

THE PACIFIC COAST.

THE MONTANA LOTTERY MANAGER NON EST.

The Custum Mori of Nevada City—A Coal Oil Strike—The Lone Highwayman Bobs Up Serenely in California.

Dr. W. R. Gearhard, a noted physician of Fresno, is dead.

The erection of Santa Ana's new Opera House has begun.

San Rafael has voted to disincorporate and extend the town limits.

A new ice company with plenty of capital has been formed at Truckee.

A mutual building and loan association is in successful operation at Gilroy.

Verona Baldwin was arrested in Los Angeles recently hopelessly insane.

The Republicans elected a majority of the city officials voted for Helen, M. T., last week.

The people of New Mexico are pleased with the selection of L. Bradford Prince to be Governor.

A 30-stamp quartz mill is being erected in San Francisco Canon, twelve miles above Newhall.

The Montana Iron and Coal Company, with a capital stock of \$2,000,000, has incorporated at Helena.

The force of policemen in Sacramento has been increased from sixteen to twenty-five men and a captain.

Constable Frazer at Fresno, declares positively that he will capture the Pixley train robbers and murderers.

Rev. Father Sullivan, pastor of St. Francis Church of Sonoma, was severely injured by being thrown from his buggy recently.

Strawberry-growers near Watsonville state that they will be shipping berries within two weeks if the clear weather continues.

Mrs. Ben Holladay, widow of the late Ben Holladay, is lying dangerously ill at Portland, Or., and her death is momentarily expected.

Herman Eggers mistook Maurice Thompson, a friend, for a horse thief at a ranch near Holbrook, A. T., last week and shot him.

Thomas Crafts exhibited in Ione last week a magnificent specimen of growing wild oats, embracing some thirty stalks four feet in length.

A well which was being bored for water three miles west of San Luis Obispo struck a good flow of petroleum at a depth of only twenty-three feet.

Two boys, seven and nine years old, drifted out to sea at Cayucos Thursday in a row boat and drifted ashore again at Port Harford next morning.

The daily stage services between Gilroy and the Gilroy Hot Springs, which was discontinued during the winter season, will be resumed on Monday next.

The Atlantic and Pacific Road has let the contract for a large hospital at Albuquerque, N. M., which will be one of the finest of its character in the West.

G. H. Smith and J. Marion Brooks of Los Angeles publish communications showing the illegality of the charter under which Los Angeles is now working.

Louis Schloss, a prominent real estate man and insurance agent of San Jose, has, it is currently reported, left for parts unknown, leaving many creditors.

Young prune trees are selling in Pomona right along this season at 20, 25 and even 30 cents. This is about 30 per cent more than they sold for a year ago.

Fresno is to number its houses and place the names of the streets at the corners. After which a free postal delivery system will be inaugurated, as promised by the authorities.

Fine horses are beginning to make their appearance in our district. Our farmers are doing their best, and it is surprising to see their success in this line. In another year or two we will have as fine a stock as can be found in the state.—Ione Valley Echo.

The Southern Pacific Railroad Company will make the wished-for cut on wood rate from Boulder Creek to San Jose sometime this month, thus terminating a difficulty which existed and caused much bitterness among the lumber men of San Jose.

Patrick McGuire has been boring for coal on his ranch at Doswell, two miles north of Ione, Amador county. He says prospects are very good. He has gone down forty feet and will continue his explorations until the prospect has been thoroughly tested.

A quarry has recently been developed in the neighborhood of Ione which furnishes a good quality of sand-stone for building purposes, and an endeavor is being made to have it used in the construction of the Preston School of Industry to be located in that valley.

Twelve young men, self-organized White Caps, or Moral Regulators, have been terrorizing some of the people at Nevada City. They are also accused of writing anonymous and scurrilous letters. The identity of the gang is secured and it is expected arrests will shortly follow.

In the vicinity of Santa Margarita is what is claimed to be the largest prune orchard in California, or in the world. Its size is somewhere near three hundred acres and is in a very thrifty condition. Prunes and olives have been found to do remarkably well in this locality, as well as many other fruits.

A. Aborn of the Aborn Lottery has suddenly disappeared from Helena, M. T., and it is said with large sums of money obtained from the lottery scheme. There is a rumor in Helena that the drawing will take place in July outside of Montana, but great excitement exists among the many who invested their money.

The stage from Murphys to Milton was stopped by a lone highwayman last week about seven miles from Angels. The driver was ordered to deliver up Wells, Fargo & Co.'s box, which he did, also the mail bag, both of which he rifled. A very small amount was obtained from the express box. There were five passengers aboard, none of whom were molested.

OVER THE STATES.

A CYPHER DISPATCH RECEIVED FROM BISMARCK.

The Cordial Relations Existing Between Mexico and the United States—Election of the President by the Popular Vote.

The Illinois House has passed the Valued Policy Insurance bill.

The annual report of the Silk Culture Society has been submitted.

American lard will be admitted into Mexico subject to inspection.

The Sunday closing issue was defeated in the Denver election recently.

D. J. Burchett, of Kentucky, is to be Marshal for the district of Kentucky.

John McComb, a millionaire of Delaware, has sued his wife for a divorce.

F. W. Wilkins killed his wife's paramour near Marshall, Texas, Thursday.

The Democrats have elected their entire ticket at Chicago by 5,000 majority.

Mrs. Stonewall Jackson is said to have been offered the postoffice at Richmond, Va.

The report that Billy Birch, the veteran minstrel is dead, is now declared to be false.

Senator Dolph has been mentioned as a possible candidate for the vacant Justice'ship.

After June Princeton College will have added to its Permanent Endowment fund \$250,000.

A banker at Geneva has committed suicide. He suffered heavy losses in copper speculations.

Sir Julian Pauncefote, the English Minister to the United States, will sail from England on the 15th inst.

The New York Assembly has ordered to a third reading the bill repealing the Saturday half-holiday law.

Steps have been taken by the Mexican Government for the re-examination and settlement of the La Abra and Weil claims.

The will of the late Justice Stanley Mathews has been filed for probate. All his property is left to his widow and children.

A negro burial ground at Camden, N. J., is in such a shocking condition that stray dogs are said to feast on the bones of corpses.

Miss Clara Sotten has recovered \$15,000 from C. R. Reed, proprietor of the Hoffman House, New York, for breach of promise.

The Emperor and Empress of Germany dined at the British Embassy recently. Representatives of other royal families were present.

The steamer Wyanoke run down and sunk the schooner Ruth Darling off Delaware Cape. Two seamen were drowned. The fog was very thick.

A banquet will be given at the Hotel Metropole in London on May 24, in honor of Waller, the retiring United States Counsel-General.

Eighteen thousand dollars have already been subscribed to the Popular fund to erect a building for permanent Republican headquarters at New York.

The President has been asked to issue a proclamation requesting public worship in the churches on the centennial anniversary of Washington's inauguration.

The Florida Legislature recently exhibited a strong feeling in favor of choosing the President by a popular vote and doing away with the Electoral College.

The White House was a scene of beauty and brilliancy recently at the reception given to Prince and Princess Takahito and the members of the Japanese party.

Three white men suspected of cattle stealing, who failed to leave the country, were turned over by a vigilance committee of Springdale, Neb., to Dakota Indians.

George Powell, who stole some jewelry while dressed in the garb of a priest, at Toronto, Canada, confessed, and was sent to Kingston penitentiary for five years.

The Lower House of the Pennsylvania Legislature has passed a resolution declaring Major Armes, who pulled the nose of Governor Beaver the other day, "a cowardly poltroon."

Sir George Baden Powell, who has just returned to Montreal from a visit to British Columbia, reports the urgent necessity of properly fortifying the British Columbia Coast.

The Mexican Congress opened Monday, Diaz, in his message, reviews the foreign policy of Mexico, and congratulates the country on its excellent relations with the United States.

Sir John Macdonald does not think the Behring Sea proclamation was intended to affect Canadian interests; that it was done to warn Americans. Perhaps he will become better informed by and by.

The change in the office of Treasury and Assistant Treasury in New York will necessitate the count of all the moneys and securities in both offices. This is a work of great magnitude and will take at least four weeks to accomplish.

The German Minister at Washington received a cipher dispatch from Bismarck which, it is stated, called for information concerning the American vessels sent to Samoa and of the condition of the American fleet including the cruisers building.

The Mexican Government has decided that citizens of the United States can enter Mexican territory free of restriction, but subject to custom regulations as to the inspection of baggage and goods. This leaves the way to Lower California open.

The recent hurricane in the South Pacific swept over 12,000 geographical miles, embracing in its track the Hervey and Society Islands. The American ship Red Cross, bound from New South Wales to San Francisco, was driven ashore at Rarotonga and wrecked. The crew was saved. The American ship Ada, Owen master, was wrecked at Quara. The crew was saved. The wreckage from the British ship Suakim, from New South Wales for San Francisco, was seen at Aitutaki. It is supposed that the crew perished.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

THE PROPOSED BEAUTY SHOW IN PARIS, FRANCE.

The Tall Hat Evil in London—Canada's Future Doom—Understanding Between Germany and Great Britain.

A case of leprosy has been discovered in Dublin.

Guy Lassar, the French chemist, is to have a monument.

Bernhardt is making a tour of Algeria with great success.

The strikes in the German provinces are rapidly spreading.

Martel, head of the great distillery at Cognac, France, is dead.

The King of Greece is an enthusiastic and successful fisherman.

A vigilance committee for Bridge of Weir, Scotland, has been formed.

The Prince of Wales has accepted an invitation to dine with Mrs. Mackay.

The British House of Commons has voted £21,000,000 to increase the navy.

Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone are preparing for the celebration of their golden wedding.

A new theatre, to cost \$7,000,000, is to be built on the Champ de Mars, St. Petersburg.

Charles Dickens' favorite Kentish home at Gad's Hill, and where he died, is for sale.

Cholera is raging in the Philippine Islands and yellow fever in Cuba and Rio de Janeiro.

The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough have taken a house on Carlton terrace for the season.

A Portuguese anti-slavery society has been formed, with King Luis as Honorary President.

Denist, Scotland, has the largest bread factory. The little baker is disappearing in Great Britain.

M. Beaurepaire, Advocate-General, has been appointed Protector-General of France, displacing Bouchez.

The British record of foot ball for 1889 shows the appalling number of eight deaths and five serious injuries.

German ship-builders at Schwerin, Tetlow, Stettin and other places, and Berlin wood-workers, threaten to strike against low wages.

There has been a noticeable exodus of Russian students from Zurich since the discovery that bombs were being secretly made there.

The Russian newspapers have been prohibited from publishing reports of the discovery of the illicit manufacturing of bombs at Zurich.

There is a powerful effort in India to establish the principal seat of Government at Simla, but the Viceroy resolutely opposes the movement.

Herbert Bismarck declares his interviews with Salisbury have resulted in a complete understanding between Germany and Great Britain.

A public debate has been arranged in London for May, between Henry George and Samuel Smith, the Gladstonian member of Parliament from Hinshire.

A small leasehold property in Worcestershire is announced for sale by auction, held "for the residue of a term of 2,000 years created in the year 1609.

It is stated the Egyptian Government will probably raise a new loan for irrigation works. Further movements in this respect are being carried out year by year.

The Chamber of Deputies last week adopted a bill providing for the distribution of the sewerage of Paris on the plain of Achères, near the forest of Saint Germain.

Countess Rodetzky, granddaughter of the famous Field Marshal Rodetzky, committed suicide at Vienna Monday, shooting herself to avoid a critical surgical operation.

Among Bismarck's visitors on his seventy-fourth birthday was Emperor William, who presented a moustache to him to replace the famous Roichshund. There were many distinguished visitors.

The St. Petersburg police are said to have discovered in the suburbs of St. Petersburg an important clue to the alleged conspiracy against the Czar. It is said the Czar is thoroughly alarmed.

The tall female but now so agitates the minds of the male frequenters of the London pits that it is proposed that the pit should be divided like a Quaker meeting-house—the men sitting on one side and the women on the other.

Ash Wednesday no longer interferes with theatrical performances in London. Whereas all the theatres used to close on that day, only two this year paid any attention to it, and these merely announced that they would keep open.

The statement of the Panama railroad for the year ending December 31st shows the gross earnings to be \$6,890,650, an increase of \$201,067. Operating expenses, including interest charges, \$2,540,114, a decrease of \$329,636, and net earnings \$1,150,544, an increase of \$530,716.

Paris is to have a beauty show where the first prize will be \$6,000, and the public will be invited to make bets upon the different contestants. Leghorn recently had such a show, but the exhibitors were so unsatisfactory that the audience broke up the affair by hissing them off the stage.

Goldwin Smith has a 2-column letter in the London Times declaring, with his accustomed vigor, that Canada will be ruined unless she obtains commercial reciprocity with the United States, and that the annexation feeling is growing rapidly in the Dominion solely because the reciprocity is denied.

From the time her child was born Mrs. Robert Horace Walpole, formerly Miss Louise Corbin of New York, has been very ill, and her friends fear that she can not recover. Since the scandal between her husband and Miss Wieldman was exposed in court a few months ago she has been very nervous and in depressed spirits. Mr. Walpole is heir to the Earldom of Oxford.

HOME AND FARM.

THE VALUE OF STRAWBERRIES VS. WHEAT PER ACRE.

The Best Grasses, Those Naturally Adapted to the Soil—The Odor of Weeds Detected in Milk—Low Grade Fertilizers.

The old way of picking apples in a sack is not the best. A basket is preferable, and a hook of some kind should be fastened to the handle by a stout cord. The hook would allow the basket to be hung on limb often, giving the picker the use of both hands.

APPLE FOLLY.—Two eggs, one cup of white sugar, three sour baked apples, vanilla. Beat the whites of the eggs and the sugar together, then add the inside of the apples, which should be roasted soft, flavor with vanilla and beat this to a stiff froth. Any kind of jelly can be used instead of apples.

MUTTON STEAKS, FRIED.—Make a batter of grated bread crumbs, milk and one egg. Put into a shallow dish. Have some mutton steaks cut from the loin, with bone cut short. Have ready in a frying pan hot butter or dripping. Dip each steak twice in the batter, then fry them brown and send to the table very hot.

An acre of land will produce five or six times as many strawberries, in bushels, as in wheat, and the prices usually obtained for strawberries are more than three times as much as for wheat. One acre of strawberries will bring as much profit as fifteen acres of wheat, while the cost of growing the strawberries is proportionately but little more than that of growing the wheat.

The better preparation of the soil the less seed will be required. Many failures in the seed are not due so much to the vitality of the seed as to the unfavorable condition of the ground. It is always a matter of chance germination when seed is broadcast and left to be covered by the washing of the rain, and the harder and firmer the seed-bed the greater the difficulty in securing a crop from the seed. Pulverize the soil, harrow it down as fine as possible and then brush the seed in.

The best grasses are those naturally adapted to the soil. In America about one dozen varieties are made specialties, while in England the farmers select from over one hundred. A firm sod of native grass should never be turned under to make room for some other kind until the new grass has been tested on the farm. Soils vary, and grass that may thrive on one farm may fail on another.

The rock on which many who enter the ranks as breeders of good stock split is that of stunted feeding, says Professor Cook, of the Michigan Agricultural College. The Shropshire, Ferocheron, and Shorthorn owe their excellence to the fact that they can make good paying use of a large amount of food. Unless they have the food to work upon, they fail of their function, and their keeper falls of his expected gains. It may be best to half starve the Jersey in his calfhood, but surely it is ruinous to thus treat the Shorthorn or Hereford. The breeder's motto should be: "Keep all those animals in a thrifty, growing condition from first to last." Unless we intend and will feed liberally we had better keep the scrub. It was brought up to enjoy roughing it.

The intrinsic value of pure dissolved bones is frequently made apparent as an ingredient in low grade fertilizers. A few hundred pounds are introduced in a formula mainly composed of cheap materials, from the use of which surprisingly good but very transitory results follow. It is a leaven of dissolved bones which has quickened the mass and given it the only vitality really possessed. Impurities and foreign matters akin in color and weight to dissolved bones cannot be mixed with them beyond the chances of discovery any better than they could with bone meal. Deception can no more be effectually practiced with the partially acidulated bone than with the raw bone.

The sulphuric acid employed in dissolving has simply honey-combed the particles in such a state that the natural action of the soil and the elements can convert them immediately into plant food. Bearing these facts well in mind, and having the guarantee of the manufacturer that the article is made of raw bones that pure sulphuric acid is employed in dissolving; that it is not made wholly or in part of foreign matter, it is better for farmers to invest strictly pure dissolved bones than to invest the same amount of money in substances containing less phosphoric acid. It is unquestionably the better policy to select a fertilizer that is ready for immediate action and one sure to give a two-fold quicker return, with an almost equal reserve store of rich ingredients for the benefit of grass and hays crops.

The Rural is asked if it will pay to arrange pipes that will carry water from a tank filled with water by a windmill, so as to supply water for small fruits. The same correspondent also asks if the pipes might not run under ground with advantage. We are unable to answer the questions, and we doubt if anybody can answer them definitely. Even if some such system worked well with one man—and we believe there is one fruit grower who has adopted some such system of irrigation—he could hardly say whether it would pay another man or not. It is certainly very desirable to have water for both fruit and vegetables. Not to have it is to lose the crop in some cases. To have it artificially supplied is to save the crop very often. We think there is no way for anybody to settle the question of profit, but to sit down and give the subject his own close study. In regard to furnishing the water from pipes buried in the ground, there would unquestionably be some advantage in doing so, but it is not the proper way to do it. It would require less water and the soil would not be in danger of baking for instance. In that case, however, there would need be a subsoil, of course, of such character as would prevent the water from going down to China as fast as it came from the pipes. Upon a small scale such irrigation might perhaps be practiced to advantage, but when it comes to a large scale we do not know, and if it can be made practical for fruit and vegetables on a large scale, then why not deftly through by extending the system to all crops? It is an interesting subject, but its treatment must be largely theoretical at present.

PORTLAND MARKET.

AUSPICIOUS OPENING OF THE SALMON SEASON.

The Dull Condition of the Wheat Market Still Prevails—A Slight Fall in Sugars Announced—Farm Produce Active.

The principal feature of importance in the present activity in the salmon industry, necessitating, as it will, an increase in freight traffic and the usual supplies for those engaged in this avocation. The wheat market, as heretofore reported, continues dull. In provisions the supply is equal to all demands, Eastern meats, however, taking the lead. Apples are scarce and meet with a ready sale. Butter firm, and in the matter of poultry the market is all that could be desired.

GROCERIES.
Sugars, Golden C 6 1/2 c, extra C 6 1/2 c, cube, crushed and powdered 7 1/2 c. Coffee: Java 25c, Rio 20 1/2 c, Arbuckle's roasted 2 1/2 c.

PROVISIONS.
Oregon ham 12 1/2 c, breakfast bacon 12 1/2 c, sides 10 1/2 c, shoulders 9 1/2 c, Eastern ham 12 1/2 c, Sinclair's 13 1/2 c, breakfast bacon 12 1/2 c, sides 10 1/2 c, shoulders 9 1/2 c. Lard 10 1/2 c @ 11c.

FRUITS.
Navel oranges \$4.25 @ 4.75, Riverside \$3.00 @ 3.25, apples \$1.50, lemons \$5.25 per box.

VEGETABLES.
Potatoes 30 @ 35c, onions 90 @ \$1.00. DRIED FRUITS.
Apples 5 @ 6c, sliced 6c, apricots 13 @ 14c, peaches 8 @ 10c, pears 8c, Oregon prunes, Italian, 8c, silver 7c, German 6 1/2 @ 7c, plums 5 @ 7c. Raisins \$2 per box, California figs 8c, Syria 15c.

DAIRY PRODUCE.
Butter, Oregon fancy 25c, medium 20c, Eastern 22c, California 20c.

EGGS.
Eggs 15c.

POULTRY.
Chickens \$6.50 @ 7, ducks \$12.00 per doz., geese \$10 @ 12, turkeys 17c per lb. WOOL.
Valley 18c, Eastern Oregon 8 @ 15c.

HOPS.
Hops 10 @ 17c.

GRAIN.
Wheat, Valley \$1.35, Eastern \$1.25. Oats 30 @ 32c.

FLOUR.
Standard \$4.25, other brands \$3.90.

FEED.
Hay \$13 @ 14 per ton, bran \$15, shorts \$16, barley chop \$24 @ 25, mill chop \$18.

FRESH MEATS.
Beef, live, 4c, dressed 8c, mutton, live, 4c, dressed 8c, lambs \$2.50 each, hogs 6c, dressed 7c, veal 6 @ 8c.

—When a Patagonian husband kills his wife, he is fined, says a Transatlantic paper, two goats. Goat-raising is carried on in Patagonia to a large extent. —It is stated that the sheriffs of Delaware whose duty it is to fog criminals, are so merciful in applying the lash that the punishment is little more than a farce.

—The people in a Western town are complaining because a local undertaker displays his coffins on the sidewalk outside his office, with prices attached just like the furniture dealers.

—Guns are now being made so powerful that the object which their missiles are intended to strike will be out of sight. Consequently the guns can only be directed by the map.

—There has been no improvement in the shape of the umbrella for the last seventy years, and, it may be added, no improvement in the manner of carrying it. The average person protects his toes and wets his heels.

—A Todd County (Ky.) couple were recently married after having been engaged a quarter of a century. During twenty-two years of the time the gentleman never once missed calling to see his bride-elect Sunday.

—A gentleman in Craig County, Va., named Brickey, has three children whose names are, respectively, Jailey Green Bird Mayflower Brickey, Oregon Texas Georgiana Brickey and Molina Truxilla Eutaw Sebilla Tootator Brickey.

—While William Jackson, a Chicago roofer was sliding down a roof a distance of forty-five feet, he had time to tell a fellow workman that he owed three debts and had the money in his trunk to pay them. Then he reached the eave and went to his death on the frozen earth.

—A man who married a widow has invented a device which cures her of eternally praising her former husband. Whenever she begins to desecrate on his noble qualities this ingenious No. 2 merely says: "Poor dear man! How I wish he hadn't died!" and the lady immediately thinks of something else to talk about.

—Not long ago a local ministerial association, at its regular meeting at one of the Boston hotels, partook of a dinner of eleven or twelve courses, which seemed altogether more elaborate than the price agreed upon would warrant. After the meal it transpired that they had disposed of a dinner for a special party later in the day, and by mistake served to them.

—A best man asked at the conclusion of a marriage service in South Kensington what fees were due, and received this statement: Vicar, £4 4s.; chancel fee, £1 1s.; clerk and sacristan, £1 1s.; organist, £2 2s.; blower, 5s.; red cloth, £1 11s.; total, £10 4s. And the vicar was not present at that. The best man refused to pay it, and inquiry revealed the decision of a case in 1865 which held that a fee of ten shillings to the rector and three shillings to the clerk was unreasonably high.

AN UNDERTAKER'S CHAT.

The Funny Side of an Otherwise Unpleasant and Lugubrious Calling.

"There is a humorous side even to so solemn a calling as ours," said a city undertaker. "People rarely think of this phase of our work. The popular notion was, and to a large extent is, that our calling has something uncanny and grewsome about it. In a certain sense it has, but still it is replete with funny incidents and you will find few undertakers who have been long in the business who could not relate queer experiences.

"To begin with, we are constantly reminded in one way or another that we thrive on other people's misfortunes. As a matter of fact epidemics are a bane to us, for, while they mean busy times, they also mean more than the usual percentage of bad accounts. But still it is hard to rid a certain class of people of the notion that we weigh the probabilities of mortality, watch the weather prognostications, keep track of physicians' visits, are in league, or at least in sympathy, with quack doctors, bad plumbers and other public nuisances, and that we are opposed to improvements conducive to public welfare. If scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid fever or any other contagious disease breaks out you will hear people talking of the undertaker's quickened interest just as surely as you will hear plumbers mentioned in connection with severe weather. We really do hold an anomalous sort of position, but we do not—as I have often heard intimated—keep a list of the aged and consumptive, nor do contagions quicken our business instincts.

"And right here let me point out the popular fallacy. It is generally thought that contagious diseases are more prevalent and more fatal among the poor than among those who have comforts and good sanitary surroundings. A long business career in undertaking has convinced me that this is a mistake. The poor are more liable to such diseases only in the ratio of their larger families.

"Then the common idea that bereavement is a time when peculiarities and hobbies are laid aside is wrong. Personal whims and idiosyncrasies mingle in the strangest way with tender expressions of love and sorrow. Considerations of style, too, enter the minds of a large percentage of mourners. One thing is done on the basis of what people will think, another on the basis of what the deceased would have liked, and so on. Few undertakers, I think, would be so callous as to make light of any expression or request that is the outcome of genuine feeling, but nobody is more quick than we to detect the genuine from the forced or shammed. When we are supposed to pleasantly inquire after people's health with an ulterior purpose in mind, I don't know why we shouldn't have a little merriment over the humorous features of grave work.

"So far as people's follies and deference to fashion is concerned, it is a good thing for the undertaker that they exist. The profits of our business would be sadly interfered with if the masses were of more common sense opinions and puritanic tastes. It is the non-essential and, if you please, the abnormal features of burials that give undertakers, and especially the manufacturers of undertakers' supplies, their leverage over the public. Trusts and extortionate prices would practically be out of the question were it not that people sought to perpetuate follies and carry style into the graveyard. Of course it isn't our place to dictate, and it would scarcely be businesslike to make suggestions against our own interest, but still I think that despite what has been done in the way of funeral reform many more steps could profitably be taken.

"There is another phase of our business that has a peculiar if not a positively humorous side. In pursuance of his work an undertaker will almost certainly become unnaturally solemn or in a measure a hypocrite. A certain deportment is deemed requisite, and that deportment isn't quite natural. Words of condolence are in order and expected, and they come. As might be expected they do not come spontaneously but in a more or less perfunctory way. The undertaker is not so solemn as he often looks. He has on hand a fund of condolence and a stock of well-approved phrases that is often positively grotesque, and upon the way in which he uses this stock in trade he soon learns depends much of his success."—Chicago News.

"An exchange asked if waltzing is wicked. Some waltzing is. When a man steps on his partner's dainty little feet every other second, does not keep time with the music, attempts to hop while his partner glides, digs his hand into the middle of her back, involves his extremities in such a maze of confusion that he can't tell his right foot from his left, bumps his knees into his companion, and collides with every couple that comes near him, it must be admitted that waltzing is wicked. How fortunate it