

The Herald.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 12 1896.

The Bride's Slipper.

A singular marriage custom prevails among the French Canadians in Quebec. After the morning marriage service in the church, the bridal party, in caleche or carriage, make a tour of calls upon relatives and friends during the day, and then return again to the church for vespers.

Before the evening dance at the bride's new home comes the supper. When the company rise from the table the bride keeps her seat, and some one asks, with great dignity: "Why does Madam wait? Is she so soon in bad grace?"

She replies: "Someone has stolen my slipper; I cannot walk."

Then they carry her, chair and all, into the middle of the room, while loud knocking announces a grotesque ragged vendor of boots and shoes. He kneels before the slipperless bride, and tries on a long succession of old boots and shoes of every variety and size, until at last he finds her missing shoe.

The groom redeems it for a good price, which is spent in treating the company. If the groom is not watchful they will steal her hat and cloak, which he redeems in the same way and they have been known to steal the bride for which there must be liberal pay. The church forbids round dances, so they content themselves with contra dances. The event of the evening is the jig, in which a guest volunteers to outdance the bride. If successful, the visitor demands a prize from the groom.

Hardened Aluminum.

New York, Feb. 13.—Edison, in his experiments with the Roentgen rays in photography, believes that he has accidentally hit upon a process of hardening aluminum that will make a substitute for steel in all the uses of that metal, from ships to bicycles. This means a revolution in the iron work. This discovery was made by the wizard last night. In happening to pick up one of the aluminum disks used for the cathode electrode, in the course of his experiment, he tried to bend it, but found that its nature had changed and that it was stiff as steel.

A Lewiston paper records the marriage of a full blooded Indian to a white girl. This is perhaps the first instance of the kind in the history of that section of the country. The Indians are coming to the front upon the strength of their financial standing. The better class among the Indians scorn the idea of wedding a white man. A marriage with an ordinary white man would be regarded as a disgrace. The father of the groom in the event of last week realized the importance of the relationship with the white race. He remarked that his people were becoming civilized and cited the marriage of his son to a white girl as evidence in support of his position.—The Dalles Chronicle.

Little Rock, Feb. 13.—Rev. J. H. Hunycutt, a Baptist minister, has been arrested at Morrilltown, Ark.,

charged with infanticide. His housekeeper's 1-year-old child cried while he was preaching a sermon, and the preacher became enraged at the annoyance and choked the child to death.

Whitelaw Reid has become well enough to take the trail of the Morton boom: he is loaded down with spear daggers.

If McKinley is to be nominated on the first ballot what is to become of the fellows who are figuring on winning in the third or fourth ballot?

The pulpit also demands novelty these days. Boston is now enthusing over a full blooded gypsy evangelist, whose ungypscial name is Smith.

Gen. Weyler the new commander of the Spanish troops in Cuba, would do well to bear in mind that he who starts out to butcher may himself get butchered.

Having no savage prince on hands just now, the British government has invited Mr. Kruger, president of the Transvaal republic, to come to London and be exhibited as its guest, and the old gentleman has been unwise enough to accept.

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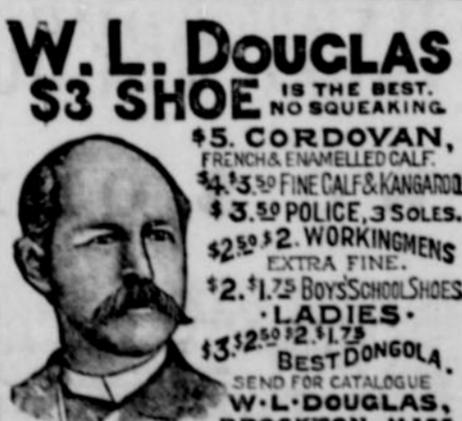
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