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put it in order and keep it so.

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Millard F. Moore shot and probably fatally wounded Isaac George at Farm ington after some words had been passed that led to a quarrel. Moore conducts a saloon in the town and had been

drinking heavily during the day. Governor Gage has issued the follow ing Thanksgiving proclamation : "In bedience to the universal and praisworthy American custom of setting apart a day for public thanksgiving and prayer to Almighty God, and further in conformity with the proclamation of the president of the United States of America. I, as governor of the state of California, do proclaim the 29th day of November, 1900, as Thanksgiving day and a legal holiday." A dispute over a mining claim near

Virginia, Nev., led to the killing of James Kiger by H. M. Clemmons. Both were prominent citizens. Miss Clara Clemens, daughter Mark Twain, is to go on the concert

stage as a professional singer. POSSIBILITIES OF THE POSTAL SYSTEM.

beap Mail Facilities One of the Chief Factors in Our Prosperity and Progress. "Common is the commonplace." The most valuable of civil benefits is such a Wonderful it is too in its re



separated. It carries across the sea some tender lover's message or perhaps a little flower picked from the daisied grave of an English churchyard. Every hour of every day the mail bag is packed with words which waken love and 'augh-

ter, and words which deepen the furrow ference, and for the children's sake''in the cheek and dim the failing sight "What a sordid sister-in-law I have with bitter tears. But with all this there is going on through the mail service a dissemination of human knowledge, a reaching out of human help which is one of the crowning blessings of our century. The correspondence schools led by Chautauqua, are sending to every village and hamlet the broader knowledge which is so eagerly craved by many who are shut in to the homely duties of a humble in to the homely duties of a humble life. Without the mail system this plan of education would be impracticable.

Every mail, too, carries from the great centers, the advice of great physicians, which it would be impossible for the distant public to obtain were it not for the mails. Few people realize how many thousand people depend on the mail service for medical treatment. Not long ago, when some postal affairs were

long ago when some postal affairs were being discussed in connection with the erection of the new postoffice building in Buffalo, N. Y., some light was thrown on this subject by the statement that the mail by Dr. R V. Pierce amounted daily to something over 1,500 pieces. Of course this is not a common case, because Dr. Pierce's relation as chief consulting physician to Buffalo's famous institution, The Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, makes his advice and that of his staff of nearly a score of skilled and experienced specialists much sought after, especially by women, to the treatment and cure of whose special diseases Dr. Pierce has devoted over thirty years of almost constant labor. But though this example is out of the ordinary, it may serve as an evidence of the amazing benefits reaped by the public from the mail service. It puts every outlying hamlet in touch with the most advanced medical specialism of the day. It gives at a cost of a two-cent stamp, the skill and experience that it has taken years to acquire. Literally at the cost of a two-cent stamp, since Dr. Pierce invites sick women to consult him by letter without charge. And this would seem to be one of the most remarkable services rendered by the postal system, disposal of those who are being dragged down by disease, without the possibility of help from those about them. When one contemplates the vast and far reach-

ing benefits of the mail service, so briefly touched upon in this article, it makes

SOCIETY DIRECTORIES. A. O. U. W. ASHLAND LODGE, NO. 66. Meets in lodge room in Masonic Hall overy second and rounts Wednesday in each month. All brethren in good standing tre cordially invited to attend.

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The People's Paper.

ASHLAND, Or., Thursday, Nov. 22, 1900

UNCLE JOB'S TURKEY

"Forevermore!" wails Mrs. Tom. "How provoking!" cries Mrs. Dick.

dices"-

"A terrible indigestible mass you'd find 'em, Bel!"

life, what do you think he said?" "Don't ask me. What did he say?" "His answer was terse enough and brief enough to be easily remembered He wrote: 'Dear niece, pray do not sadcommonplace matter, that we scarcely give it a thought. It would take a winter on a whaler nipped in an ice floe to make us truly appreciable of the worth of the postal service. What a wonderful thing it is! Wonderful in its organization, with its vast machinery for the collection and distribution of letters its must call him for some Biblical person- ler. collection and distribution of letters, its | monize well with our family name, and, | railway mail cars, its route riders, the believe me, Niece Isabel, he will have cle Job, I've lost my position, and—and unfailing order and precision of its

> "Of course he's as poor as poverty, us, and if it wasn't for those heavy mortgages Harry has to clear off in the spring he would not mind, I know, one extra month to feed." "And if I had an extra bedroom to

pare!" says Mrs. Dick. "And if I had an extra couple of ervants!" whines Mrs. Tom. "To be ure, if I could be certain that he was a 'What a sordid sister-in-law I have

ing of the childr n. Bel, how is Plant's e affair coming on?" "It isu't 'on' at all, Ruth; it's offand forever, I hope."

"Bel Altick, what do you mean?"

"I mean that he shall never marry that good for nothing Nan"-'Mark my words, he will marry her and neither you nor Tom nor your pro posed heiress can keep him from it Nan's worth a dozen Gwendolines':-

"Then Tom will disinherit him, and though he's my own son, I shall not blame his father." "You hard hearted, mercenary wom

go to work to break the heart of so good turkey. The fowl he means to buy he a son as Plant Altick I confess I cannot will offer to his nephews in turn, feelyou think it's good-seems to me if I doubt ask him to share their dinner, be were you I'd be obliged to taste the bit it Tom, Dick or Harry or Tom's dister of too many selfish reflections to en- obedient son. With an unmistakable joy it much." And the hall door closes | grin of amusement the dealer in poultry with a bang between the sisters-in-law. Days, weeks and months pass by, and there is no outward showing of the pre-sumptive wealth of Professor Altick. Save a penny now and then to the

at length accounted an eccentric indi. home. He rings and is admitted. vidual of small means and left religious-Alone and uncared for-that is, if we

looking at the rare specimens so carefully collected, for Uncle Job is a learned services rendered by the postal system, perhaps the supreme service of all. For while it is a splendid thing to be able to shop in New York while living in Kansas, and a grand thing to be able to command the learning of great professors while working in the Michigan woods, it is a still grander thing that by means of this cheaply supplied service, men like Dr. Pierce, who have the disposition to be helpful, are enabled to place their skill and knowledge at the disposal of those who are being dragged. tagenet's young love, and it is Uncle Job who unconsciously encourages him in his grim determination to brave the

ire of his parents and marry his sweet Nan in the teeth of all opposition. the familiar gray uniform of the postman the most glorious of all uniforms, for it is worn by the soldiers of the army of peace. It makes one feel like taking his hat off to the on-rushing mail trains. to the on-rushing mail train, and cheer-ing the work and wisdom of Uncle Sam. his father.

world without to wag as it will.

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1 I have to be the state of the state of

cheerless manner for the two wee

paradise, he has his Nan-his dear, litgreat, unshed tears upon him, when us, haven't you? Did you meet Plant? suddenly she meets his sorrowful gaze No? He went to fetch you over half an

"Oh, it must come right soon, Plant "Thank you, my niece. I think I'll —they never would shut you out of stay. It all depends, though." "And how does 'Paradoxides Tessini' their lives forever!" "You don't know them," mutters get on, sir?"

use in this instance—all I have to say jurassic! is that they don't deserve such a good ience, find their fond way about the to dinner, dear professor.' neck of her chosen lord.

Her chosen lord smiles faintly at this speech and tries desperately to rally his

oping spirits. It was a very humble position that the college bred Plantagenet Altick the little house going-the only position able opposition and a great and absorb-

Nan, too used to poverty to let it frighten her, and imagining, innocent soul, that no one could long be angry at so dear a boy as Plant, consented. and the home coming, though a lonesome little affair, brought with it hap-piness enough to last a fortnight at least.

"But then he's reported rich," asserts Mrs. Harry, "and if that is the to be no relenting on the part of those case it's assuredly one of those cases he loved and reverenced with all the that circumstances alter wonderfully!" strength of his boyish nature, and his "I don't believe he's a rich man, for one," affirms Mrs. Tom, looking rueful-bour. To crown all, he had lost his poly at the letter in her hand. "Why. when I wrote to Uncle Job—of all the following, owing to the insolvency of names I do detest, 'Job' comes first— the firm by which he had been employwhen I wrote and ever so delicately ed, and, though they have given him hinted that I'd swallow my preju- splendid recommendations, there is no position easily obtainable.

One morning a stray thought, finding its way from out that great, mysterious -"and name Plantagenet 'Job' if it silence so full of untried possibilities, would be to the boy's interest later in comes to him suddenly and sends him upon its own little errand straight to Uncle Job.

Up a long flight of front stairs, up a short back flight and several knocks upon a door's panel cause it to open and dle upon your son a name I never should discover to young Altick a room littered have chosen for myself had I had the with papers, books, trays of specimens smallest choice in the matter. If you and two or three volumes of Hugh Mil-

"Good morning, Uncle Job!"

"How d'ye do, Plantagenet?" "I do miserably, thank you, sir. Undie, if that is your desire, as if he had been named after your affectionate uncle, Job Altick."

—if I could help you in any way—copying or the like—I write a tolerably decent hand, sir, and I thought perhaps you'd like to hire ma"—

"Of course he's as poor as poverty, then, Bel. Poor people are always the you're a 'Yale fellow well met.' I'd witty ones, with sharp answers ever not trust you with them! Not a soul

"Firm I worked for failed." "Humph! How's Nan?"

not a red cent in his pocket! Heaven knows where tomorrow's bre I and butter will come from!"

"And it won't tell. It's a sort of hab wealthy man, it would make a vast dif | it it has got into, you see about be ing sort of mysterious over the ends i has in view. But there, you may sor o te sure!" laughs Mrs Harry "peak out the numbered pages for me from among the litter yonder, and we'll see about the bread and butter for tomor row. Tomorrow is Thursday-bless me boy, it's Thanksgiving"-

"Thanksgiving! So it is. 'Thankgiving.'"

"Your tone of voice would sugges that you hadn't the dearest little wif. in the world to be thankful for. Shame upon you, my nephew. There, I'm not a rich man, as rich men go, but take this bill to Nan and tell her it's from her Uncle Job."

Late upon this same afternoon Professor Altick, basket on arm, goes from an!" cries Mrs. Harry, moving toward greengrocer to butcher shop, intent the door. "How you can deliberately upon his purchase of a Thanksgiving omprehend. Good morning, Bel-if ing sure that he who accepts it will no places a very thin, very poor, very blue about the breastbone, low priced turkey in Uncle Job's basket.

Early Thanksgiving morning the old professor starts out through the cold, smaller fry of the Altick family, he has uncertain sunlight that shines fitfully never shown to them the color of his through the rifts of hurrying, wind noney, and as he lives simply and in | swept clouds, and, basket on arm, finds dulges sparingly in life's luxuries he is his way to Thomas Altick's elegant "Good morning, Uncle Job. Any-

thing I can do for you this morning?" "No, Thomas, thank you. It's someexcept the little friendly "runnings in" thing I want to do for you. I chanced of Plantagenet, his grandnephew, who to remember it was Thanksgiving-very has taken to the gentle old man from odd indeed, my remembering it—and I the first, and who is never weary of bought you a turkey. Will you have it, hearing of the professor's late trip to Thomas?" and out comes the old gentlethe petrified free tract of Arizona or man's sad little specimen of the genus meleagris gallopavo.

It is too much for Tom Altick. With a laugh that fetches Mrs. Tom quickly from an adjoining room and provokes her to join in its hearty roulades he declines the poor fowl with thanks with a sarcasm veiled so lightly that the ugly features of a rude and insolent nature

shine full upon poor Uncle Job. Quietly he replaces the turkey within the basket, quietly he takes his hat and gloves, and as quietly, with a brief "good day," he leaves the house of his

As for Richard Altick, be "roars smain" and has the turkey he has purchased for his own dinner brought up into the very parlor that he may place it in "odious comparison" beside the small fry in Uncle Job's basket. Again tle cottage, in a pretty suburb, some rebuffed, the old gentleman bids Mrs. miles from the splendid city home of Dick and her laughing husband good day and finds his way to the house of Uncle Job, who has begun a new the youngest of his three nephews.

y, shuts himself up in [It is the same thing over again, save his third story back room and allows the | that Henry Altick's refusal to accept the wizened bird is more politely veiled. And it soon begins to wag in a very Gentle Mrs. Harry even makes furtive

Through Nan's kitchen door comes the sweet sound of her singing. Plantagenet has found a new position, Un-cle Job has given them a "fiver" to start on, a little fat turkey is on the table before her, awaiting its fragrant dressing, and life has seemed brighter this Thanksgiving morning than for many a day. So she sings with a heart

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STATE OF STREET, NAME OF

ided growing lighter at each merry measure and her song reaches Uncle Job, who

stands knocking outside the door.
"Why, Uncle Job, how nice of you! brave Nan, who smiles through And you've come to take dinner with after many a long quarter of an hour's hour ago. Let me have your basket and your hat and your gloves-there!"

"Famously, Mrs. Nan-famously! I "I'm pretty well acquainted with shall yet live to show old Herr von you, dear, and if any father or mother Leimstein that what he chooses to call could treat such a son as you are so muschelkalk of the triassic period is sourvily-there, that's an ugly word, I nothing upon earth-or in earth, I supknow, Plant, but it's the right one to pose I should say-but colite of the

"Indeed, sir. Well, I'm glad I'm not in the mussel shell state of evolution. child—there!" and two pretty arms, in the mussel shell state of evolution, bared to the elbow for kitchen conven. and I am also glad that you have come "Honestly glad?"
"Honestly glad."

"Glad enough to accept this little turkey as an addition to your repast?" "Oh, Uncle Job, how lovely of you! Why, what a feast we'll have, to be found himself obliged to accept to keep sure! I'm awfully hungry, and I'll confess to you now, sir, that I felt as if 1 open to him when he, beside himself could eat the entire turkey Plant brought with a just indignation at an unreason. home myself. I wouldn't tell him the whole truth, but I was afraid be'd find ing love, broke bounds and besought it out by my gnawing the bones. But the faithful Nan to leave her position now we're all fixed for a luxurious reas governess in a wealthy family and past, and, oh, Uncle Job, don't you share his five roomed cottage and his want to chop up this onion for me? I'm so tired of weeping, and onions always affect me so deeply.

"Tears have forgotten the way to my eyes. Give me the chopper." 'There's the bowl, and there's-

Plant." "'Tisn't fair," smiles the newcomer, holding out his hands to the grateful warmth of the little kitchen stove. You're a witch. Upon which particular broomstick did you fetch him in my absence. Nan?"

"A turkey brought him. See, here it is, a twin to ours, and just in time to be stuffed.'

"Hooray for us-a tandem team! To be strictly candid, Nan, I meant to eat the turkey I brought home all myself. Now you can have a taste. Four drumsticks! Uncle Job, if I do have a weakness for anything besides Nan it s''-"What's this? Plant-look-look-

Louder than her cries of wonderment is the noisy downfall of the strange contents of that little turkey. Silver disks clatter and jingle and chink upon the pine table over the echoing tinware, the iron pans, the dough board, the floor itself, and, as if demented with their sudden liberty, the big round coins go rolling off into this corner, that corner, under table, chair and stove!

How many broad silver dollars that gaunt fowl holds the astonished young people cannot tell, but to their widely opened eyes it seems a little fortune, and Uncle Job thinks himself amply reof the chopped onions in his lap—they are bona fide tears of pure joy.

And afterward, when it comes to pass that the profits that accrue from the ready at tongues' or pens' points. One of us (or shall we take turns?) will be on these particular manuscripts. What's sure to have old Uncle Job foisted upon the matter?"

save myself shall do a line of writing enormous sales of the new textbook are all made over to the little bride and Mrs. Nan is accounted almost as wealth; enormous sales of the new textbook are Mrs. Nan is accounted almost as wealth; as the regretted Gwendolin, Mrs. Tom allows John to turn the horses' noses "How should she be? Happy and joyous as befits a bride—the bride of a man shut out from home, and who has Job's especial use, and in her gentle daughter-in-law's little best room eats humble pie very prettily, leaving a message for her son that, to him, brings heaven itself into the dining room, when at dusk, through the sweet air of a budding spring, he comes and takes his place at the supper table opposite

> "But we owe all our happiness to you—all to you, dear, dear uncle! For unless you had come to our aid and played fairy godfather we should yet be as poor

"Job's turkey," suggests the profess-



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