile was apparently uninjured by being out in the cold, and some it may be a species of winter snake that used to be ommon in Canal, but of late years was thought to be extinct.

It's a sure sign of spring, and many are glad Sam got it, merely because it will offset the woodchuck, who predicted six weeks more of winter weather.-Franklin (Pa.) News.

A mail carrier was killed down in West Virginia the other day. But he was only a white man, and there is no undue excitement in administration cles.-Washington Post.

# JST AT ALKALI

Alkali is a stockmen's station in mid-desert in Lake County. It is about 75 miles from Lakeview and 40 niles from Paisley. The nearest point to other is at the head of Albert Lake to the south and about 25 miles. Alkali is the last stopping point where there is water on the route from civilization to the desert. It is in the center of a great alkali bed, the plains for many miles around being covered with the white substance, giving it the appearance from a distance of great snow beds. Here in the center of this waste a mammoth spring boils forth, sending out a stream of which is soon absorbed by the alkali and pure water dry sands.

#### The Bost and Mis Station.

James Johnson, a whitehaired old man known throughout the country as "Uncle Jimmie," keeps the station at Alkali. The station consists of a 10-room shack, a few haystacks and a watering place for horses. It was established exclusively for stockmen, mostly sheepmen, the only persons who ever venture that way, save an occasional trapper. "Uncle Jimmie" remains at this station year in and year out, though there are times that he does not see a human being for weeks In the fall and spring it is lively at Alkali, but through the winter travel is scarce, and in mid-summer a vis-itor is a novelty to the old man. The sheepmen go to the desert early in the fall to take advantage of the winter range. At this season of the year the show falls and melts, producing a growth of short grass suitable for sheep feed. All through the winter the sheep thrive on this grass and eat snow in the adjoining mountains and foothills for water. By the time spring is open the grass is all gone and the sheepmen drive their flocks the desert before the scorching sun kills everything in the way of vegetation and dries away the snow and water. As these sheepmen come and go Uncle Jimmie has his hands full entertaining them. He knows every man from one end of the desert to the other, and all speak well of Uncle Jimmy.

### Bureau of Information.

The old man just suits the place. He remembers everything he hears, is a fairly good cook, always good natured and makes his guests feel at home. His bisguits may be a little yellow with soda, his bacon may be fried a little too brown, his coffee may be a little too black, for his condensed milk gives out occasionally, but Uncle Jimmie makes up for these defects in some way. He will surprise his guests with fried duck for supper occasionally, or give them boiled eggs for breakfast or make a rice pudding. It might not look tempting to the rugged stockmen at home, but after months of camping out and eating their own cooking one of Uncle Jimmie's meals is considered a treat from many points of view.

Then he knows the news. He is a gossiper by nature. He remembers everything each guest says, it matters not how many of them there may be at one time, and he tells the next guests what the former guests did and said. If one man brings in news from civilisation about the wars and politics and social events of the kind that interests these people, Uncle Jimmie repeats it all to future guests until he gets something better. Then occasionally some one leaves a newspaper with Uncle Jimmie. This he reads over so many during his idle days that he gets it committed to memory and if it chances to be worn out when the next

#### Mas Many Diversions.

The old man finds many diversions during the long periods of loneliness. He has his dogs, his cats, chickens, ducks and geese and he is surrounded by coyotes. While the bounty law was on he made some extra money trapping these animals. Then he catches an occasional wildcat and sells its hide. The outside of his shack is covered with hides and all kinds of ugly traps. He has two or three old-fashioned guns, but he is a dead shot with them. He hunts for geese and ducks and goes fishing occasionally.

How Uncle Jimmle catches fish and kills ducks and shops he takes up a position on a corner where the geese out on the desert is a mystery to the stranger, but Uncle Jimmie soon convinces one that he does it The spring boils forth from a crater-like opening ig the ground. The hole is 20 or 30 feet across and o unknown depth. Uncle Jimmie has thrown up a circular embankment around the spring which gives it the appearance of the inside of a circus ring, except that it is full of water to the top. A ditch cut through this dam enables the old man to irrigate a small garden spot and his pond around the spring has been planted with fish. He has constructed a walk out over the pend to the spring and he walks out to the spring and fishes in the deep water where he has no trouble in landing a mess of beauties for favored guests. The man with the small bottle usually receives these special foods.

A remarkable thing about this spring is that it apparently has no bottom. Hundreds of feet of cord have been let down into it with a weight attached, and ne has yet been found long enough tom.

# How He Hunts.

And the duck hunting is just as simple as fishing. Uncle Jimmy has only to close up his house and hide nside and keep still for a day or two and the wild ducks will come to his pond and attempt to catch his fish He waits until a large number of them light on the water and then he turns loose one of his old-fashioned guns, and he never fails to do execution. He never gets but one shot, but he makes it count.

But wild geese hunting is more difficult. After the water has disappeared in the alkali sand it rises up in a swale a half a mile from his shack. A rank growth has sprung up here since Uncle Jimmie fenced it in and the wild geese light and feed in the shallow pond among the weeds and grass. Uncle Jimmie has dug several pits at convenient points around the pond and when the greese get to coming in pretty lively, he hides in one of these pits long before daylight and at dawn he usually gets a shot, and he never shoots without killing.

#### Domesticated Geese. The host at Alkali has a large flock of wild geese,

which have become perfectly domesticated. He found the nest of a wild goose down among the flags in the alkali pond and watched it from day to day. When the old goose began "setting," Uncle Jimmie "swiped" her eggs and placed them under one of his common hens, They all hatched out, took to their hen-mother handsomely, have continued to breed and now he has a large flock. They swim upon the circular pond in his yard and never think of leaving. They are as gentle as the commonest domesticated geese. Then he has his funny episodes to help kill the time.

He started in with a pair of cats and soon had a dozen or more. He was too tender-hearted to kill any of them, and there were no neighbors with whom to share them. Coyotes and wild cats are death on house-cats, but the cats never strayed far from the house, and but few were lost in this manner. The cats were taking the Whenever he left the kitchen door open they place. ransacked the cupboard and table in search There was nothing else for them to eat near the place, and animal instinct warned them against straying out into the desert where the coyotes were watching for them.

#### Found & Remedy. The old man found, by accident, a way of keeping

the cats out of the kitchen, but it worked successfully and permanently. In whiling away the time he decided to make some ornaments for his "parlor," and started in by stuffling a coyote's skin. When he had sewed it together and stuffed it he found that he had no head for it, as the scalp had been taken. Not to be outdone, he cut the needed part from a wildcat's skin, sewed it to the coyote skin and stuffed it accordingly, placing glass marbles of different colors in the openings for eyes. Stuffed and placed erect on a board the animal was a ragged-looking one as well as a novel one. It did not look well enough to place in the parlor, so the old man stood it in the kitchen. The cats were under the floor, watching for an opportunity to enter. By accident the old man left the kitchen door open while he went for a bucket of water. The cuts entered in a body, and in a moment he heard a noise He rushed back and found the cats that startled him. clinging to the walls and ceiling and mewing in a most pitiful manner, at the same time gazing at his stuffed animal. They had torn the table cloth and the cloth from the cupboard in their attempted flight.

# The Cats Scattered.

The old man was dumbfounded. He thought they had all gone mad on the spot. He attempted to drive them out and in doing so broke the only window pane This was all they needed. They made in the room. grand rush for the opening and they poured through it like a stream of water until the last cat had escaped. Two or three\_days afterwards they approached the place cautiously, the old cat in the lead. She reared up on the stoop and looked in. There stood the fake animal. It was sufficient. She ran for life. The others followed. Uncle Jimmie was not troubled further with his cats in the kitchen. A combination of two of their most destructive enemies was too much for them.

For months after this episode the old man entertained his guests by telling the story and demonstrating the truth of it by taking the animal in his hands

and chasing the cats from one point to another about the place.

In his isolation the host at Alkali does not find life so burdensome, after all.