

Lebanon Express.

H. Y. KIRKPATRICK,
Editor - and - Proprietor

Major McKinley was inaugurated as president to-day, but it is very likely that there will be a "power behind the throne," that power being Mark Hanna.

Homer Davenport, the famous caricaturist, will go to Carson, Nevada, on the way to his home in New York city, to illustrate the Corbett-Fitzsimmons prize fight for the New York Journal.

There was a time in American history when the insulting of American women by foreign soldiers was immediately followed by the burning of powder, leaving the matter of explanation until a later date.—Portland Dispatch.

The European powers readily unite to prevent a little nation from tackling the haughty sultan, but they cannot agree upon a plan to put a stop to the atrocities committed by the sultan. The sultan is a lucky dog because he is protected by a lot of powers that are afraid of each other.

A novel case has come up in connection with the Allen murder case in Georgia. The owner of the house where the tragedy occurred has attached the property of Edward Flanagan, the murderer, in a suit to recover for the damage alleged to have been done to her property by the crime. No tenant can be found to occupy the cottage.

St. Louis has been making her boasts that she had the finest union station in the world. In fact, she has exploited her palatial \$3,000,000 structure so industriously that most people believe the claim. It will not stand the test, however. The grandest union station in the world is that of the Peninsular railway, Bombay, India. It cost \$18,000,000, and thousands of Hindoo laborers worked on it for ten years. It has a frontage of 1500 feet. The architecture is Venetian Gothic.

Bimetallists all over the country will learn with deep regret of the death of Wm. P. St. John, of New York. Mr. St. John was one of the leading bankers of New York, but espoused the cause of free silver and supported Bryan with zeal. He was forced to resign his position with the bank that he had long managed with signal success, and was subjected to many jibes and petty persecutions. But he asserted his manhood and stood for what he knew to be right despite the influence of Wall street. Mr. St. John was an exemplary citizen, an able financier and steadfast friend of the common people.—Portland Dispatch.

The manner in which McKinley's new secretary of the treasury once ran afoul of a Wisconsin lumberman, and a comment on a case recalled by many of our North-western lumbermen, is thus stated by the Shell Lake, Wis., Watchman, a staunch republican paper, but which can't go Gage:

"We are sorry to see Lyman J. Gage appointed secretary of the treasury. We remember the tilt the Northwestern Lumber company had with him to make him disgorge \$40,000 or \$50,000 that he assumed of the Howell Lumber company tried to beat them out of. He had about twenty lawyers in court, but R. L. McCormick stuck to him until he came down and paid the honest bill when he had to. Such a man is poor timber for an honest administration man."

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Ripans Tablets cure constipation.

IN THE BAHAMAS.

BY WILFRED BENDALL.

Amongst the numerous British colonies there is none, perhaps, about which the average Englishman is more hazy than about the Bahamas—the islands of June—the Pink Pearl—of the Oleander, as they have been variously styled. Several reasons may account for this. The islands lie apart from the other West Indian possessions, and out of the course of the great steamships; they are in no direct communication with England whatever, save with the nearest British colony, Jamaica, except by means of an occasional sailing vessel—and from all local resources may be supposed to be an unwary visitor!

Most of the exports and import trade is with the United States, and the only regular communication with the islands is furnished by the American steamers leaving New York fortnightly, calling at Nassau, and proceeding to Cienfuegos on the south coast of Cuba; and by the Bahamas Shipping company, which runs a steamer every three weeks between New York and Nassau.

The islands are largely patronized by American visitors during the winter months, who come thither to enjoy the superb climate; and as a traveling Englishman is quite a rare avist, every stranger is assumed to be American until he proclaims his nationality.

The Bahamas consist of a group of some 430 islands (only 25 inhabited), widely scattered, the extremes being something over 400 miles apart. Many of them are only partially explored, and one of the smaller ones scarcely known; the population is, of course, very scanty, the last census giving only 2000, of which about 90 per cent. are colored people.

Nassau, the capital (and indeed the town worthy the name), is situated on New Providence, an island about the size and shape of Isle of Wight. The finest buildings the town possesses are the jail, the hospital and the Royal Victoria hotel, said to be the best in the West Indies. It is only open from Christmas till the end of April, that being the times at which visitors come from the states; although as far as the climate is concerned, the rains are over in October and the weather is cool and delightful from the beginning of November. The thermometer during the winter varies between 70 and 80 degrees.

At other times of the year accommodations can be had at the Curry house and at various boarding establishments. The bank, post office and most of the shops are in Bay street—a long, wide street, planted with almond trees, running along the coast, east and west. The roads around the town and indeed throughout the country are excellent. The land cannot boast of any special variety of scenery; with the exception of a very low range of hills, the country is flat, in some places swampy. The soil is fertile, and is always covered with vegetation, sometimes by an almost impenetrable bush, sometimes by pine trees, and sometimes by many miles of beautiful palmetto-plants—without which no London drawing-room is complete nowadays.

At the lack of Nassau is a limestone ledge through or over which are roads leading to the native towns. These being sheltered from the dry north wind, and hence being somewhat damper and warmer than the capital, exhibit the most wonderful wealth of tropical vegetation. Each cabin stands in the midst of a garden where such utility trees as coconuts, pineapples, bananas, guavas, and sometimes breadfruit, are sure to be seen; the merely ornamental plants are also not forgotten; every species of rose seems to run wild in the gardens, and in this land of perpetual summer the trees "keep blooming right along," as an American might express it. There are four of these native settlements at the lack of Nassau, and to a botanist nothing can be more interesting than a ramble through the streets, or, more properly speaking, lanes.

The list of trees and plants flourishing on the island seems almost inexhaustible; besides those before mentioned, some of the best known are: the cotton, banana, mahogany, ebony, satin-wood trees; placapples, grapefruit, shaddock, mangoes, yams, plantains, sugar cane, etc.

The chief and oldest industry of the lace is sponging; an apparently endless supply of sponge is found on the reefs which surround the islands. The spongers are constantly returning to Nassau with their cargoes, and large crews may be seen almost any morning in the exchange. Sponge is sold by auction, clipped and pressed, packed in bales, and dispatched to agents in New York and London. Several species are found, but none of them are of so fine quality as most of the sorts from the Mediterranean.

OVERRULED BY THEIR WIVES.

A Case Where All the Justices of the Supreme Court Changed Their Minds.

It was a matter of some surprise that Justice Shiras, of the United States supreme court, should have changed his mind within a few weeks upon a matter of law, but it is not many months since the whole court changed their mind on such a matter, and that in the course of a few days.

The case before the court, says the New York Sun, was one arising out of a customs decision at this port, and its counsel arguing against the decision of the custom house was a New York lawyer, then for the first time before the supreme court. The case turned mainly upon the question whether an article of importation should or should not be classed as a sauce. The custom house had called it a sauce and taxed it accordingly. The government maintained this contention, and, of course, the New York lawyer sought to show that the article should not be classed as a sauce.

When the supreme court came to consult upon the case their unanimous opinion was favorable to the contention of the government, and one of the justices was instructed to prepare a decision in favor of the custom house. The justice, on returning home, told his wife of the case, and indicated the ground of the decision; whereupon the lady told him in plain words that the justices of the supreme court did not know what they were talking about, and had agreed upon an unjust decision. The lady was entirely clear that the article in dispute could not properly be called a sauce, and openly ridiculed the court.

The perplexed justice, instead of preparing the decision in accordance with the instructions of his brethren, did nothing in the matter, but at the next opportunity unfolded to the other justices his wife's view of the matter, and asked them to seek domestic counsel on the case and report at the next consultation of the court. When that consultation came round the justices, having taken feminine counsel, all reported against the original view that the article involved in the case should be classed as a sauce, and accordingly the justice originally charged with the task of preparing a decision in favor of the government was now instructed to prepare one in favor of the New York lawyer's client. It thus happened that the lawyer won his first case before the supreme court because the wives of the justices knew more than the court itself.

RURAL GEORGIA JOYS.

The Old-Time Log-Rollings and Corn-Shuckings Are Things of the Past.

"The old-time corn-shuckings and log-rollings have played out in the land of the south," remarked a Georgian farmer from Elbert county recently to an Atlanta Constitution man, the conversation turning to farm life and its joys. "Yes, one rarely ever sees the genuine old-time Georgia corn-shucking these days. You see, for a number of years the farmers of this section of the country did not grow enough corn to have a respectable corn-shucking, and as for log-rollings, the farmers have not been in the humor of late years to clear up much new ground land, and for this reason there has been no occasion for much log-rolling."

A listener wanted to know what was a log-rolling anyhow.

"Why, have you never heard of the log-rollings we used to have in this country?" asked the farmer. "Then you've missed half your life. It was the greatest fun the darkeys on the farms had for years and years. The farmer who had cleared a new ground, when the trees had all been cut down and the brush clipped off and burned, wanted to get all the logs off the field before he could cultivate it. Therefore he would give what is called a log-rolling, to which he would invite all the harkies and laborers on the neighboring farms on some suitable day. There was no compensation in it, for it was a picnic, though you would never think it, for it was the hardest sort of work. The darkeys all would come in high glee, knowing that a great joy of whiskey would be dished out to them, and that a big dinner would be given by the landlord who gave the log-rolling. What is meant by rolling logs is putting a handstick under them, with a ducky at each end of the stick, and lifting the logs from the ground and then conveying them to a pile here and there about the new ground, where they would be burned later. The fun came in with the rivalry among the darkeys to see who was the champion lifter of the day. They would have great strips of leather that went over their shoulders in a loop, and through this loop they would stick their hands, sometimes enabling them to lift with their hands and their whole bodies at the same time, throwing their strength against their opponent, who had hold of the other end of the handstick under the log. This strip of leather, for some reason, was called an 'Alabama.' It was great fun to see them straining their very lives away under the great heavy logs here and there about the field. When night came on the frolic would up with a great dance and 'hot supper,' so they called it, in the landlord's kitchen."

—It is said that Dr. Max Wolf, of Heidelberg, who has discovered a number of asteroids, has now directly seen an asteroid. His discoveries have been made from the planet-observatory at which the planet-observatory at which he is working, and which is situated at the foot of the mountain of Mount Palomar, in California.

—The biggest bet on record, according to G. R. Sims, was made a few years back by a young Aborigine who was content at "a main" held in the grounds of a notorious young sporting man who was named. One bird was truly scolded and the other was fighting with a terrible force. "Twenty slow and to a pinch of snuff on that one," said the young Aborigine, "which was black. The American won."

W. C. T. U. DEPARTMENT.

(Edited by the Lebanon W. C. T. U.)

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The W. C. T. U. held its last regular meeting at the home of Mrs. Sanders, Tuesday, February 23, at 2 p. m. We were very sorry to note the fact that very few were present. Dear sisters, can't we do better in this respect?

Our average attendance so far will not equal a third of our active membership. This should not be so. Some of our active members have never been present at a meeting. If we intend to live and grow and accomplish "the work whereunto we are sent" we must all try and do all we can to increase our attendance.

Every member needs every other member's advice and counsel. What is an easy burden for twenty five or thirty to carry is a terrible load for five or six to bear.

Surely we can, most of us, give an hour or two a month, and if every member came to every meeting it would only be two hours a month for each one. Of course, we know things will hinder sometimes, but if we were all to reckon the hour from 2 till 3, every other Tuesday, as belonging exclusively to the W. C. T. U. work, our attendance would be greatly increased.

The next regular meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Simpson, and we hope these few words will result in an increased attendance, and therefore, to the interest of the meeting.

The battleship Texas has gone to Galveston, where she will be presented with a silver service in the name of the citizens of Texas. The gift is not to be a silver "temptation in the shape of a punch bowl and toddy set," such as the battleship Oregon is so shamefully threatened with.

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The New York Weekly Tribune

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