Damaged Goods.

Mr. Cooke had occasion to stop in a small town at the luncheon hour and went into a restaurant to eat.

He ordered steak and valiantly tried to partake of it with the implements at his command, but neither knife nor fork had any apparent effect on it. Finally he called the waiter to his side.

"You'll have to take this steak back and bring me another piece," said Mr. Cooke.

The waiter eyed the steak narrowly and then shook his head.

"I can't do that, sir," he replied, "I can't take it back for you've bent it."

Couldn't Find the Place.

A very small man—not only small as to stature, but lacking also in width of beam—sat is a street car until he became tightly wedged in from both sides. Then there entered the car a large, handsome woman, upholstered to the minute. She took the strap in front of the small man and was hanging to it in discomfort when the small man arose with a flourish of politeness and touched her on the arm.

"Take my seat, madam," he said, with a bow and a smile.

"Oh, thank you very much," she replied and turned toward the seat.

Then, smiling genially, she asked: "Where did you get up from?"—Chicago News.

Thoughtful.

Grannie—Why should I take another chair, Gerald? Don't you think I'm comfortable here?

Gerald—Yes, Gran'ma; but I'm afraid my little kitten isn't—she's there, too.—London Opinion.

In one of the cities captured by the Servians in the Balkan war the electric lighting system had not been completed and the task has been finished by the conquering army's engineers.

One Lucky Man.

"It is costing me three times as much to live as it did five years ago. I tell you it isn't right. Our whole economic system is wrong," said one man to another.

"Perhaps you have more expensive tastes than you had five years ago."

"Not at all. We are being robbed, that's the long and short of it. Prices keep going up right along, and they try to make us believe that it is nothing but our own extravagance that makes it so hard for us to get ahead. Take your own case. Don't you find that it is costing you a lot more to live than it did five years ago?"

"No. It isn't costing me as much."

"For heaven's sake explain yourself. Tell me how you manage it."

"It's very simple. One of the women to whom I was paying alimony got married again about three years ago."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Balaam's Sword.

"Here sir," said the antique dealer, displaying a huge sword to a clerical-looking collector, "ever see anything more interesting than that? That's Balaam's sword."

"But, my good man, that can not be," said the dominie. "Balaam never had a sword. He only wished for one."

"Quite right, sir," said the dealer, "this is the one he wished for."—Chicago News.

Cards Are Out.

Jack (lolling with magazine)—It says here that there's enough phosphorus in a man's body to make 40,000 matches.

Ethel (nibbling a chocolate)—And not sand enough to make one.—Boston Transcript.

Safe Policy.

"I believe in calling a spade a spade," declared the stranger.

"It is dangerous to call one a card of another suit, if you sit in a game around here," warned the native.—Buffalo Express.

A Case of Lese Majeste.

Not long ago DeWolf Hopper, the actor, was selecting a hat in a well-known Fifth avenue shop. His own hat removed, he stood holding two others, trying to decide which to buy. At this moment a young man of the overdressed, would-be swagger type entered the store and mistaking Mr. Hopper for a salesman drawled at him in an affected and peculiarly irritating tone:

"My hat doesn't fit, my good man."

Before replying Mr. Hopper quite deliberately inspected the speaker from head to toe. Then, turning away, he said sweetly:

"Neither does your coat, my boy."—Everybody's Magazine.

Lower Education.

Of a certain bishop the following anecdote is told:

While presiding over a conference a speaker began a tirade against the universities and education, expressing thankfulness that he had never been corrupted by contact with a college.

After proceeding for a few minutes the bishop interrupted with the question:

"Do I understand that Mr. X—— is thankful for his ignorance?"

"Well, yes," was the answer; "you can put it that way if you like."

"Well, all I have to say," said the prelate, in sweet and musical tones, "all I have to say is that Mr. X—— has much to be thankful for."—Chicago News.

Hadn't Noticed It.

"Mandy, what did your husband say about the scenery of New York City and its environs?"

"Nothing; all he talked about was the awfulness of the styles of dress the women wore."—Chicago Tribune.

A group of English capitalists is organizing a large cattle farming concern in western Siberia, with a view to exporting its products to England.

The Baptist Union of England is seeking to raise a sustenation fund of $1,500,000 to guarantee a minimum wage to every Baptist minister.

In Nuremberg 800 workers are employed in making lead soldiers and lead toys. They turn out about 100,000 lead soldiers a day.

In France the teachers are heavily assessed to keep their pension system going.

HUERTA TO RESIGN

Said to Be Seeking Safe Route to Reach Foreign Ship.

Rebel Successes and Truth About Himself Have Turned Away Most Important Support.

El Paso, Tex. — General Obregon Sunday telegraphed to Raphael Musquiz, of the local rebel junta, that he had picked up a telegram, partly in code, from Huerta to the federal commander at Guaymas. From the uncodified part of the message, Obregon said it appeared that Huerta either had resigned or was about to do so. The general added that of course he would not tell to what extent the code words would alter or modify this meaning.

Vera Cruz, Mex.—Persistent reports continue to circulate here that General Huerta intends to retire from the provisional presidency on conditon that he be assured a safe conduct to a port and placed on board a foreign warship.

It is declared in some Mexican circles here that General Huerta was ready to resign a week ago, but was prevented from doing so by internal dissensions in his cabinet.

The disappearance from the Mexican cabinet of Jose Lopez Portillo y Rojas, the foreign minister, coupled with reports that there is a growing undercurrent of feeling in Mexico City against the Huerta government, is interpreted here as foreshadowing a change in the situation in the federal capital. Some of the closest observers of the government's situation assert that Senor Portillo's resignation may clear the way for the appointment of a foreign minister who, under the Mexican constitution, could succeed General Huerta as president.

In these circles it is pointed out that, while Venustiano Carranza declined to treat with General Huerta, he might consent to enter into negotiations with his successor and thus help mediation.

The effect of the rebel successes in the north and the outcome of the pending attack on Tampico, may, according to well-informed opinion, bring about a rapid change in Mexico City.

While the federal capital was quiet, Sunday, people who arrived here said the populace there was beginning to learn that General Huerta had been deceiving the people by issuing false reports of federal successes over the constitutionalists.

The news of the peaceful way in which the Americans are occupying Vera Cruz has spread to the capital and has convinced Mexicans there that the American invasion of the port is not for conquest or aggression. Refugees assert that the inhabitants of the capital fear the coming there of Villa more than they fear that of the American troops.

Oklahoma Flood Takes New Railroad Bridge

Bridgeport, Okla. — Three men are reported missing and three others are marooned in tree tops in the roaring current of the Canadian river here as the result of a flood which carried away the new $125,000 steel bridge of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific. Heavy damage was caused in the valley of the river.

Low lands are flooded and hundreds of families have abandoned their homes.

A wall of water 15 feet high came down the river and this was followed by successive rises until the stream was flowing a half mile wide.

Six men were on the railway bridge when it fell. Three of them were not identified.

Canal to Open May 12.

Panama — Plans are being matured under the instructions of Governor Goethals to put a Panama railroad steamer through the canal not later than May 12, with the approval of the Secretary of War Garrison.

At the same time a cargo steamer also will go through, and after that the canal will be open for so much traffic as the work on the Cucaracha slide will permit.

This means the informal opening of the canal at a much earlier date than had been anticipated.

Colonel Thanks Brazil.

Rio De Janeiro, Brazil—Theodore Roosevelt has sent a dispatch from Manaos to Dr. Lauro Muller, the Brazilian minister of foreign affairs, thanking him and the Brazilian government for its solicitude during his stay in South America. Col. Roosevelt says: "The journey was one of hardships, and, at times dangerous, but it was successful. For 35 days we struggled with the rapids of the river; for 48 days we were out of sight of human habitations. We followed the course of the river for more than 900 miles."

Colonists Are Driven Out.

Douglas, Ariz.—Thirty members of the Mormon colony at Colonia Morales, 60 miles southeast of here, have arrived here overland. According to Frank Haymore, one of the party, a party of Mexicans called on the few colonists who still remained at their homes and told them that if they wished to avoid trouble they had better leave at once. The colonists were compelled to leave behind everything they could not crowd into their wagons.

Rare Turtle "King's" Menu.

Stockton, Cal.—Charley Why, the San Joaquin potato king, enjoyed recently the most expensive turtle on the market. It was the sole survivor of 11 which Why had shipped to him from China, the others dying enroute. The turtle was of an unusual variety and hard to get. Chinamen in the United States who feel able to indulge in this delicacy often have to wait a year before their order can be filled. The duty on Why's turtle was $5.

HUERTA FORMALLY AGREES TO OFFERS FOR MEDIATION

Washington, D. C.—General Huerta has accepted the proposal that there be no further hostilities between the United States and Mexico pending the efforts of the envoys of Argentina, Brazil and Chile to bring about an amicable settlement of difficulties between the countries.

Restrained but none the less steady preparation for any military eventualities and the quiet progress of the mediation program being worked out behind closed doors continue, however.

Carranza Makes No Reply to Proposals for Mediation

El Paso, Tex.—While General Carranza has not replied officially to the proposition of the South American mediators for a federal-rebel armistice, his answer is said by officials here to be plainly forecast in orders promulgated for a concentrated attack on Tampico.

The federal gunboats and the land defenses of Tampico have proved too big a task for the troops of Generals Caballero and Gonzales and orders have now been issued for the mobilization of 12,000 troops from the states of Coahuila, Tamaulipas and Nuevo Leon. It is reported also that General Francisco Villa, the first soldier of the revolution, will lead the attack.

Monclovia Herrera, whose name as a fighter has grown immensely during recent campaigns, if present plans prevail, will head the assault on Saltillo, where the remains of the federal forces from Torreon, Monterey and other places captured by the rebels are gathered.

Rafael E. Musquiz, a son-in-law of General Carranza and a leader of the junta, here, is among authorities for the declaration that the armistice in Northern Mexico is impossible.

It was rumored in connection with the proposal that acceptance of the proposition would have carried with it some form of recognition of the belligerency of the rebels, but General Carranza is said to have commented that he did not care to attain it in that way, as it was bound to come in due time with the complete victory of his forces.

General Villa was at Parral Saturday. It is learned that his recent trip to Juarez and his present peregrinations are on business matters connected with raising revenue. The United States is said to have suddenly become rigid in its demands for the protection of all foreign interests in Mexico, thereby embarrassing the process of raising funds by war taxes and confiscation of property.

Villa Prepares to Attack Saltillo With 15,000 Men

Chihuahua, Mex.—General Villa has taken immediate steps to mobilize his entire force, estimated at 15,000 men, around Saltillo. In the forefront undoubtedly will be Monclovia Herrera's brigade of 1300 men. Monclovia Herrera, with his brother, Luis, is credited with being the most effective "fighting man" in Northern Mexico with the exception of Villa. It was reported at one time that Carranza contemplated replacing Villa in the supreme rebel command by General Monclovia Herrera.

Many of the troops counted on to take part in the movement against Saltillo already are in the field.

Villa expects to put 15 brigades into the field. This distribution of his command does not follow the United States or foreign qualification. Some of the brigades number only 300 men, but each is definitely identified with some particular "General," whose care for his troops and fighting qualities have so endeared him to his men that the real objectives of the revolutionary movement have been subordinated in the minds of the common soldiers to the fact that they fight at the command and live under the protection of the general in whose "gente" they serve.

The federal garrison at Saltillo originally consisted of 2200 men, but the fugitives from the remnants of Velasco's Torreon army and fleeing garrison of Monterey have increased that force to 10,000.

Bryan Permits Return.

El Paso, Tex.—Roberto V. Pesqueira, diplomatic agent for the constitutionalists, who has been in correspondence with Secretary Bryan, was notified that American consuls had been instructed to permit Americans who had been ordered out of Cananea, El Tigre and Nacozari, Sonora, to return to those places. Senor Pesqueira had requested Secretary Bryan to permit the Americans to return, as the shutting down of mining properties had thrown 30,000 Mexicans laborers out of work.

Cancer Hospital Planned.

New York—What will be the largest and best-equipped cancer hospital in the world, with an ample supply of radium at its command and the benefits of years of research to draw on, will be established here, according to unofficial announcement made here by university officials through co-operation between the General Memorial hospital and Cornell university medical college. A fund of $1,000,000, independent of the value of the institution's building is already at hand, it was said.

Woolmen Meet In June.

Salt Lake City—A telegram received by D. E. Cosgriff, of Salt Lake City, from the department of Agriculture, announces that Secretary of Agriculture Houston will call a conference of Western woolgrowers and wool manufacturers of the country to meet at Washington in June. The adoption of the Australian system of preparing wool for market at its source will be considered.

Total Casualties Listed.

Washington, D. C.—The latest reports received by the Navy department of the number of American casualties at the occupation of Vera Cruz is as follows:

Killed—11 sailors, four marines, one service, unidentified. Total, 16.

Wounded—Two naval officers, 51 sailors, 14 marines, three service, unidentified. Total, 70.

'GRINGOS' EXPELLED

Stars and Stripes Torn Down and Burned—Consulate Mined.

Preparations for Massacre Made When Vessel Supposed to Be U. S. Warship Sighted.

San Diego, Cal.—Driven from their homes and interests by a bitter anti-American outbreak, the result of the landing of Marines at Vera Cruz, 259 refugees from Mexico reached here on the German steamer Marie, Captain Julius Davidsen, which left the Mexican port of Manzanillo April 25. The majority of the refugees are from Guadalajara, the second city in Mexico, and tributary territory, the others coming from Colima and Manzanillo. There are 127 men, 60 women and 72 children.

The feeling against Americans was so intense that the majority of the refugees from Guadalajara and Colima were forced to seek the protection of the British consulate officers in those cities, and received shelter in the British consulates. Anti-American demonstrations were held at frequent intervals, the Mexican press was given over to the most alarming reports and editorials, the vilest insults were hurled at Americans in the streets and threats of wholesale assassination were made.

Antonio del Gadillo, governor of the state of Colima, concluded a speech inciting Mexicans to take up arms with the exclamation: "Mueran los gringos" (Death to the Americans.)

In Guadalajara H. L. Percy, a Los Angeles mining man, entering a store there to make purchases, was chased out of the establishment by the Mexican proprietor. In the street the Mexican yelled: "Mexicans, here is a Yankee; kill him."

A mob took after Percy and he was forced to run for his life, finally gaining the hotel, where 100 other Americans were waiting to take the train for Manzanillo.

While refugees from Guadalajara were at the wharf waiting to get their baggage off, a vessel thought to be an American warship, was sighted. Great excitement resulted, and a Mexican wearing a Red Cross badge rushed into the American consulate, tore from the walls two large American flags and carried them outside, where Mexicans tore them into strips, spit upon them, stamped on them and then set fire to them. As they were burning a Mexican flag was waved over them.

The wharf was cleared preparatory to blowing it up with dynamite, and the Americans there were marched to the consulate. Cries of "Viva Mexico" and "Mueran los gringos" were constant, and the massacre of the Americans in case warships appeared seemed certain. The consulate had previously been mined. Some time later it was determined that the ship was not a United States war vessel and the Americans were released.

Quadruple Military Force In Colorado Strike Zone

Washington, D. C.—Orders to quadruple the force of Federal cavalry in the Colorado coal strike region went from the War department late Saturday night.

The entire Eleventh regiment from Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., and two troops of the Twelth from Fort Robinson, Neb., were ordered to proceed to the scene at once, Colonel James Lockett, of the Eleventh, to take supreme command of the situation.

Denver—Co-operation of state and federal authorities in an effort to compromise conditions in the Colorado stike zone marked developments Saturday, the second of federal intervention in the industrial war. Regular troops occupied the Trinidad, Fremont county and Walsenburg districts and state troops are still in service at Ludlow and in the northern coal fields.

At the direction of Major Holbrook, additional state troops were sent from Ludlow to Aguilar. The action of Secretary Garrison in granting the request of Major Holbrook and Governor Ammons for more federal troops, announced late Saturday, has served to allay uneasiness in quarters where it was feared the quota of regular soldiers would not be sufficeint to maintain order.

Americans Stay In City.

Vera Cruz, Mex. — The refugees from the capital who arrived here from Puerto Mexico on board the transport Hancock Saturday, and later were transferred to the steamer Monterey, on board which they are to proceed to Galveston, said they had received good treatment on the way from the capital to Puerto Mexico. Their only suffering was due to heat. It was estimated that from 500 to 800 Americans remained in the capital, most of whom felt that they could not leave their interests unprotected.

Huerta Minister Resigns

Mexico City—Jose Lopez Portillo y Rojas, Mexican foreign minister, resigned Saturday. Esteva Ruiz, under secretary to the foreign office, also resigned. A proposition made by the foreign minister to send an official commission to Washington to help arrange the difficulties between the United States was rejected at a cabinet meeting. According to the federal rules, President Huerta has dictated an order prohibiting commerce with the United States. All cargoes from the United States will be confiscated.

Grain Inspector Beaten.

Washington, D. C.—By a vote of 37 to 20 the senate defeated the bill of Senator McCumber providing for the Federal inspection and grading of grain entering into interstate commerce, and designed to secure uniformity in standards and classification of grain. The bill has been before the senate for more than a year and has been the subject of much discussion in the last few weeks.

AT BIRTHPLACE OF DICKENS

Almost a Shrine, Where Many of the Hurrying Crowds Pause to Do Reverence.

A great signboard partly covers the little house where Charles Dickens was born. "Charles Dickens' Birthplace," it says, and all the hurrying world entering old Portsmouth pauses to look at it. The street, Commercial road, might be a street in any large city, and the house is no alien edifice in the vista of ugliness. A hundred years ago the traffic may have been quieter and the flowers in the front gardens not quite so dusty—a century leads us back such a very long road. In the spring of 1812 we picture Mrs. John Dickens, wife of the humble clerk in the navy pay office, bringing her baby boy—her first son—to the small windows for a glimpse of the London stage coach bound for the Portsmouth dockyard. Little did the tired mother think as she held him there that his life would one day affect some of the passengers on the coach, the people who walked or rode in the street, the thousands going about their business in Portsmouth and the tens of thousands upon thousands all over the country. Whoever made so many men laugh and weep as Dickens? What pen has opened the doors into as many lives? No heart has every been closer to the facts of human life than that of the beardless boy who shyly winked at his Sam Weller and sent him forth with laughter that was to blow into a gale. On Weller's footsteps they come, those common and yet uncommon types he drew forth from the bone and sinew of Great Britain. The boy born in Commercial road was to be the apostle of everyday people, and the multitude of tradesmen he wrote of would make a trades' directory.—The Ladies' World.

NEVER LACKED FOR SOLDIERS

How Japanese Forethought Supplemented Military Skill in the Great Struggle With Russia.

Brig. Gen. Robert K. Evans, says the Army and Navy Journal, told of meeting, just after the Russo-Japanese war, a friend who had been a military attache with Oyama's army in the Manchurian campaign, and asked him what had been the most striking and noteworthy incident that came to his notice during the war. His reply was: "Without doubt it was this: In the battle of Mukden I noticed a large body of troops on the field whose presence I could not account for from any information in my possession. I rode over and inquired who they were. I was told, 'These are the reserves sent from Japan to take the places of the men who will be killed and wounded in the next great battle.' And there they were on the field while the battle was going on." This is a most instructive incident, thought General Evans. Here Oyama lost in a great battle a certain number of thousands of men. The next day they were all replaced by an equal number of trained, instructed and disciplined men. The army was as strong numerically as before the fight. It had probably gained in efficiency by the practical experience of the officers and men who had been under fire and still remained in ranks.

Turned Joke on Inspector.

This curious incident comes from Suhr, Switzerland: An inspector of schools, without any previous warning, visited the village school and found the elderly teacher asleep at his desk and the children departed, having apparently taken French leave. To give the teacher a great surprise and a bad quarter of an hour, the inspector decided to wait until he awoke, and seated himself on a bench in front of the culprit. The hours passed and the inspector himself went to sleep. The teacher, on awakening and seeing who was sleeping before him, quietly left the school for home. Without entering the school room the concierge locked up the school and the slumbering inspector. Several hours later the concierge heard a great noise and, arming himself, opened the door, and was greatly surprised to find the angry inspector before him.

Locked Antlers in Glacier.

Mute evidence of a mortal combat that may have occurred centuries ago was revealed to J. K. Magnussen, a timber cruiser on the slopes of Mount Baker, says the Portland Oregonian.

Lying in the lower edge of Roosevelt glacier were the crumbling bones of a buck deer of more than ordinary size. Digging down into the ice the cruiser uncovered the remains of a second animal, the body in an excellent state of preservation. The antlers of the animals were tightly interlocked, showing that the deer had died in battle.

From the position of the skeleton and the body in the glacier, Magnussen is of the opinion that they had been carried a long distance down the mountain side. As the glacier flows only four or five inches a day the battle of the bucks may have occurred centuries ago.

Force of Crystallization.

The experiments of Becker and Day on the linear force exerted by growing crystals have brought out interesting facts. They found that crystals of alum are able to form in a saturated solution in opposition to the pressure of a heavy weight which they must lift. This linear force of growing crystals is of geologic importance, for it has been found that pyritic crystals formed in slate rock are able to drive apart the laminae of the rock without any perceptible deformation of the crystals.—Harper's Weekly.

Strange Things in the Wash.

The women are in such a hurry these days to get to their clubs that they are rather careless in wrapping up their family washing which goes to the laundry. Such articles as combs, brushes, shoe-buttoners, pocket knives, dishes and many other articles are quite ordinary finds in family washings. Recently an Erie laundryman rolled a poodle dog out of a family washing. Last week he found an alarm clock.—Kansas City Journal.

Let Uncle Try for Another.

The little Bratenahl boy visited his uncle, who lives away out in the country. Uncle is a devout man; a pillar of the church and a breeder of fine horses. And upon a certain pretty colt did our little friend cast his eye with admiration and covetousness.

"Uncle Samuel," he said, "will you please give me that colt?"

"Why, no, Harold," answered the uncle. "I can't give you that colt. Do you want a colt very badly?"

"I'd rather have a colt than anything in the world."

"Well, if you want a colt that much you ought to pray for it. When I want a thing very badly I pray for it and it comes to me."

"Honest, Uncle? Well, I'll tell you—you give me this colt and then you pray for another one."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Cows in Belgium wear earrings. The law requires that when a cow has attained the age of 3 months it shall have in its ear a ring to which is attached a numbered metal tag for taxation purposes.

Not Eau de Vie.

Tippler—The doctor says I must drink lots of water.

His Wife—Very well. But he doesn't mean fire water, remember.

Chicago will have this year 1382 voting places because of expected large vote of women.

The area of Alaska is nearly 600,000 square miles, almost equal to that of the entire eastern half of the United States.

The largest steel ingot ever cast was recently produced in England. It weighed 150 tons, was 23½ feet long and 89 inches wide.