

They don't call it the problem play in Paris; they refer to it as a character study.

Modern methods of advanced instruction in our schools have changed the three R's to the three H's—the hand, the head, the heart.

It has been said by a great thinker that "money is the great trouble in America," and yet most everybody is out hunting trouble.

The Eastern man who killed himself to avoid being married must have been pursued by a widow. There are less desperate ways of escaping a maiden.

Enforced idleness is assigned as the cause of six New York convicts going insane. Worry Willie remarks that he has heard of people going crazy with joy.

It is now understood that Don Carlos is ready to take the throne just as soon as somebody else has performed the mental labor of conducting a revolution.

If anybody is in doubt as to when the twentieth century begins let him borrow on his note payable on the first day of the new century. The bank will do the rest.

The author of "Just Break the News to Mother," who made \$20,000 off that production, may well say, "I care not who makes the laws of a people, if I may write their songs."

It is said the Queen Regent has ordered an American elevator for the royal castle. Uncle Sam will not be averse to giving Spain a lift, even if it did make itself a little obnoxious for a while.

An agriculturist is advocating the treatment of country roads with petroleum. If by this means its use can be diverted from the lighting of kitchen fires the experiment would be worthy of encouragement.

Queen things: In England a candidate "stands" for an office; in this country he "runs." The supposition is that with us any man who waits for an office to run after him might have to wait for a long time.

A society has been formed in Paris whose business it will be to furnish a fourteenth guest for dinner parties numbering thirteen guests. Alas, how seriously those frivolous Parisians take the little amenities of life.

A man who got tired of carrying around \$50,000,000 in greenbacks and bonds applied at the Chicago suburbs for relief and was respectfully referred to the banks. Merely as an experiment a great many people would not object to having a "tired feeling" of that kind for a time.

No one can study the food supply of the British Isles without feeling certain that English statesmen will always go to extreme lengths to prevent war or serious trouble of any kind with the United States. They must avoid, at all hazards, the loss of American food for the swarming millions of British cities.

A New York clergyman recently chose as the subject of his Sunday address, "What is a Fool?" If he really wants to know it might be suggested that some of them are trying to draw packed houses with sensational "sermons," and more of them are paying big money for the alleged religion which such preachers fold upon them.

What is most exasperating about the cases of insanity among convicts caused by idleness is the fact that prison labor can be arranged so as to make the competition with free labor insignificant. By condemning convicts to idleness in order to prevent such competition, society imposes cruel and inhuman punishment on prisoners. The supporting of convicts at public expense is more of a burden on labor than the competition would be if the labor should be diversified.

A Havana paper, the Discension, describes the finding of fifty human skeletons in a well near Maguito, Cuba, and says that their attitude and appearances were such as to convey the impression that the persons were thrown in while alive. The same paper also says that the remains of between two and three hundred people were found in a well near Matanzas. Thus the evidence accumulates that the United States was justified in kicking the Spaniards out of the island and ending the reign of medieval barbarity at our doors.

The enormous expense of the improvements in armament which are seen to be imperatively needed unless some international agreement to restrict military and naval expenditures can be reached is in itself a very good reason for believing that practical results may not be far distant. No military or naval authority can presume to set limits to the demands for money to be used in preparations for war, if the present competition is to go on without check. That is enough to stagger statesmen and create an effective public sentiment in favor of some concerted movement in the direction of disarmament.

English Justice has long been lauded—especially by American Anglomaniacs—as ideal. And as between two commoners the British courts undoubtedly dispense a good article of justice. But when a lord or a nobleman of high rank is involved it is different. The sensational suit against the Duke of Portland illustrates the point. The Duke's title is challenged by Sidney Druce, a sailor, who may or may not be another Arthur Orton. Druce claims to be the real duke, and, without going into details, the case may be said to hinge upon one fact: Whether a certain coffin contains the body of the fifth Duke of Portland, or whether it is filled with bricks. In the latter case Druce's case will be greatly strengthened. But

though the court has made an initial order for the opening of the coffin other courts have interposed, and now it is necessary that an act of parliament will be necessary to authorize the proceeding. If the case had been reversed will anyone doubt the result? Would an act of parliament have been necessary to open a commoner's coffin? And in the meantime will anyone doubt that the Duke in possession will take advantage of the delay to arrange for a body to be found in the coffin, providing it does not contain one already?

The main plaza of San Juan, Porto Rico, recently saw a strangely unwonted sight—the presentation of American flags to the various schools of the city. Principals, teachers, scholars—even the small lads of the orphan asylum—all were there. Marching at the head of each school was a youthful and—who can doubt?—supremely proud bearer of the standard—the emblem of new hopes, aspirations and wider possibilities. There are, it is stated, six hundred schools—public and private—on the island and to each a flag is to be given. Is it too much to hope that, in due season, childish voices will make its significance vocal in mind and heart?

A writer in the Forum, who announces himself as having been a tramp, "with no literary or sociological pretensions," defines and differentiates that particular genus as follows: "A tramp is not a hobo; a hobo is not a tramp; a vagrant is neither, and a criminal is none of these." The tramp's sole object in life is to "have a little fun," but without that work which most of us find a necessary prelude to true enjoyment. Work he despises, and not even the pangs of hunger will induce him to engage in it when it is made a preliminary to a promised meal. The hobo, in most cases, a man who is driven to the road from want of that which the tramp loathes—work. He is a victim of circumstances, and not a social parasite. The vagrant is a loafer in towns and cities so long as he finds it safe and profitable. He is often a "grafter"—that is, a creature who simulates lameness and cutaneous diseases in order to excite pity and charity, and is apt to be addicted either to drink or opium. The hobo is never a "grafter"; the tramp rarely. The writer thinks "the tramp should be given up as hopeless," to be helped or denied, as those to whom he appeals may feel inclined. But he pleads for the hobo. "He is young," he says; "he can work; he is inclined to work." Manhood and self-respect are not dead within him, and sympathy and opportunity given him may save for society a worthy member.

Belgium, like Holland, is a little kingdom surrounded by powerful states with mighty armies. It is what is known as a neutral buffer state between the two great rivals, Germany and France. European treaty law has done what it can to protect its territory against invasion from any quarter, but the fate of Denmark in 1864, when Prussia and Austria united in attacking it, is a warning that the most solemn pledges of diplomacy are sometimes wantonly broken. Belgian policies are identical with those of Holland. The kingdom has no foreign alliances, is absorbed in its own affairs, avoids any occasion for giving offence to any great power, and devotes its energies to the enlargement of its commerce. It has an empire in the heart of Africa known as the Congo Free State, and it is anxious to buy the Canary Islands from Spain and to strengthen its navy. It is forced to act cautiously from fear of creating ill-feeling in France, Germany or England. The King of the Belgians is one of the wisest rulers in Europe, and the nation owes much to his sagacity. He has traveled widely, and he has used his eyes wherever he has gone. His one disappointment, as he is never weary of telling American ministers in Brussels, is his inability to plan a long journey to the United States. "It may not be too late," he usually adds, with a smile. King Leopold II. is the founder of the Congo Free State. Without this vast project Belgium would have been inferior to Holland as a colonial power. He was ridiculed as a royal India-rubber merchant when he started that great undertaking, but he was in reality the only far-sighted Belgian. The importance of Belgium has been largely increased and her position in Europe has been strengthened by her African possessions. The King is a man with a capacity for large ideas. His ministers are always frightened by his plans. He is not obstinate, but is always willing to change his mind. After trying to substitute projects of their own for those favored by him, his ministers usually confess that his judgment was better than theirs. This has happened not only in the Congo enterprise, but also in the recent undertakings for improving Brussels and converting it into a handsome, spacious capital. The King at 63 is the most useful citizen in Belgium—a wise ruler, with real genius for the business of state.

Titles for Officials. Why does every official who digs his nose into the government trough to the extent of \$4,000 or \$5,000 per year have a handle to his name? The Assistant Secretaries of the various departments are never called by their proper names. It is always "Mr. Secretary."

The chief of a \$2,000 bureau is never addressed as Mr. Jones or Mr. Smith, but as "Chief." The Vice President is not addressed as his station implies, but always as "Mr. President." The First, Second, Third and Fourth Assistant Postmaster Generals are "General." In and out of office they are addressed as such.—New York World.

Bible Kisses. There are eight kinds of kisses mentioned in scripture: Salutation (1 Sam. xx. 41, 1 Thess. v. 20); veneration (Ruth 1. 9); reconciliation (2 Sam. xiv. 33); subjection (Ps. 11. 12); approbation (Prov. xiv. 26); adoration (1 Kings xiv. 18); trachery (Matt. xxvi. 49); affection (Gen. xiv. 15).

Water from the Jordan. An establishment has been opened in Paris for the sale of the water of the River Jordan for baptism, when the parents desire to use it, and can afford to purchase it.

A bug exterminator that doesn't exterminate is a hum-bug.

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR UNCLE SAM'S COLONIES.

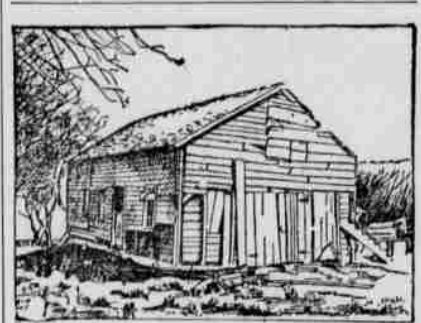


The new colonial commission, which is to have general supervision of the affairs of the Philippines, Porto Rico and Cuba, is composed of three men from the three States of Ohio, Michigan and Massachusetts. Gen. Robert Patterson Kennedy is the former Congressman from the Eighth District of Ohio. He served in the armies of West Virginia, the Potomac, the Cumberland and the Shenandoah. When he was mustered out he returned to his home at Bellefontaine and became a lawyer. He was internal revenue collector in 1878 and lieutenant governor of Ohio in 1885. He is prominent as a jurist in Ohio. Charles W. Watkins, of Grand Rapids, Mich., has been long well known to Secretary Alger, who feels he can rely implicitly on the sound judgment of the colonial commissioner from Michigan, as well as on that of the two other gentlemen who make up its personnel. The third member of the commission, Lieut. Col. Curtis Guild Jr., of Boston, is engaged in Cuba as inspector general on the staff of Gen. Lee. Col. Guild is a son of the editor of the Boston Commercial Bulletin and is well known in Massachusetts.

The commission's headquarters will be located in Washington. The peculiar functions of the commission will be more economic than political. They will concern the granting of franchises, the supervision of public works and of engineering enterprises, which are now rapidly multiplying in the new territories, with a promise of development in the future that is not less than appalling to the war office.

GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA.

His Rise from Poverty and Obscurity to Wealth and Distinction. When Hon. W. A. Stone, newly elected Governor of Pennsylvania, took the oath of office and assumed the reins of State government there entered the executive mansion at Harrisburg a man who has climbed by his present high position over unusual obstacles of poverty and difficulties and who may truthfully be called "a self-made man." His parents were Pennsylvania



farmers, highly respected, but poor. Through all of the early years of his boyhood he had but three months of each year at school, and that a little country one; the remaining nine months he bore his share of the burdens incident to a farm. At 17 he enlisted in the war, and came out, at the close of hostilities, two years later, a second lieutenant. Then for several

years he taught school during the daytime and at night studied until the weary hours fitting himself for his profession, the law. He was admitted to practice in 1870. For the next twenty years he was an active factor in the politics of his State and in 1890 he was elected to Congress, where he remained until he resigned to become chief executive to one of the greatest commonwealths of the Union.

The executive mansion at Harrisburg is sure to be the scene of many brilliant social functions under the regime of its new mistress. Mrs. Stone loves society and is never happier than when dispensing the hospitality of her home. Their Washington residence was not nearly so pretentious as the executive mansion, of which we present our readers a picture, but during the eight years in which Gov. Stone was in Congress it was always a factor in the resort with society, and Mrs. Stone's dinners and receptions were among the notable ones of the season.

Gov. Stone has been married twice. By his first marriage there were two children, Stephen Stone, a Pittsburg attorney, and Mrs. Hickling of Washington. As Miss Harriet Stone, Mrs. Hickling was one of the capital's reigning belles, her sweet disposition and womanly graces making her then what she is now, a great social favorite. She married Dr. P. Hickling, an eminent physician of Washington, and they



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have two bright little ones, a dainty daughter of 4 and a robust boy of 2. By his second marriage Gov. Stone has had six children, four of whom are living. Miss Jean, a vivacious girl of 14 and her younger sister, Miss Margaret, are attending boarding school at Lake Forest. John, a handsome lad of 12, is very like his distinguished father both in looks and manner, while Iss-

HILLIS GOES TO BROOKLYN.

Chicago's Brilliant Preacher Called to the Pulpit of Plymouth Church. Chicago's brilliant preacher has been called to the pulpit of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, made famous by Henry Ward Beecher and recently vacated by Lyman Abbott. The friends of Rev. Dr. Newton Dwight Hillis expect that he will achieve the same measure of renown and popularity as did the illustrious men whom he succeeds.

Dr. Hillis is a native of Iowa and 40 years old. He was educated at Grinnell Academy, at Lake Forest University, and at McCormick Seminary. For three years after leaving his theological studies he was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Peoria, Ill. Within that time he built a new church at a cost of \$50,000. From 1890 to 1894 he preached from the pulpit of the First Church of Evanston, Ind., where he likewise appeared a new church building. In December, 1894, he succeeded Prof. Swing, of Central Church, Chicago. The new pastor of Plymouth will preach in Brooklyn the same creed he has preached in Chicago. It is the creed of broadest Christianity and humanity, the creed of Beecher. Dr. Hillis is also a writer and has been well called "the poet-preacher of the end of the century."

PROPHETESS OF EVIL.

The High Priestess of the Dreyfusards Predicts France's Ruin. Georgiana Weldon is the latest Parisian sensation. She has written a pamphlet which involves those army men who have said that Dreyfus is guilty, and in which she predicts the downfall of the nation.

This woman has been the scourge of a few great men in her time and the puzzle of courts and specialists in psychiatry. In 1872 she was a concert singer in London, and on the occasion of Gounod's visit there she spread the report that the German composer was about to become a British subject. It was all Gounod could do to persuade his fellow countrymen to the contrary. She claimed Gounod's compositions as her own and secured a judgment against him for \$50,000 in the English courts. She sued Rochefort for libel, was committed to insane asylums, which she sued immediately on being released. She was sent to a convent,



where she still resides, but there are Dreyfusards who desire to carry her through the streets of Paris in a chariot.



Robert Knight. He never gives away anything he can use, and finds use for everything he has.

THE ROMANS.

Built Aqueducts Solely Because They Had No Suitable Pipes. People forgetful of the real status of mechanical economy in the time of the Romans have often expressed wonder that they built expensive aqueducts when, it is proved, they knew the hydrostatic principle that water rises always to its own level.

The principle reason undoubtedly was that they had no suitable material to make pipes which would stand the enormous pressure inseparable from an underground system. Lead was out of the question for the purpose because the pipes would have to be made so disproportionately thick, and, besides, water flowing for miles through lead would be poisonous. Short lead and clay pipes were used by them in their cities and houses for the supply of baths, but without cast iron, which they did not possess, they could not have made pipes to carry water long distances. Lastly, the water brought to Rome was strongly impregnated with lime, and this would have caused a great incrustation in pipes and necessitated frequent opening and cleaning, whereas an aqueduct, once built, would, as events have proved, last for a very long time with a very moderate amount of repairs.

It is a very refined woman indeed who does not admire a minstrel man.

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JOKES FROM THE PENS OF VARIOUS HUMORISTS.

Pleasant Incidents Occurring the World Over—Sayings that are Cheerful to the Old or Young—Funny Selections that You Will Enjoy.

The Only Safe Way. She—I don't see why they keep women out of secret societies. He—Plain enough. To keep the secrets in.

In Her Line. "My girl received New Year's calls from lots of men she never saw." "She does? Why, I should think—"

His Experience. "Cooks," said the suburbanite, "may be divided into two classes—those who resent criticism and those who ignore it."—Puck.

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His Independence. "What a bad cold you have, Benedict?" "Yes; my mother-in-law got to dictating when the family should put their winter fannels on." "Did you put yours on?" "No—that's it. I had them on, and when she got so arbitrary I went and took them off."—Puck.

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The Plumber's Revenge. "Why don't you paragraphs give us a rest?" said the plumber to the funny man, as he presented his bill. "You evidently intended to say, 'Why don't we give you the rest?'" replied the funny man, as he glanced at the figures.

Bravery His Business. "Did you tell that young man that there are microbes in a kiss?" said Maud. "Yes," answered Mamma. "But he has a reputation to sustain as a hero. He doesn't dare be afraid of anything."—Washington Star.

Which One Governed. "Now, then, government by conjunction." "You mean government by injunction." "No, I was thinking of matrimony." "Oh!—I don't! Indianapolis Journal.

Of Course They Have. Smith—Did you notice that peculiar sign on the door we just passed? Jones—No; what was it? Smith—Orphan's court.

Jones—I fall to see anything peculiar about that. Orphans have as much right to court as other people, haven't they?

He Wasn't Prepared. "Would you advise me to take an ocean trip, doctor?" asked the invalid. "No," was the reply; "I think a series of mud baths would benefit you more." "But, doctor," said the sick man, in tones that savored of hopelessness and despair, "I can't afford to go into politics."

One Left. "How do you like your new cook?" "Oh, so, so. She is dirty, she has no idea of cooking, and she smashes everything around here; but still she has one good and rare quality." "What is that?" "She stays with us."—Fliegende Blätter.

No One to Dun Him. "The man who pays as he goes has one advantage over the other fellow." "What's that?" "He can rest when he gets there."—Puck.

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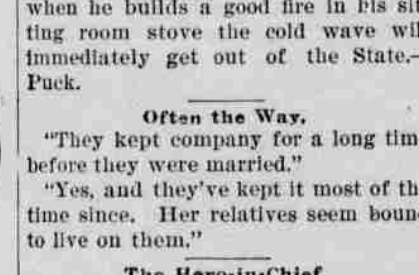
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The Doctor—Always sleep with your head to the south.

Mulcahey—And phew! way will I put me fate?

Not at All Modest. "Sniff—What kind of a fellow is this man, Bumpshun? It strikes me that he is disgustingly in love with himself. Snarl—He is. Thinks he's a great figure in the world. He believes that when he builds a good fire in his sitting room stove the cold waves will immediately get out of the State."—Puck.



DR. NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS.

Chicago's brilliant preacher has been called to the pulpit of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, made famous by Henry Ward Beecher and recently vacated by Lyman Abbott.

The High Priestess of the Dreyfusards Predicts France's Ruin. Georgiana Weldon is the latest Parisian sensation. She has written a pamphlet which involves those army men who have said that Dreyfus is guilty, and in which she predicts the downfall of the nation.

This woman has been the scourge of a few great men in her time and the puzzle of courts and specialists in psychiatry. In 1872 she was a concert singer in London, and on the occasion of Gounod's visit there she spread the report that the German composer was about to become a British subject.

Robert Knight. He never gives away anything he can use, and finds use for everything he has.

Built Aqueducts Solely Because They Had No Suitable Pipes. People forgetful of the real status of mechanical economy in the time of the Romans have often expressed wonder that they built expensive aqueducts when, it is proved, they knew the hydrostatic principle that water