

IN AUGUST. All the long August afternoon. The little drowsy stream Whispers a melancholy tune, As if it dreamed of June And whispered in its dream.

HONEST STRATEGY.

"Please, Mrs. Karl, come and play tennis," said Clea Cullough appealingly. "It's too hot," said Mrs. Karl lazily. "I'm too old to frisk in such weather."

"Hear! Hear!" cried Roy Kendall. "What an honest woman!" "From compulsion, Roy. I was born here."

"In the year of our Lord"—Clea added. "Eighteen hundred and sixty," completed Mrs. Karl easily. "I am thirty-eight, you see."

"Thirty-eight!" repeated Roy. "It can't be you are ten years older than I am!" "Yes," she answered smilingly. Slender, graceful, charming, she looked scarcely forty and knew it.

"You plotter!" he cried. "You—you?" "Yes," she whispered, joining in his happy laugh. "I did"—By Vene Kennedy.

Alligators Hunted to Death. Persons who visited Florida a few years ago and saw the rivers, swamps and bayous literally teeming with countless thousands of alligators, will be surprised to learn that these large reptiles are fast becoming exterminated.

It was not until the hide of the saurian became a factor of commerce that its extermination began in earnest. The skins when tanned make excellent leather for the manufacture of such articles as trunks, valises, bags, purses, pockets, boots, and all kinds of leather novelties.

Salaries of government officials are increased to the amount of \$105,486.10, affecting 709 persons. Another item of appropriation during the session, which involves an increase of that of two years ago relates to new offices created.

William Halner, a farmer, of Fremont, Wis., had a farm hand that he could not get rid of for twenty-four hours, and is dead. Mr. Halner had an especial liking for green corn, and at dinner Thursday ate twenty-four ears. He put his regular occupation during the afternoon, and at the evening meal disposed of fifteen more ears.

More Than a Billion.

The Extravagance of Congress Shown by Official Figures. Big Deficit Likely, and at Same Rate the Fifty-seventh Congress May Reach the Two Billion Dollar Mark.

From official figures given out at the capitol on Tuesday setting forth the exact sum of money appropriated at the recent session of Congress, it appears, in the light of estimates made by the treasury department, that this government at the end of the present fiscal year will be confronted with an apparent deficit amounting in round numbers to \$425,515,351.

The million-dollar appropriations by the first session of the Fifty-seventh Congress are shown by official figures to have been apportioned as follows: Agricultural.....\$5,208,960 00 Army.....91,730,136 41

Congress at its recent session appropriated the enormous amount of \$1,063,335,961.55. Thus it is shown that the Republican Congress is fairly over the first half of the road to the two billion dollar mark. The expenditure of this sum is far in excess of the revenues to be derived during the year, and the result may be a bond issue.

The appropriation figures for the first session of the Fifty-seventh Congress were announced on Tuesday by the clerks of the committees on appropriations. The total of more than \$1,000,000 includes money to be spent during the year, as well as money to be disbursed under the continuing appropriations during the last days of the recent session.

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An Epidemic of Small-Pox. The British steamer Trent, which arrived at Kingston, Friday from West India, has brought news of an alarming increase of cases in the second outbreak of small-pox at Barbados, where the bodies of the dead are being thrown into the sea.

Now that President Schwegel, of the United States Steel Corporation, has finally sailed for Europe in search of recreation, rest and increased strength, but manifestly not the wreck in body and mind that has been so commonly reported, perhaps the steel magnate may be permitted, for a while, to pass into obscurity.

The President's Trip.

President Roosevelt's stop in Hartford on his New England tour was marked by great enthusiasm by the crowds, and he showed his pleasure at the reception he received.

Hartford was in gala dress to welcome the president, the weather was perfect and there was no hitch to mar the proceedings. The president on his arrival at the depot there Friday afternoon was cordially welcomed by a committee of representative citizens.

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"Penny's" New State Capitol.

The Structure is to be Completed in October, 1905. The Contractor to be Paid Monthly, And From Time to Time He Will be Required to Submit Photographs of the Building. \$150,000 for Descriptive Painting.

While the advertisement for bids for the completion of the new Capitol has not as yet been made public, intimation of the character of the specifications has been given out to forecast the requirements of regulations governing contractors, as follows:

The contractor will be required to insure at his own expense the work and materials. Payments will be made monthly on estimates of the work done and materials in the building. The Commission reserves the right to suspend any portion of the work embraced in the contract, whenever, in its opinion, it would be inexpedient to carry on such work.

The building will be erected in the following order: North wing, middle wing, with wing, connecting wings. Each portion shall have a foreman and a separate complete working organization, equipped with derricks, tools, etc.

The contractor will be required to provide and pay for photographs to show the general condition of the work from time to time, as directed. He must furnish a bond equal to one-half the amount of the contract, with sureties satisfactory to the Commission, guaranteeing completion of the work within the time stipulated.

Australia has been looked upon by many persons as the land of wild and reckless living. But a change has come over it within recent years. Melbourne, especially, has lately been the scene of a noteworthy revival. In a great simultaneous mission?

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Luther Marsh Dead.

Noted Spiritualist Passed Away at the Age of 99 Years.

Luther R. Marsh, widely known as a spiritualist, died at his home at Middletown, N. Y., on Friday, after an illness of several weeks. He was 99 years old. Some days ago Mr. Marsh summoned Justice Bartlett, one of the Court of Appeals to his bedside, and it is believed, he then made final disposition of his great library and picture gallery.

Mr. Marsh delivered many lectures and public addresses. He was for six years a vice-president of the Union League club. In 1888 he came to Middletown, where he afterward made his home, retiring from active practice. His public service, in addition to that as a member of the commission which secured 3,540 acres of park lands for New York at the cost of nearly \$10,000,000, was as chairman of the commission to estimate the damages to the proprietors of the lands taken for the International park at Niagara Falls.

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Woman Dies from Poisoned Teeth. Physician Says Dentist Used Brass for Filling Instead of Gold.

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John Black's Long Drive.

From Arkansas to Connecticut in a Prairie Schooner—Women Along.

In a canvas covered prairie schooner, which rumbled into Danbury, Conn., last week, John W. Black and his family have travelled the 1,500 miles lying between Bentonville, Ark., and Connecticut. For three months and ten days Black, his wife, their daughter and two sons have lived and travelled in the vehicle, riding by day and camping at night on the prairie or in the woods. They reached their destination, Southbury, fifteen miles beyond Danbury Friday.

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