

MAY 18, 1905.

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32 to 42, special

\$2.50.

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medallions, inser-
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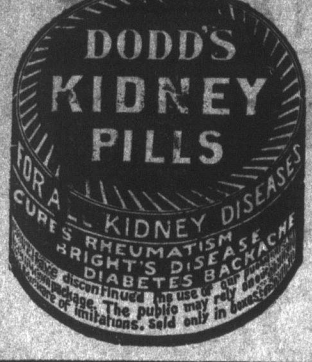
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PERE MARQUETTE R.R.

EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 1905.

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THE TIMES NEVER RETRACTS.

A Cardinal Principle in the Conduct of the Thunder.

Mr. John Lawrence, in presiding as

Judge of the King's Bench division of

the High Court of Justice, in the trial

of the suit brought by Col. Morgan,

director of supplies at Woolwich Ar-

senal, for libel against The London

Times, managed to extort from the as-

stant business manager of that pa-

per the revelation of a cardinal prin-

ciple of its conduct, which, though

familiar to a very few, has hitherto

been unknown to the public at large.

It is this, namely, that The London

Times never, under any circumstances

whatever, makes a retraction or a

correction. It abides by what it has

printed, whether right or wrong, and

is prepared to take the consequences.

Thus in the case of Col. Morgan,

though it was made absolutely clear

that he was innocent of the charges

unjustly brought against him by The

Times, it declined to make any cor-

rection. It was up to him, The Times

declared, to disprove these charges by

means of a libel suit, and if he won his

case The Times would pay whatever

damages might be awarded. That has

always been the policy of The Times

during the hundred years or more of

its existence, and it cannot be denied

that it has contributed to its prestige

and authority. It has paid hundreds

of thousands of dollars, possibly mil-

lions, in damages and legal costs, rat-

her than retract statements made edi-

torially by correspondents in its

columns. No one will ever, indeed, ex-

actly know how colossal was the sum

of money which it spent in connection

with the great libel suit known as the

Parnell Commission, where its prin-

cipal witness was shown to have for-

ged and forged the evidence upon

which the paper, believing it to be au-

thentic, had based its charges against

Charles Stewart Parnell.

In the trial the other day the libel

was claimed by Col. Morgan was

contained in a cable despatch from

South Africa. It was not even an

editorial assertion. On learning of the

despatch the colonel had at once in-

sisted upon a court of inquiry at Pre-

toria, which acquitted him with flying

colours. The colonel thereupon returned

to England and called upon Moberly

Bell, the assistant manager of The

Times, and asked for a few lines of re-

traction. In the witness box Moberly

Bell admitted that Col. Morgan had

satisfied him that he was entirely in-

nocent. But he nevertheless refused

the retraction, on the ground that it

was contrary to the traditions and

principles of The Times, which led the

preluding judge, Sir John Lawrence, to

refer the paper from the bench as a

sort of "Grand Llama of Thibet."

Of course, this policy, unique among

the newspapers of the world, has this

inestimable advantage—that the writ-

ers for the paper, knowing that it can-

not and will not retract anything, are

exceedingly cautious and which endows

in all their statements, a degree of reli-

ability in the eyes of the public, not only

at home, but also abroad, which prob-

ably no other paper, English or foreign,

enjoys. For this reason, French, as

well as German, statesmen have on

several notable occasions made The

Times the means of communication to

the public of things which they wished

to be known and of opinions which

they desired to proclaim, rather than

the newspapers of their own country.

Scotland Under Mary.

The Speaker, discussing Dr. Hume

Brown's "Scotland in the Time of

Mary," thus summarizes the book's

chief points:—The country was very

poor; the population, he thinks, was

about half a million; traveling was dan-

gerous; barley, oats, peas and beans

were grown on the hillside; the lower

lands were unimproved; the roads were

in bad order; the towns were un-
walled; the coast swarmed with pirates;

and yet "the Scotch peasant was not

much worse off than his English fel-

In the old days it was sometimes consid-

ered fashionable to be delicate, pale and

with an inclination to faint at the least pro-

voctation. It is different

now. America is rais-

ing a strong race—a race

of vigorous and healthy

mothers. When a

woman becomes nerv-

ous, suffers from back-

ache, sleeplessness,

a general tired-out

and fagged feeling,

with dragging-down

pains, she turns to

the right remedy.

She is positive she

can get relief and assistance from Doctor

Pierce's Favorite Prescription.

Backed up by over a third of a century of

remarkable and uniform cures, a record

such as no other remedy for