BALFOUR'S LAND BILL.

Declared by Gladstone to Violate Constitutional Equality.

A London cable of last night says: Mr. Gladstone resumed the debate on the Land Purchase Bill in the House of Commons this evening. He said he opposed the bill under an overwhelming conviction that it was complicated without undertaking to solve the difficulty. He was disappointed when Mr. Balfour stated that the measure pledged the country to the extent of £33,000,000, without mentioning the possibility of further amounts being asked. Mr. Parnell's plan was new in principle. Its general purpose was clear, but he was not certain that he comprehended the details. (Conservative laughter.) It was honorable—even chivalrous—in Mr. Parnell, opposing the Government as he did, to propose an alternative. He strongly sympathized with one object of Mr Parnell's plan, whereby the landlords would not be expatriated, but would be retained. It would be

A SORROWFUL CONCLUSION

of the life of the landlord class if when local government was established in Ireland they did not take part in adjusting affairs. Mr. Balfour's bill presented a number of dubious points. Some of the proposals were so obviously objectionable as to justify their rejection. A bill of this kind should not encourage landlords to become buyers of land in order to take advantage of the enormous boons offered. (Hear, hear.) The provision respecting two years' arrears also required a justification which it would be difficult to find. (Cheers.) The method proposed for ascertaining the net rent of the land would enable the landlord to obtain compensation upon a large mass of income that he had never received. (Hear, hear.) He also took the strongest objection to placing an embargo upon the local funds of counties. (Hear, hear.) That proposal

VIOLATED A PRINCIPLE

which the House ought to hold sacred. The only really available and valuable guarantees provided in the measure were grants from the Imperial exchequer on account of probate duties and other public charges. The Government had already given England and Scotland similar grants, placing them wholly at the disposal of the local authorities. Was it possible the Government would tell the counties of Ireland that the grant to that country must be used for the benefit of persons contracting under the bill? (Cheers.) It was a violation of equality in governing the three kingdoms, than which he never knew a more glaring instance. (Cheers.) Coming to the "constitutional" objections, any of which, he asserted, formed an absolute reason against the second reading of the bill, Mr. Gladstone urged it was obvious that Ireland opposed the measure, as two-thirds of the Irish members deliberately and determinedly opposed it. (Cheers.) As the Government was going to make Ireland its debtor, it was important to consider the attitude of the persons about to be subjected to debt. Was it possible to imagine the Government imposing a similar measure upon Scotland in defiance of the protest of 60 out of 70 Scotch members? (Cheers.) He objected also to the use of English credit. In the last general election both the Conservatives and the Opposition were pledged against the use of the public credit. This Parliament could not in conformity with its honorable obligations pass a Bill instituting a loan fund having an interminable operation. (Cheers.) Besides the large pecuniary risk the Bill

INVOLVED EVILS TENFOLD GREATER,

threatening to produce conditions which would shock humanity, imperil order and make worse the relations between the two countries. State landlordism implied the use of soldiers against the tenant, the use of every weapon of the State to enforce an unpopular law. It was a sad disappointment to find under the name of a voluntary arrangement between landlord and tenant a device for bringing an irresistible pressure upon the tenant, with a view to extorting for the landlord's benefit nearly the whole of the immense boon that Parliament might confer. Mr. Gladstone said these objections covered only a part of this measure, which was probably the most complicated one he had ever seen. In conclusion he said: I feel it to be my absolute duty to protest against principles of so flagrant a character and so tending to embark the country in immense pecuniary risks, while making land purchase not an aim in the settlement of the general Irish problem, but a means to further plunge us into the deepest political embarrassments. (Cheers.)

ROOF IN THE COUNTRY.

The Trouble Caused Uncle Sam by the Chinese Invasion.

A Washington despatch says: Attorney-General Miller informed the Treasury Department, under date of April 19th, that there are nineteen Chinamen now in custody of the United States Marshal of Washington, who were arrested and tried for coming into the United States in violation of the Chinese Exclusion Act. He recommended, in accordance with a suggestion from the Secretary of State, that notwithstanding the presumption that these Chinamen entered the United States across the British border, they be returned to China at the Government expense, for the reason that the men could not be returned to British territory without payment of a head tax of $50 each, and even then they might probably again evade the vigilance of the United States officers and return to this country. Secretary Windom has adopted the recommendation, and has instructed the Collector of Customs at Port Townsend to see that the men are returned to China in the most economical way by sailing or other vessel bound direct for that country without touching at any American port en route.

Methodist Ecumenical Conference.

The second Ecumenical Conference, composed of Methodists from all over the world, will be held in the fall of 1891. The Commission appointed by the last General Conference met in Philadelphia in March and appointed Bishop Hurst, ex Governor Pattison, J. M. Cornell, of New York; G. H. Hunt, of Baltimore, and M. G. Emery, of Washington, a committee to decide upon the place for holding the Conference and to arrange the finances.

The objects of the Conference are to bring together representatives from all classes of Methodists, not only those belonging to what is known as the Methodist Episcopal Church, but those believing in the general principles of that faith. It will be composed of about 500 delegates, 200 of whom are expected from Europe. The Conference will continue for about a week and will consist of daily meetings for discussion. The first Ecumenical Conference was held in London in 1881, and it was then decided to hold another one in 1891 in this country.

What's in a Name?

A Washington despatch says: The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations has decided to urge upon Congress the advisability of placing our Ministers to the great powers of Europe on an equal footing in respect of rank with representatives of other nations. Senator Sherman to-day reported from the committee an amendment to the Diplomatic Appropriation Bill giving the title of ambassador to our Ministers to Great Britain, France, Germany and Russia, the salary to be as now, $17,500 per annum. Other amendments proposed by the committee to the bill provide that the salary of the Minister to Turkey shall be $10,000, an increase of $2,500; to Denmark, $7,500, an increase of $2,500; and to Greece, Roumania and Servia, $7,500, an increase of $1,000.

Unconscious.

Squeers—You're not looking well this morning, old man. What's the matter?

Nickleby—No wonder! I was unconscious ten hours last night.

Squeers—By Jove! And up this morning! Why, man, you ought to be under the doctor's care. What was the matter?

Nickleby—I was asleep!

So There Was.

"Oh, James, come quickly, Freddy has swallowed his mouth-organ."

"Is that so? Then their's music in the hair."

Tough Case.

Mrs. Youngwife—Did you ever try any of my biscuits, Judge?

Judge—No, I never did; but I dare say they deserve it.

The city of Austin, Tex., will erect the greatest dam in the United States. It will cost $1,500,000.

Tramp—It is needless to ask you the question, madam. You know what I want. Lady—Yes, I know what you want badly, but I've only one bar of soap in the house, and the servant is using it. Come again one other time.

SCHOOL CLOSED BY A DOG.

"Nep" Is Creating Huge Excitement in Camden County.

A Philadelphia despatch says: School Teacher Flora Marshall's dog, which has so divided the residents of Waterford, Camden county, by biting Miss Abbie Rice, a popular young woman of the town, several days ago, is forward again as a candidate for public attention. Four men with guns followed Miss Marshall in an effort to get a shot at her big shaggy friend "Nep," which she was taking across the border of Winslow township to get him out of harm. Miss Marshall closed her school, at Bates' Mill, yesterday and came up to Camden, where she held a consultation with Lawyer Martin V. Bergen.

"No one has a right to shoot your dog," said Mr. Bergen. "Get a pistol, and if they attempt it, shoot them." Miss Marshall has secured the weapon, it is said, and will defend her dog and herself.

Since the alleged biting of Miss Rice over a week ago, the town of Waterford has been rent asunder, and the question of the life or death of the dog has entered into every phase of social and business life there. Miss Rice insisted that as she was passing Miss Marshall's house the dog flew upon and bit her in the hand. She and her friends declare the big brute must die, but Miss Marshall defended her pet, asserting that he was tender, gentle and brave, and that she would as soon part with her own blood as see that of her noble "Nep" shed. She was sure that he had not bitten Miss Rice, but may have jumped upon her in play and caused her a great fright.

The trouble was discussed in all its phases, and Miss Rice's male friends made every effort to get a shot at the dog, but so far they have been unsuccessful. At last Capt. H. M. Jewett, Chairman of the Township Committee, was appealed to, and after hearing all the facts he issued a decree of death upon the dog. Miss Marshall, however, headed off any attempt to execute the decree of death by taking the dog out of the township. The four men who followed her found it impossible to shoot, as the plucky young schoolmarm kept so close to the dog that her own body might have received the charge intended for the dog.

The closing of the village school on account of a dog has added fuel to the fire among the brute's enemies, and there is no telling where the controversy will end.

VIENNA ALARMED.

Threats of Incendiarism and Attempts to Wreck Trains Made.

A Vienna cable says: A great sensation has been caused here by an apparently official note in the *Abendpost*, stating that the troops called out to repress the disorders at Biala did not, as previously believed, use blank cartridges on first firing on the rioters, but used ball cartridges at the first volley. This note, taken with the circular from the Minister of the Interior giving the provincial Governors instructions with reference to the proclamation of martial law, is regarded as indicating the determination of the Government to act with extreme energy in the case of disorder. At Biala matters remain calm, although at a workmen's meeting held last night threats to set fire to houses of the rich were uttered. The middle and upper classes are greatly alarmed, and many wealthy residents have left Biala for Cracow and Lemberg. The garrison has been strongly reinforced in view of further rioting. An attempt at rioting is signaled from Saybusch, the authorities of which place asked the military Governor of Cracow to send a battalion of infantry to their aid. It is announced that attempts have been made to wreck a train near Rasdorf, by placing large stones on the track. Happily the obstruction was discovered in time. Men also have been seen hanging suspiciously around Siebenbrun station. Fears are entertained that the labor troubles in South Austria will be attended with some disastrous results, as the men are now worked up to a white heat of exasperation.

A WINNIPEG ELOPEMENT

In Which a Toronto Traveller Plays a Leading Part.

A Winnipeg despatch says: A private letter from Toronto making enquiries as to the cause of the continued absence and silence of a husband and father gives a clue to a sensation. The man is a commercial traveller, well-known in the East and in Winnipeg. During his frequent visits to this province he made the acquaintance of a woman here. The woman in question formed the central figure of an interesting incident in this city three or four years ago. She is the mother of two children, but is divorced from her husband, who is in the hardware business in Port Arthur. The acquaintance between the two became very intimate. In fact their attachment for each other decided them in abandoning their children and wife, home, situation, and all, and seeking seclusion and pleasure amongst the people of the Pacific coast. The woman to cover her steps announced to her friends that she was going on a brief visit to Chicago on Tuesday, and placed her two children in charge of her neighbors. She, however, only went as far south as Pembina. Returning yesterday, she at once proceeded to the Canadian Pacific Railway depot and boarded the express for the west. The commercial traveller was also on board, and the two alighted at Portage la Prairie and spent the night there at one of the hotels, continuing their journey to the coast on Friday.

Portuguese Inhumanity.

A London cable says: The crew of the British barque Osseo, from Savannah for Newcastle, before reported abandoned, were rescued by the British ship Highmoor. Some of the rescued men were placed on another vessel off Lisbon. Five of the Osseo's crew refused to proceed on the Highmoor and started in a boat for St. Vincent, 60 miles distant. They reached the island in a starving condition, but the Portuguese authorities would give them no succor and refused to allow them to land. The British consul gave the men a distress order addressed to the captain of the British steamer Buffon directing him to carry them to England. Statements in regard to the matter have been received by the British Government.

San Francisco Shaken.

A San Francisco despatch of last night says: One of the most severe shocks of earthquake experienced here for a long time was felt in this city and neighbouring localities a little after 3.30 o'clock this morning. The buildings were shaken perceptibly and persons aroused from their sleep. Plastering fell from the walls in places, but no serious damage has been reported.

The earthquake shock at Mayfield was very severe. The railroad bridge was rendered impassable, as the piers, 60 feet high, settled a few inches, and the rails spread apart about a foot. The ground in places settled six to twelve inches. Railway travel will be delayed.

Centenarians Rare.

It is a significant fact that twelve of the largest and oldest London life assurance companies, which had, of course, issued policies only to the most carefully selected, could produce from their lists but a single case of centenarianism. The instances alleged of persons reaching their 120th, or even their 118th year, etc., may be set down as without exception not authentic. The three to five years over a hundred, which science indicates as the natural term of human life, is found to be the period beyond which post-centenarians, even under the best conditions of attendance, nursing, etc., fail to go.—*Boston Herald.*

Emin Charged With Treachery.

A Cairo cable says: A Coptic clerk, who was an employee of Emin Pasha while Emin was at Wadelai, has made a sworn deposition before Masou Bey to the effect that the revolt of Emin's forces was solely due to the discovery of Emin's plans to surrender his Province to the Mahdi. Emin, according to the clerk's statement, sent three messengers to the Mahdi offering to surrender, but they were seized and stopped by Emin's officers. The revolt followed this discovery. Masou Bey considers the statement credible.

Next Summer.

Wife (awakening her husband)—Oh, George, there's a burglar in the house!

Husband (sleepily)—Huh!

"Yes, and he's at my jewelry box!"

"Eh!"

"No; I declare, he's in the ice chest room!"

"Is that so? Give me my revolver quick!"

A movement is on foot to effect improvements in Glasgow Cathedral at a cost of between £800 and £900.

The Duchess of Marlborough declares that she and the Duke can't live on $200,000 a year.

THE KEMMLER RESPITE.

New York Papers Discuss the Case in its Various Bearings.

A New York despatch says: In commenting on the Kemmler case, the *Sun* says: The Provisional Government of the New Republic, of Brazil, has just promulgated a decree whose practical effect is to destroy the freedom of the press in that country. Government action of this kind has been by no means uncommon in the South American Republics, and whenever we read such decrees we are apt to congratulate ourselves upon the fact that no such restrictions would be tolerated in the United States. The truth is however, that we have taken the first step in the same direction here in New York by enacting a law which assumes to prohibit the publication of the details of any electrical execution in the newspapers. If the Legislature has the power under the constitution to forbid newspapers from telling the people how their laws for the infliction of the death penalty are enforced, why may not the Legislature also command the press to be silent in respect to any other proceeding in the administration of the Government, whether executive, judicial or legislative. Freedom to comment on the conduct of public affairs amounts to nothing if you cannot state how public affairs are actually conducted. So far as capital punishment is concerned, it is undoubtedly competent under the constitution for the Legislature to limit the number of persons who shall be present at an execution, and if these persons are unwilling to disclose what they observe, nobody can compel them to do so; but this is a very different thing from saying that no newspaper shall publish a true narrative of the execution because it has obtained such a description from one of the witnesses.

The *World* says: In trying to substitute a clever for a clumsy mode of execution this State has managed apparently to make murder a safe occupation for the next few years.

The *Tribune* says the re-arraignment in the Federal Courts of the technical questions decided by the Court of Appeals will not serve any useful purpose. The clauses relating to cruel and unusual punishment are almost identical in the State and Federal constitutions. Everything that can be said on the abstract question involved in the interpretation of these clauses has been said. There is not the remotest probability that the United States Supreme Court will differ from the Court of Appeals in its judgment. If the *habeas corpus* proceedings open the way for a final decision on the bearing of the clause of the United States constitution, the course of justice will be blocked without adequate cause and without advantage to any public interest. Judge Wallace assumed a grave responsibility when he intervened with his writ almost at the last moment and interrupted the execution of a law which the highest court in this State has pronounced constitutional. The responsibility is not lessened by the notorious fact that the processes of criminal law have been interrupted, not in the interests of the brutal wretch condemned to death, but of the dynamite makers.

The *Herald* says: The extraordinary move in the Kemmler case can be nothing less than a shameful attempt to use the administration of justice and the course for improper ends. What its purpose is, whether to further the schemes of an electric light concern, the notoriety of an attorney or some other design is not apparent. This *habeas corpus* business will not save Kemmler nor upset the law; but it is a piece of trickery that may serve to burlesque justice and suspend the law of capital punishment in this State.

THE CRONIN CASE.

Kunze and Woodruff Liberated—Threats of New Revelations.

A yesterday's Chicago despatch says: State Attorney Longenecker has had the case against John H. Kunze stricken from Judge Hawes' docket. Kunze has been out on bail ever since Judge McConnell granted the young Cronin suspect a new trial. The State's Attorney believed that it would be useless to prosecute the German.

Frank J. Black, alias Frank Woodruff, the lone Cronin suspect, who has occupied a cell in the county jail almost a year, was discharged on the charge of murder by Judge Hawes. Attorneys Brown and Porter, for Woodruff, claimed that their client had been under indictment for murder more than nine months and had not been given a trial. According to the law, they said, he should be given a trial or discharged.

"The fact is," the State's prosecutor admitted, "I cannot try him for murder, but he ought to be kept in jail as long as possible on general principles. Such a liar as Woodruff is better off in the cage than out. As to the murder charge I can't do anything with him, but he'll go up for horse stealing."

State Attorney Longenecker said he knew who took Cronin's body away from the Carlson cottage, and it was learned to-night that this man was none other than J. B Simonds, who has been so eagerly wanted. It is said Simonds died suddenly and suspiciously not long ago in an eastern city, while it is also said Patrick Cooney died suddenly and unnaturally in a Wisconsin village.

These facts have come out in consequence, it is claimed, of the misdirection of funds raised for the defence of the Cronin murderers. The relatives of Sullivan, the iceman, and Dan Coughlin have been compelled to mortgage their property to raise the necessary funds to pay legal and other expenses, and they now threaten to tell what they know. Should they do this, it is confidently anticipated those of the conspirators now out of jail will soon find themselves in a bad box.

A Daring Leap for Liberty.

A Columbia, S. C., despatch says: A remarkable leap from a moving train was made Sunday by Vince Story, an escaped convict, who had been recaptured in Georgia, and having been extradited, was being taken to the penitentiary.

They were on a fast passenger train and the hands of the convict were tied with rope. When passing through Edgefield county, the home of Story, the guard left his side a moment to get a drink of water. The window by the convict had been left open to admit the air, and the guard had hardly turned his back when Story, with his hands tied behind him and the train making over forty miles an hour, sprang head first through the window. The train was stopped and backed up, but nothing could be found of the daring convict. The guard remained behind to continue the search.

Millions of Methodists.

A St. Louis despatch says: One of the greatest religious bodies in the world will meet in this city, May 10th. The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South meets quadrennially. Such has been the growth of the church during the past decade that it now stands second among the great Protestant religious assemblies of the world. The General Conference of the Methodist Church alone excels it in the number of communicants represented and the value of property owned by Protestant Church authorities. The Methodists in this country, white and black, and of all kinds, number more than five millions (actual communicants). The Methodist Episcopal Church has nearly three million and the Methodist Episcopal Church South has about one million eight hundred thousand.

Why Schoolmarms Are Old Maids.

"How does it happen that there are so many old maids among the school teachers?" a teacher was asked, according to a contemporary. "Because school teachers are as a rule women of sense, and none of them will give up a $60 position for a $10 man," was the reply.

An Expert's Opinion.

Bobby—Why do they have that big lantern in front of the engine, papa?

Papa (with memories of the past)—To warn travelling actors, Bobby.

The pet names of the four baby states are as follows: North Dakota is the "Flickertail State," South Dakota is the "Swinge Cat State," Washington is the "Chinook State," and Montana is the "Stubbed Toe State." These characterizations will be short lived. They don't compare well with the "Empire," "Keystone," "Pine-tree," "Green Mountain" and similarly accepted appellations of the older States.

Nobody really hates an egotist, except another egotist. Other people are only bored.

—Bustles gowns have buckles.

HOW SHE HIT BISMARCK.

Empress Frederika Aided by England in Her Feud.

A Berlin cable says: The true history of the rupture between Prince Bismarck and the Emperor is just coming out, though as yet it is only whispered in dark corners. Bismarck's confidential friends who have visited him at Friedrichsruhe say the ex-Chancellor is fully aware that his dismissal was directly due to the hatred of Empress Frederika, and that he is watching his opportunity for revenge. When he strikes he will strike hard.

Bismarck's dismissal was the last shot fired in a bitter duel which has been waging for years between the Empress and Bismarck. The Empress is one of the cleverest women in Europe. Throughout the whole of her married life her ascendency over her husband was absolute. From the moment of her arrival in Germany Bismarck recognized her ability and saw that her influence over the Crown Prince, coupled with her strong English leanings, would make her a powerful opponent.

Bismarck's practice in life has been to crush his opponents. He could not destroy the Crown Princess. His dislike of her, therefore, became a hatred, which the Princess returned. Of late years this mutual aversion had developed into a rancorous feud.

Bismarck's influence over the present Emperor had caused a complete estrangement between the young Prince and his parents. The Princess, on the other hand, did all in her power to undermine the Chancellor's authority, and succeeded in frustrating many of his plans. To be an enemy of Bismarck was a sure passport to her favor. At one time the Chancellor, determined to stop her intrigues, intercepted her private correspondence, a fact of which she complained bitterly, and warned her family that the climax was capped when Bismarck sent Prince William to San Remo to force his dying father to sign a deed of abdication in his favor. But in this scheme the Chancellor was defeated by the Princess. The royal emissary returned empty handed.

On Frederick's accession to the throne the Empress' first act was to secure the removal of the Minister of the Interior, Herr Von Puttkamer, the Chancellor's chief ally. Soon after Frederick's death the Empress, by the publication of her husband's diary, aimed the severest blow at Bismarck's reputation that he had ever received.

Meanwhile a complete rapprochement was brought about between the Emperor and his mother, who, sided by the sympathy and support of her family in England, was still further able to undermine the Chancellor's position and estrange him from the young Emperor. Bismarck can now clearly trace the hand of England's Queen and the Prince of Wales in the forces which worked to his downfall.

The strikes in Westphalia furnished the ever-watchful Empress a chance for a fresh blow at her arch enemy. It was at her instance that her personal friend, Hinzpeter, was made Chief of the Private Bureau of Investigation, whose reports were diametrically opposed to Bismarck's. But in latter days the Empress' opposition, though manifest in more trivial things, was none the less bitter or sure. Through her royal English relatives she has gradually gained almost as complete control over her son as she had over her husband, and succeeded in swamping Bismarck with petticoat government.

No one knows better than Bismarck that he has been defeated by a smart woman, and he galls under it; but he will strike back, and possibly very soon.

THE LAUREATE'S SALARY.

A Hundred Pounds a Year About the Amount Tennyson Receives.

There has been considerable discussion in some of our journals recently as to who will be Lord Tennyson's successor as poet laureate. As the laureate is at present in good health and spirits, the discussion seems not only premature, but somewhat discourteous, says a writer in the *Book Buyer*. It is to be hoped it will be a long while before it will be necessary to appoint any successor, for there appears to be no one fit to step into the shoes of Tennyson. Of course, every one has his favorite poet, and every one thinks his favorite the only one to wear the laurel crown. There is, after all, but little honor connected with the post. It is an ancient office. Considerably over 600 years ago, in the reign of Henry III, the "King's Versifier" was paid 100 shillings annually, and I do not suppose this officer occupied a higher position than the King's Fool did in those days.

James the First paid his laureate 100 marks a year, and Charles I increased the salary to £100, with one tierce of Canary Spanish wine, "to be taken out of the king's store of wine yearly." The remuneration of the laureate has remained the same ever since, but I am not clear whether Lord Tennyson still draws a tierce of wine annually from the cellars at Windsor Castle. I should think in all probability he received the money value for it. The laureate is scarcely expected to sing to order in the present day. If he were his salary is terribly insufficient. It must be borne in mind that £100 a year in the days of Charles I was a very different thing to £100 a year in 1890. Why, an industrious versifier could easily make that sum by contributing to the journals and magazines of the day. However, it is an age for the abolishment of ancient offices, old customs and venerable institutions, and I should not be at all surprised if, when Lord Tennyson has done with the post, it should be abolished.

The Meaning of "Whoa."

A horse-breaker has given me a lesson in the proper use of words. This, in its way, is quite as remarkable as would be a literal finding of sermons in stones. This expert was instructing his audience, as he proceeded to subdue a balky horse, in the right use of the word "whoa." "Balky drivers," as he phrased it, make balky horses. These unskilful drivers, for example will say "whoa" to a horse repeatedly, as in going round a corner, when they really mean only "steady." "Don't say whoa unless you mean stop," was his terse injunction. In other words, do not use a superlative word when a positive word serves the purpose. Better for the horse and better for the driver. Emerson championed the positive degree in speech, and this horse-trainer likewise, inferentially, preached against exaggeration in talking—to one's horse.—*Spectator in the Christian Union.*

Praying for a Sense of Humor.

The Scotchmen, the joke and the surgical operation are sufficiently familiar. Mr. Max O'Rell's experiences in Ohio are, however, of a distinctly novel character. He was called upon to deliver one of his lectures to the students of the Ohio College. Before he began, the president of the institution rose in a very earnest manner and offered up a prayer "that the Lord would so prepare their minds that they could appreciate Mr. O'Rell's subtle witticisms." Query: Who was the real wit in this instance? The scholastic president or the Frenchman?

Evil of the Pull.

I believe there is nothing that takes the heart out of young men more than this cant talk about a pull. If one gives over to it he begins to neglect his work in his effort to get a pull, or he becomes disheartened because he has no pull, and so gives over trying to do his best. I hear so much of this talk that I wish my voice could reach these tempted young men. They are being paralyzed by the pull craze. They think the modern business world is a locked door to any fellow without a pull.—*Harker in New York Weekly.*

It's a Way They Have.

The knack Scotchmen have of becoming the rising men in nearly every community on the face of the earth is a caution. If there is money to be got out of a country the Macs are generally the first to find it out and profit thereby. Seattle, it is said, is another example of Scotchmen's pluck and industry; and one of its latest divisions, Abderfeldy, is as Scotch in name and population as a haggis or an oatmeal scone.—*Chicago Canadian-American.*

Rattled.

Nurse (to young husband)—A beautiful ten pound baby, sir.

Young Husband (getting things mixed in his excitement)—Glorious! Am I a father or a mother?

The deepest well in the world is soon to be dug in the environs of London. It will be nearly 1,200 feet deep, be furnished with stairs and be illumined. Its object is to enable students to observe the various geological strata.

—A glazed pork-pie hat smartens a girl's appearance.

COLUMN FOR THE AGRICULTURIST.

Hints and Helps to Every Farmer Willing to Read.

THE FARMER A SKILLED LABORER.

Plowing Under—The Mortgage Crop—Blanketing Horses—Notes of Much Interest.

THE DAIRY STEER.

Of all the no-count critters
On the farmin' land 'round here,
There ain't nothin' half so useless
As the little dairy steer.
Little dairy cows is business
I'll feed them without no fear,
But the biggest no-count critter
Is the little dairy steer.
Livin' on the fame and record
By his little sisters made,
Stealin' 'round to claim attention
When his board bill h'an't been paid.
Sister's smart enuff to keep 'em
Both agein' of yer like,
But thes ain't the pint I'm makin'
Tain't the gun I wanter spike.
I want critters that kin show me
Pints of value fair and clear
Not the kind that pints ter sister
Like the little dairy steer.
Ain't you seen men, though, jes' like 'em?
Lazin' 'round and crackin' jokes,
Spendin' lots o' time in bed,
Living on their wimmin folks?
Great fat fellers, stout an' hearty,
Fit for work; each lazy loon
Lettin' wimmin' folks support him—
How I'd like ter roust sech out.
You jest sign my name unto it;
Print it black or it appears;
Stout men as will live on wimmin
Ain't ser good as dairy steers.

PLOWING UNDER.

Try an experiment this year. Plow under some of the clover or rye and plant potatoes, using the same amount of fertilizers that you do on bare ground. The R. N. Y. will plow under some rye to try this. Many of us have yet to find that much of our work in cutting, curing and feeding clover is wasted. We had better plow it right under and use fertilizers with it for potatoes, or put our stable manure on it—the stalks chopped or crushed—and plant corn. Try it this year. This is a time for looking up new methods rather than for nailing ourselves closer to old-time notions, in the hope that by getting closer to them we can squeeze more out of them. French soldiers have always worn red pantaloons. In the old days when battle fields were covered with smoke, the red was not so conspicuous as to make glaring targets. The other day military men witnessed a trial of the new smokeless powder. Then it was plainly seen that the red trousers only made the wearer a conspicuous target for the opposing riflemen. The red will have to go or France will conduct her wars at a disadvantage. Some of our ideas regarding the use of clover are liable to be as rudely shaken as the sentiment that clothes French soldiers in red trousers.—*New Yorker.*

THE ORNAMENTAL MORTGAGE.

From all over the country come reports of threatened foreclosures of mortgages on farm property. In Pennsylvania many supposedly rich farmers have failed in consequence of the depreciation in farm values. In Southern New Jersey several hundred farms are being sold by the sheriff. As our readers know, reports from many parts of the West are no better. What is to be done? This country cannot afford to have its native-born farmers driven from their farms to be replaced by a tenant peasantry. For a number of years past great mortgage and trust companies have gradually secured a grasp on thousands of American farms. When the present occupants of these farms are driven away, who will be secured to fill their places? No true American can view this state of affairs without alarm. The present condition of American agriculture demands the prompt and careful attention of our statesmen and business men.—*Rural New Yorker.*

BLANKET YOUR HORSE.

It is money in your pocket to keep your horse blanketed. The warmth must be kept up, and if the horse is not blanketed he must eat that much more to keep warm, and a blanket will save more than its price in feed. Your horse, if blanketed, will live longer, work harder, and his smooth, glossy coat will make him look $50 better than if he was not blanketed. When buying blankets it is cheaper to get good ones which will wear. Many blankets are made merely to sell, and it is the poorest kind of economy to buy one of these poor blankets because they are a few cents cheaper.

THE FARMER A SKILLED LABORER.

Viewed from the lofty standpoint of the New York Hod-carrier's Union, considered from the hall of the Philadelphia Bill Posters' Protective Association, the prairie farmer is simply a clodhopper. He is a man who decides to have corn, wheat and potatoes, instead of wild grass, grow on a certain piece of land, and plants the seed that will produce them. In point of fact, more knowledge and skill are requisite for prosecuting this craft than that of any city artisan. It requires more skill to handle a plough than a trowel. It is more difficult to handle a reaping machine than a machine that turns out brick. More knowledge to sow grain than to move switches in a freight yard. Much more information, experience and skill are needed to raise tobacco plants, to cultivate them and properly cure the leaves than to make them into cigars. Laying drain tile is more difficult art than laying brick. Properly to remove a fleece from a sheep demands as great dexterity as to shave a beard from a face. The successful farmer is necessarily a skilled laborer. He is master, not of one trade, but of many, and a long time is required to learn each of them. He is also a merchant, and to be prosperous he must be a judge of the quality of many things, and know how to buy and sell them to the best of advantage. —*Rodney Welch in January Forum.*

SALTLESS BUTTER.

The butter supplied in summer to the best families in Great Britain is absolutely free from salt, and is considered a great luxury. The taste for unsalted butter is spreading in this country, and in Chicago there is a firm which does a good business among the richer classes with unsalted butter. Those who have tried this butter report that it is peculiarly pleasant to the taste, having nothing but the natural flavor of the cream. In autumn, salt at the rate of one quarter of an ounce to each pound of butter may be used. In England this is called "powdered" butter to distinguish it from the "fresh" (unsalted) and "salt" (winter) butter.

Interesting and Useful.

It is thought that in the agricultural districts botany should be a study in the public schools, and that one day in the week should be given up to lectures on soils, plants, breeds of stock, cultivation, fertilizers, etc. Such studies are not uninteresting to children who are accustomed to the farm, and they would quickly comprehend the lectures from the aid imparted by every-day experiences. No doubt such studies would be of much benefit to the coming generation and lead to better systems of farming.

The better the quality of the manure the less the cost of handling it. Bulk does not give quality, and this is especially the case with manure. To haul and handle great quantities of unrotted, coarse, bulky material costs the labor of both men and teams. It is claimed that a ton of ordinary stable manure contains only twenty-five pounds of fertilizer in its concentrated form, and it is as expensive to handle this twenty-five pounds as it is to handle manure twice as valuable.

When the farmer churns his milk and sells butter he does not deprive his soil of fertility. The buttermilk may be fed to swine and poultry with profit, but when meat and eggs are sold the fertility of the soil goes also. Nothing robs the soil faster than selling milk, and unless the farmer procures fertilizers or buys a large proportion of bran and linseed meal his farm will deteriorate in quality.

To get a full crop of potatoes use plenty of manure or fertilizer. If manure, let it be fine and well rotted and applied liberally in the rows. If fertilizer be used it should be applied in quantity to push the plants vigorously and to enable the crop to produce as much as possible. It does not pay to be too economical in the use of manure or fertilizer.

It is a pleasure with those who live on the suburbs of towns and cities to keep a few hens. A small flock will cost but little, as the scraps from the table and any waste material, will provide a large share of the food. It is claimed that as many eggs are produced in suburban sections as on the farms.

While the weather is dry the roots of plants will quickly dry if exposed. It is best to pour a little water around the roots of plants that are transplanted, as it will prevent many of them from wilting. If the ground below the surface is quite damp this precaution is not necessary.

Do not plant corn on the same land that you grew a crop of corn upon last year. A rotation of crops is best. When the location for corn is changed every year there is less liability of attack from rust, and the soil is not compelled to perform the same duty twice in succession.

Variation of the food promotes appetite. All animals become disgusted with a sameness of food. When food is refused tempt the animal with something else. In this manner sickness and loss of flesh may be avoided, while the cost need not be necessarily increased.

A correspondent of the *Mirror* states how to avoid rot and scab in potatoes: "Roll the land, and when the potatoes are four inches high sow on a mixture of fifteen parts plaster, three parts slaked lime and one part of fine salt."

Dry soils should receive flat cultivation and damp soils should be ridged. The object, in the first place, is to save as much as possible, and, in the second, to get rid of the excess.

If you cannot keep the number of animals you have on your farm do not try to get more land, but sell off a portion of the stock. Overcrowding is as injurious as too much room.

Do not work the horses too steadily at first. A horse that has stood in the stable all through the winter, doing but little work, is in no condition for enduring a heavy day's labor.

The value of any kind of fodder is not in its quantity, but in the amount that is digestible. The quality largely depends on the stage of growth when it is cut and cured.

Now that the teams will be busy it is important that the harness fits the horse. Galls and sores on the horse may be avoided by giving some attention to the harness.

GULF-STREAM MYSTERIES.

An Old Sailor Gives the Results of His Experiences and Investigations.

A correspondent of the Boston *Journal*, writing about the gulf stream says: From what source or cause is its origin? What are its peculiarities? What course does it follow? What is its depth, width, temperature, velocity, etc.? Let me give you an old seaman's experiences, investigations and opinions; but first a very brief description of the wonder and the generally accepted opinions in relation to its origin. Its source was supposed to be from the pent-up water which from several sources accumulated in the gulf of Mexico, and made its exit into the Atlantic ocean between the Florida reefs and the Bahama banks. This is undoubtedly true in a great measure, but investigators have long believed that other yet unexplained causes exist. It reaches the Atlantic ocean, flowing in a due north direction at about 27 degrees latitude, thence following the general coast-line to Cape Hatteras, where it is deflected very much to the east by the rocks and shoals which extend some ten or twelve miles east from the cape, say in latitude 35 degrees. That the stream has in the long ages of its existence gradually worn away the outlying banks of Cape Hatteras to their present limits, and that the attrition is still continuing, there can scarcely be a doubt; and what will be the result of this gradual approach of the stream to our immediate coastline we may conjecture, and we may also quite reasonably attribute our milder growing winters to the change already affected at Cape Hatteras. At Cape Hatteras the gulf stream meets the arctic current, which strikes its western edge and passes beneath the warm waters of the gulf, and probably mingles, and is, in a great measure, lost in that great stream. At this point here is 150 miles wide and about 600 feet deep, flowing with a variable velocity from one to three miles per hour with a temperature averaging 76 degrees. Here the gulf stream loses much of it peculiar blue color, while its peculiar electrical waters produce wonderful developments in the atmosphere, and the almost incessant storms continue in its course up to and beyond the banks of Newfoundland. A ship striking the current from the west often plunges her bow into a thunder-storm, while her stern is in clear sunshine, and at the same time a thermometer suspended from the ship's bow will register 70 degrees, while another hanging at the stern shows but 40 degrees.

The gulf stream, as it passes out between the Florida reefs and the Bahama banks, is some 3,000 feet in depth and 40 miles wide, at a velocity varying from two to five miles an hour and the temperature from 77 to 83 degrees. It has some very peculiar attributes and differs in many respects, aside from its temperature and electric elements, from the waters of the Atlantic, through which it plows its way for thousands of miles before its effect or identity is lost. These singular characteristics have led seamen to believe that from some subterranean sources a vast stream of heated water, strange, and peculiar in its elements, issued from some orifice near the Gulf of Mexico, and, mingling with the outrushing waters of the gulf, accelerated its rapid course into the Atlantic. The United States coast survey has devoted much study to this theory; and its investigations have added much weight to the above explanation. The supposed orifice may be comparatively small; may be overlapped in such a manner that the deep-sea lead may never find it in 3,000 perpendicular feet of water; but that it exists is becoming a very marked belief and a very interesting phenomenon.

The Boys are Better Now.

"Talk about bad boys," said an old resident to-day, "why, the boys now are not half as bad as when I was a youngster. We played the pranks now that we used to in the good old days they would find themselves in the Penitentiary, sure. I recollect there was a circus in town one afternoon, and it was exhibited near the present Central School grounds, which were then a common. The circus people had a steam calliope, and the engine which supplied the music was detached. A lot of boys (myself among the number) attached a rope to the engine, and at a signal dashed off with the machine, to the great consternation and chagrin of the showman. We never stopped running until we got away down King street and were met by Constable Ferres (No. 1). Then we slunk away and nobody ever was a bit the wiser as to the perpetrators of the outrage. At night we went back to the show, lighted turpentine balls and put them under the sides of the canvas, causing a conflagration. The circus company entered a suit against the city, got back the license money and some damages, and for years the town had such a name that no other similar show would come near us. Oh, no, the boys are not as bad as they were when I was young."

To Remove Spots From Books.

Grease spots if old may be removed by applying a solution of varying strength of caustic potash upon the back of the leaf. The printing, which looks somewhat faded after the removal of the spot, may be freshened up by the application of a mixture of one part of muriatic acid and 25 parts of water. In the case of fresh grease spots carbonate of potash, one part to thirty parts of water, chloroform, ether or benzine renders good service. Wax disappears if after saturating with benzine or turpentine it is covered with folded blotting paper and a hot flat iron put upon it. Paraffine is removed by boiling water or hot spirits.