WHY THEY TWINKLE:

BY OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES. When Eve had led her lord astray, And Cain had killed his brother, The stars and flowers, the poets say, Agreed with one another,

To cheat the cunning tempter's art, And teach the race its duty, By keeping on its wicked heart Their eyes of light and beauty.

A million sleepless lids, they say, Will be at least a warning; And so the flowers would watch by day And the stars from eve to morning.

On hill and prairie, field and lawn, Their dewy eyes upturning,
The flowers still watch from reddening

dawn, Till western skies are burning. Alas! each hour of daylight tells

And some are alway blushing. But when the patient stars look down, On all their light discovers, The traitor's smiles, the murderer's frown, The lips of lying lovers,

That some turn white as sea-bleached shells.

They try to shut their saddened eyes, And in the vain endeavor We see them twinkling in the skies, And so they wink forever.

THE RAZOR OR THE RIVER.

QUAY DID NOT DECIDE WHICH HE WOULD USE TO END HIS LIFE.

After Robbing the State Treasury of \$260,000, He Becomes Despondent. The Scoundrel Saved by Cameron.

The following is taken from a twelve column article published the New York World:

The uninterrupted tide of power ed as nieces and wards. which set in Statesman Quay's favor for fifteen years of political life caused who had recently arrived in town aphim to become more and more unscru- proached the office of the Lochiel and pulous. His private habits at Phila- inquired for S atesman Quay. "He's up delphia and Harrisburg, were such as to cause almost continuous scandal. If then it was whispered in the ear of the as a gambler Quay were successful he new arrival: "The old man's in a bad would have accumulated a fortune at way. Been full several days." It was cards or on the turns of the wheel, but unnecessary for the handsome gentlethere never was a more unlucky votary man to appear shocked or even surof the fickle goddess who patronizes prised, for he was entirely familiar with games of chance. "How much did the habits of the man from Beaver. Quay lose last night?" has been the He merely shrugged his shoulders and inquiry for years past by some one or remarked that he would go up and see other who was present at or was aware what was going on. of the part taken by the eminent states—
man at a game of some kind or other distinguished statesman he knocked. the night before. Hard play and hard | Probably if the door had been unlocked treasurre, or, at least, his acquaintances preliminary formality. After a while Statesman Quay would at first admit. thought that such was the fact during the door was opened, and a singular The total was in the neighborhood of strain and turned Independent in the

shake their heads and whisper that "the old man was breaking down." Among the cronies of Statesman Quay were J. Blake Walters, the cash- slang of to-day as a "jag." ier of the state treasury, and A. Wilson Norris, the reporter of the supreme They too were observed to be unusually distrait. A friend of Walters informed me that during this period the condition of the cashier was fretful; that he would suddenly spring from his quehanna river." chair and walk up and down the room

and would sigh. sofa in his office. He said that he the explanation for Statesman Quay's had been guaranteed by a wealthy firm was so nervous that he could not rest nervousness, which had been the cause nights.' I asked what might be the of solicitude to his henchmen, was trouble. He replied: 'If you knew made plain. He informed his visitor property his wife and himself possessed you might understand my feelings, but that, in company with Blake Walters this is something I can't talk about to and a high official of the state, he had acts? Well, he feels just as bad as I Philadelphia, and when he came away it was observed that his face looked was nearly frantic. Altogether, it was and out of the state treasury with an air of importance.

fice was Amos C. Noyes, of Lock Ha- ed. He neither expressed surprise nor that which he felt to be a positive duty ven, who was known popularly as unfavorable comment. He merely in to his political affiliations. "Square-Timber" Noves. He was elected to the office in 1877, and I do The boss groaned as he replied: not think that a person could be found who questioned his personal integrity if visitor whistled softly. the broad state of Pennsylvania were gone over with a fine-tooth comb. suggested a well fed ecclesiastic in abject as it was when his fears ran many respects, and when he went down away with him at the time of the Pittsto Harrisburg he was comparatively unsophisticated and guileless in the deany of the gang. Senator William about and see what could be done. Wallace was his political sponsor, fluand it was through the latter's in ence with "Square Timber" Noves that the latter disregarded the advice of liquor."

eashier of the treasury.

About this time Noves became one of a kind that was more apparent than seat in the Senate chamber which he certain interested persons, and it was

comparative ease.
On a memorable afternoon there disvania railroad station a fine-looking gentleman, gay and debonnaire in his knew the value of his cold, deliberaaspect and with the confident, easy tive mind. quarters of the leading politicians who make Harrisburg their home during poor," old Simon used to say with gusto. cupied a suite of rooms at the Lochiel, in the lobby. I will say at this point and Host George Hunter regarded "the in the story that the latter individual, notwithstanding the occasional little eccentricities of the latter, which were of Pennsylvania, a man of wealth, letter, although I pursued it from bevansary. As a digression, for instance, jim-jams, Mine Host Hunter, wisely charge of the Lochiel bar to refuse, until further orders, Statesman Quay's call for liquor. The boss was not accustomed to being thwarted in his will, and, although in a state of dishabille, clad only in a single white garment, he proceeded downstairs to the recalcitrant agreed on. barkeeper and threatened to blow out the contents of his cranium unless the whiskey bottle was fortwith produced. Entertaining little episodes of this sort were frowned on by Boniface Hunter, who was also explicit in demanding that his distinguished political guest When vice prevails and impious men bear sway, the post of honor is the private station.

—Addison.

—Addison.

attractive young women were introduc-To resume: The jaunty | gent'eman

The gentleman inquired, "What in sheol is going on?" In thick, husky tones Statesman

Quay replied: "I am debating whether I will cut

my throat or go and jump into the Sus-"Pooh, pooh," replied the visitor, "what's up? Tell me all about it." ing despairing boss poured forth to his The treasury who was to go out of of- day, above all things, cool and collect-

> quired: "How much are you out?" "Pretty near \$200,000." Then the

The conference which followed was prolonged. Quay made as complete a Old "Square Timber" was a man of business, cool and level-headed. When would permit. He said that the money he appointed Blake Walters his cash- was gone for good and all, that he fearier many of his friends told him that he ed that Blake Walters would squeal or had made a mistake. Noyes was a that honest od "Square Timber" Democrat of the old school who was would allow his indignation to control elected by the people during Gov. him and denounce the perpetrators. Hartrantt's incumbency by a change of Blake was a Democrat—the only memfeeling against the Republicpn ring. ber of the party included in the ranks Blake Walters was likewise in the lum- of the conspirators-and there was a ber business. He held timber lands pressure on the state treasurer to keep and he was interested in a mining quiet from an influential member of his scheme in the West. He was a tall, party, in the hope that the scandal finely proportioned man, with a full would be averted. Altogether Statesface and bushy hair. His appearance man Quay's state of being was quite as

burg strike. The manner assumed by the gentlevious ways of politics. He had no man in whose auricles the damning legislative experience. When at the tale of crime was poured was such as state capital he fell in with the fast, to temporarily calm the fears of the drinking and poker playing set, of which despondent boss, and the latter promis-Statesman Quay was a master spirit, ed that he would forego committing and he quickly became as dissipated as suicide until his visitor could look "I will go to Washington and see Don Cameron," said the visitor. "Keep

quiet until I return and cut off your friends and appointed Blake Walters Immediately he repaired to Wash- rey theatre penny-dreadful drama. His go Herald.

ington over the Northern Central rail- habit of dissipation developed at Harway to communicate the startling inthe group of visibly nervous person about telligence to Senator J. Donald Camethe capitol, and his nervousness was of ron. The latter had recently taken the effort made to conceal the suicide by

that of the others. As for Wilson Nor- had acquired as the result of the fa- given out that he died of blood poisonris, he simply maintained a substantial mous deal when his distinguished fathspree, and his nervousness rested with er, the wily old Simon Cameron, resigned the office in sublime disgust. Cameron was then, as always, a chip of embarked from a train at the Pennsyl- the old block, and the man who

"My son Don is a d-d far seeing world. He entered a cab and was driven to the Lochial hotel, the head-he has had to contend with in life I did the Harrisburg ring.

> Flanders could not have sworn any tion. Not that he cared for the plight placed himself, but the danger the scandal would cause to the Republican par "Go back to Harrisburg," said Cam-

eron, "and investigate this thing to the bottom. You will find that Quay has not told all. Probe it deeply and then report to me, and I must try to fix it up. The party must be looked after."

It is entirely probable that Senator which he regarded as his duty to his Pennsylvania has allowed Quay to go party, otherwise he would have allowspirators to have disported in a striped which the pardoning board scandal cre

uit in the penitentiary. Quay, who was endeavoring to sober of the state did not know about—they accepted. up only to realize more acutely the terrible position in which he was placed. Senator Cameron was so deeply interesting the state dut not know about—they do not to-day for that matter—led a turn over in politics and Mitchell was selected. United State senator in ed that he followed his visitor to the 1880. open air, outside on the capitol steps, and stood bareheaded and anathematized the folly of Quay and his confederates.

the subsequent delving into the intricacies of the affair only served to disclose its magnitude. The sum of mon- crooked dealings. His friend and deey involved was larger than forgetful pendent, Gov. Hoyt, thought that his the first time in his life, he was conscious thought that such was the fact during the door was opened, and a singular the winter of 1879. The customary because was presented. The occupant phlegm, the nerve, the undaunted was partially dressed, his hair was phlegm, the nerve, the undaunted was partially dressed, his hair was delphia, where he went at the time of and although entirely in the power of puregui, the helve, the undaulted was partially dressed, his deliphia, where the west at the that moved Quey, the latter was likewise as deeply it, was extended, the sword flashed down, cheek of the boss appeared at times to awry, his eyes were bloodshot and the recordership deal. He had moved cheek of the boss appeared at times to be insufficient to buoy him up, and he was nervous and irritable. His excess see became greater the sees became greater the sees became greater the sees became greater to make the recordership deal. He had moved in his power. Neither one could well afford to anger the other. Then it was segmented down, and the fruit sell in two segments down, afford to anger the other. Then it was flushed, and his hands tremulous. An the sees became greater to make the from North Broad street to another residence when the investigation was flushed, and his hands tremulous. An the flushed, and his hands tremulous. An the flushed it is owner said the fruit sell in two segments down, after the sees he came greater to another residence when the investigation was sees became greater to another that Robert Emcry Pattison, who was one of the best governors Pennsylvania to the fruit sell in two segments down, and the fruit sell in two segments down, an finally the gang around him began to pect of unkemptness. In plain lang tor Cameron had been apprised of the one of the best governors Pennsylvania uage, he was the eminent leader of details of the steal a meeting was ar- ever had, was elected and held office Pennsylvania politics in one of the ranged to take place at Quay's house. from 1883 to 1887. During the period stages of the condition known in the Thither repaired Don Cameron, sup- of Quay's open disgrace he passed his I have no occasion to mention. The state official last mentioned was feeling tolerably comfortable for his part of the sum to be made do to the wronged and robbed "One day I found him lying on a After some desultory preliminary talk, treasury of the people of Pennsylvania of coal operators of Pennsylvania and New York. He had turned over what in a provincial city and he was in the condition of mind which a man who You see how Quay embarked in a speculation in certain had fallen over a precipice and had stocks of the New York market, that been drawn back by the hair of his do.' When Walters told me this he Walters as cashier of the treasury drew head may be supposed to feel. I will was a sick man. He had an ulcerated out funds belonging to the state, that say nothing of how the minor crimitooth, and I thought that he was ner- the venture proved unsuccessful and nals were saved. The whole of the devous from pain. I did not think for a that an exposure was emminent. Sammoment what the real trouble was." uel Butler the new treasurer about to are omitted here. Quay, the arch-raider, Samuel Butler, of Delaware, the newly take office, would not do so until a quan- had given all of the securities he poselected state treasurer, would by law tity of paper in the treasury which was sessed, but the gap still open was a assume his duties on May 1, 1880. placed there by Quay, Walters and the tremendous one. Here stepped in Don As the time approached Statesman rest, was taken out and cash substitut- Cameron. He paid out of his own tion. In this dilemma it is proposed Quay became more and more nervous. ed. Butler was not a man to be in- pocket a sum of money in excess of to close the public schools, and He paid frequent visits to a certain timidated, and old "Square Timber," \$100,000—I am pledged not to mention of the public institutions and thereby He paid frequent visits to a certain broker's office down Chestnut street in who of a scertained the raid on the broker's office down Chestnut street in who of a scertained the raid on the party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when they were gone party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when the party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when the party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and out of his office when the party is a second to the party in Pennsylv funds of his office when they were gone, party in Pennsylvanta the disgrace and the expense of the rapacity and roguery very grave. Samuel Butler flitted in a very pretty how-to-do that the quak- of the leaders. Cameron was a rich man, and he felt able to put out of his listener. The latter was, as he is to- private means the large amount of money mentioned above, to accomplish

> When the business was completed a high state official, in the excess of his complacency over his escape, approach ed Senator Cameron and exclaimed

> effusively: "Senator, your act has mortgaged me to you for the remainder of my

days. To which, with a sarcastic inflection of his voice, thus coldly replied the son of old Simon:

"Well, sir, I regard my security as devilish bad.' The statesman of Beaver likewise telt chipper. His proverbial good luck had averted ruin. He ventured to thank the senator for what had been done. The answer was sharp and emphatic. "I dont' do this to save you, Quay, but for the sake of your wife and

your children." Cameron probably allowed a dash of sentiment to step in momentarily when he made this reply. To the gentleman who first received the story from Quay's own lips was left the carrying on of details. He received notes of hand from Quay, and one of them for \$25,000 has not yet been paid.

Statesman Quay was indirectly the cause of the death of two of the persons steal. "Old Square Timber" NovesThe Farmers Awakening.

risburg increased. Finally he ended his life by his own hand. There was an ing, resulting from an abscess around the root of a tooth. He certainly suffered from a trouble of that nature, but it was in a moment of extreme depression that he destroyed his life. the old block, and the man who see him went from Quay's room to see him ters always felt deeply his treachery a member from the agricultural county two the value of his cold, deliberation against towards "Squire Timber" Noyes. He was by no means a bad hearted man; but he was weak and easily yielded to which matter is now being considered His conscience prompted him to

the sessions of the Legislature. For many years Statesman Quay had octangle of the Senate when the messenger arrived special correspondent of the World special correspondent of the World special correspondent of the World special correspondent of the State who write a letter, the existance of which is posthumous writing which proved to old man" as one of his valued guests, who plays so important a part in this be of momentous importance. I was story, is one of the best known citizens not permitted to use the contents of the of a nature no conservative boniface and commanding influence. He sent ginning to end. It is in possession of has:ened to meet him. The two retired to a private place, and the story of Contrition for his acts while cashier so frequently upon and partook so deep- the great raid was recited. Don Cam- of the treasury is the prevailing theme. and with unselfish regard for the future worse than he did. And why not? He ditions which may supervene—when of his guest, ordered the myologist in saw the desperate nature of the situathe letter can be made public. By perinto which the Republican boss had words. After naming the persons associated with him in speculations which caused the loss of the State's money, tp was in his mind's eye. A hasty consultation was held and a plan of action my own led me on." And there is not the slightest doubt that he told the truth when he made the claim.

A lawyer of the name of Speer was the attorney who aided in adjusting the business of the settlement at the treas-

ury when the money was refunded.

A newspaper like the World could have driven the corrupt gang out of Cameron's action was based on that power in short order, but the press of on unmolested by aggressive attacks on ed the statesman and his fellow con- his shameless conduct. The feeling in the person holding the apple ated and which occurred openly at

For a period of three years after 1882, Statesman Quay was in very bad odor and out of office in voluntary exile. The manner in which he obtained his As Senator Cameron prophesied, next place is not the least entertaining of his many undertakings; certainly it is quite as unscrupulous as any of his ported by a distinguished lawyer, a gentleman of commanding position in the Continental hotel, Philadelphia, in profession, who once filled a cabinet of the winter. If I were to recount some fice. Quay and his visitor were of of the stories of the temporarily deposcourse present, as was the state official ed statesman's doings at Atlantic City involved in the steal, and others whom and at certain places in Philadelphia. the hair of the reader would stand on end.

A Pair of Sickly Infants. The two States of North and South Dakota, says the Pittsburg Post, "were hustled into the Union to subserve partisan purposes and before their people were ready for the responsibilities burdens of State government. North Dakota, only two months a State, is already insolvent, and there is such titution in both North and South Dakota that there are loud calls for relief. The expenses of North Dakota for the coming year are \$534,230. Her utmost receipts can only reach \$251,898. Her deficiency, therefore, will be nearly \$300.000. She cannot relieve herself by taxation unless it is made confiscatory She is estopped from borrowing enough to meet the deficincy by her constitu-

serves, should have been admitted as one State, and had it not been for officegrabbing politicians who deluded the people, and the necessities of the Republican party, that proper policy would have been adopted. As it is, the two infant and sickly States have the same representation in the United States Senate that New York and Pennsylvania have with their eleven millions of people.

Ho € He Got a Place.

One of the brightest advertising men in Chicago made his rise through the fall of another. It was some years ago when as a mere boy he was tramping the streets of Chicago, broke and in search of any sort of a job which offered. His last nickel had gone for food, and one afternoon he was walking through a down town alley tired and disgusted. Happening to glance upward he saw a leaning out of a window. In a moment the boy lost his balance and fell to the pavement with the customary dull thud. The discouraged youth hastened to the boy's side and discovered that death had been instantaneous.

Looking up at the open window from which he had fallen the youth counted the stories and then sought the stairway Mounting the stairs he dashed into the editor's room, for it was the office of the Prairie Farmer, and blurted out: "Do you want a boy?" Looking up in surprise the editor answered: "No, we have a boy." Then the youth said: "I'll bet you haven't--your boy just fell from the window and is dead. I want his place " Investigation found mentioned in the story of the great that the youth was right, and he was engaged for his pushing way. Since never recovered from the shock the dis' then he has risen by degrees and made covery caused to him. Blake Walters money, and very few of his friends was as sensational as a scene in the Sur- know how he gained his place .- Chica-

It would seem as though the great cause of Tariff Reform were pervading all classes, all states and all of the peo ple (except always of course, those interested in tax robbery, and the politicians who expect to be kept in power by the monopolists). The Jersey State Board of Agriculture is the last body to betray a decided reform bias. These Wal- gentlemen had a meeting yesterday, and the proposed increased duty on tin plate, before the Committee on Ways and Means of Congress. The resolution expressed it as the opinion of the Board that such an increase would work di-

ning tomatoes. Judge Forsythe, another representative from Burlington county, was par-ticularly strong on the subject. He laid stress on the fact that the industry of ti of a nature no conservative boniface and commanding influence. He sent ginning to end. It is in possession of plates competed with no similar incould consistently permit in his card to Senator Cameron, who a person to whom it was given by the dustry in the country. "We've had twenty-eight years of your infernal high protection," said the Judge, "and we're tired of it." He continued that the ly of the contents of the flowing bowl eron can be as cool as an iceberg, but Four pages of paper are covered, and Sheriff was taking possession of the farms as to become threatened with the dire on this occasion he cast reserve into there is a sad tone, which shows the around him in Burlington county, and nervous malady vulgarly known as the the fire, and the whole of the troops in state of mind the writer was in. The such as brought \$175 an acre a few years time may come-there are certain con- ago were recently knocked down at \$54. The Judge concluded: "More protection to the mill-owner, and let the mission I am enabled to quote a few poor devil of a farmer take care of himself."—Philadelphia Evening Herald.

The Late Lord Napier's Nerve.

The death of Lord Napier, of Magdala, recalls a story of the old soldier's nerve as exhibited once, in a time of profound peace, in India. The Sikh warriors were famous swordsmen, and if any one was hardy enough to test their skill, they could cut an apple, resting on the palm of a man's hand, cleanly in two equal pieces, so that each piece dropped separately to the ground, without fraying the skin of the outstreched hand. Perfect steadiness was required the hand shrank the consequences were likely to be serious. It is, perhaps, Back to Harrisburg hastened the about the same time as the secret raid needless to say that the offer to perform nessenger of cheer to poor, miserable on the state treasury—which the people this feat was more often made than

For a long time Lord Napier refused to believe that the wild soldiers could do this thing, and when one of them invited him to hold the apple and witness the exploit he promptly consented, supposing that the swordsman would flinch from the undertaking; but the Sikh had entire confidence in his own skill. His eye, however, detected a little irregularity on the general's right palm as it was held out, and he asked him to present the apple in his left hand. Lord Napier afterward said that, for broken across it. He added that, though he was at last convinced of the Sikh swordsman's skill, he would never again allow one of them to test it in that way and he advised his officers to make the same resolution .- New York Sun.

A Pretty Story.

Secretary Rusk has appointed Mrs. Josephine O'Brien, of Washington, to a position in his department; and thereby, writes a correspondent of the New York World, hangs a pretty tale. Mrs. O'-Brien's application had been on file many weeks, and the utmost efforts of Republican frienda failed to secure the coveted appointment. Naturally she much depressed. Her little was very 11-year-old daughter, Josie, was very indignant when her mamma failed to secure an appointment, and avowed her intention to see the Secretory about it herself. A little later the bell of Secretary Rusk's house in Massachusetts avenue was rung and the servant who answered it was confronted by an indignant little damsel, who wanted to se the Secretary. He was not in, but Miss Josie replied that she would wait for him. Secretary Rusk came in soon, and the little girl immediately demand ed to know why her mamma had not been appointed, and proceeded to give the astonished Secretary the names of prominent Republicans who had in dorsed her application. The Secretary was so much amused that he assured the little girl that her mother should be appointed. But Miss Josie had evidently heard of assurances that do not a sure, and she went next morning to the department and presented herself to the Secretary, saying that she had come for her mother's appointment. This was too much for the Secretary, and the appointment was made out, much to the delight of the persevering little girl and to the astonishment of the mother. Josie says that Secretary Rusk is the

nicest man she ever saw. A GRAMMATICAL QUESTION.-Years ago, in Chevenne, there was a terrible dispute about a point of grammar, one party claiming that "I done it" was corect, and the other contending that it should be "I have did it." The decision was left to a tall professor, with seven revolvers and a porcupine beard, who promptly declared that anybody who said "I have did it" was a liar. "Are you a grammarian?" asked an opposing member of this society for the promotion of pure English. "No, by-! shouted the Professor, "I'm a Missou-

Hoodlum Politics in the House.

Houston Post Speaker Reed remains master of the ituation in the House of Representatives. He is proceeding on the plan o the hoodlum ward meeting, where "de Chair runs der Machine, an' any bloke wot don't like it gets de bounce." Western Republicans suffer by this method as well as the Democrats, and there is a prospect of rebellion that will break the backbone of the majority.

All Sorts of Paragraphs.

-The Pan-American delegates will visit Montreal.

-Queen Victoria receives 300 or more letters a day. -French speculators have created a

corner in sardines. -General Raum has issued 34,000 pen-

sion certificates thus far. -General Sherman was seventy years

old the 8th of February. -A dog that can't bark is one of the

curiosities of Edinboro, N. J. -Two-thirds of all the children born in Conecticut in 1889 were boys.

-Leo XII will be eighty years old on March 2, should he live till then. -No less than 1,000,000 prairie chick-

ens are marketed in Chicago every year. -Colonel North, the English nitrate king, has a private dog-house that cost

-The Farmers' Association of South Carolina will nominate a State ticket this year.

-D'Albert, the pianist, is a strict vegetarian and eats an enormous number of

apples.

—Rubber pavements have successfully been tried on a bridge in Hanover and a street in Berlin.

-A Philadelphia shoemaker's dog died from swallowing a piece of sole leather in mistake for beetsteak.

-Eight hundred pennies were received in a single collection in one of the Chicago churches not long ago.

-Sir William Gull says that when fagged out by professional work he re-cruits his strength by eating raisins.

-Uncle Sam pays his 200,000 employes, including soldiers and sailors, an average annual salary of \$825 apiece. -The new Spanish Minister of Commerce, the Duke of Veragua, is reported

to be a lineal descendant of Christopher Columbus. -- "Buffalo Jones," of Garden City Kan., killed a buffalo from his herd the other day and sold the meat for fifty

cents a pound. -Levi Williamson, of Ansonia, Conn. has a hog that is seven feet long and weighs 1,000 pounds. It is so fat that it

is unable to get up. -Chicago is to have a fourteen-story notel, costing over a million of dollars. The projectors expect it to pay for it-

self during the World's Fair, -A bundle of spider webs, not larger than a buckshot and weighing less than one drachm, would, if straightened out, reach a distance of 350 miles.

-Thomas E. Blacksheer, of Thomasville, Ga., is eating new potatoes from planting made in September, and has ripe strawberries on his place. -The freedom of the serfs in Russia

has been repeatedly declared a great failure. They are said to be far worse off now than in their former condition. -Concurrently with the reports of tions that cattle are so cheap that it

-The first convert to Christianity in the Upper Congo valley was recently baptized at Equator Station. The valley contains thirty million people.

-It is figured that 1,664 houses were lost in the Johnstown disaster, and property in the flooded district is valued at \$770.693 less than before the flood.

-An observant contemporary has nade the discovery that the fair should not be held at Chicago, New York, St. Louis or Washington, but around the waist.

-M. Eiffel not only got his idea of a great tower from American suggestions for the Centennial Exposition, but an American elvator lifted the patrons of his tower to the top of it.

-T. Bailey Aldrich, who is a recent victim of the grip, compares the sensation to that of a misfit skull that is too light across the forehead and that pinches behind the ears.

-One of the professors of the University of Vienna, is said to have discovered the bacillus of the influenza, and it eems to be a near cousin, if not the twin-brother of the pneumonia germ. -The German imperial administration's effort to pass a bill for the expul-

sion of the socialists from the empire has been beaten in the National Reichstag by the overwhelming vote of 169 nays to At a recent autograph sale in London the signature of Voltaire brought only two guineas, while that of Isaac

Watts sold for three; and while ten pounds were given for a Boswell letter, one by Johnson brought only nine. -The Shaw of Persia in addition to the masses of jew, in the royal treasury, has a private fortune stowed in vault or

elsewhere which is known to consist of at least £3,000,000. To this he is perpetually adding fresh accumulations.

—George Newcomb, the English lion tamer, who died recently, in 1874 had a terrible encounter at Swindon with five African lions, when he received nine wounds on the right arm, in addition to other injuries. Three of the lions died in the struggle. Newcomb had previously had his left eye torn out by a leopard. The Cloverdale (Cal.) Reveille says: It has been reliably ascertained that out of 185 cases of successful swindling throughout the State by traveling sharpers in various ways, by which people of the rural districts were robbed, some to the extent of thousands of dollars, only nine or ten were subscribers or readers of a country paper. -With this issue of the Kicker we

cease the weather forcasts we have been publishing, as forecasted from our own observatory, for the last six weeks. While we have had wonderful luck in hitting the weather for three days ahead our local subscribers have had no interest in it and have discouraged the enterprise. This arises from the fact that no one here cares a cast iron cent what the weather is. If fair, they go out and shoot jackass rabbits and run horses; if foul, they gather in the bar room and drink whisky and play sevenup. The least that concerns them is what the weather is going to be on the morrow, and we don't propose to educate them up to feel anxious about it.