

Bellefonte, Pa., February 7, 1908.

# LINCOLN'S JOKE.

Fixing the Responsibility For the Loss

of Harpers Ferry. President Lincoln's jokes, especially when perpetrated in connection with grave matters, usually had a purpose in them. After Lee had taken Harpers Ferry the president, realizing how great a calamity !t was to the northern arms, determined if possible to fix the responsibility for the loss of the

important position. Halleck was summoned, but did not know where the blame lay. "Very well," said Lincoln, "I'll ask General Schenck." The latter could throw no light upon the question, further than to say that he was not to blame. Milroy was the next to be called to the presence of the commander in chief and to enter a plea of "not guilty." Hooker was next given a hearing, and "Fighting Joe" made a very emphatic

disclaimer of all responsibility. Then the president assembled the four generals in his room and said to them: "Gentlemen, Harpers Ferry was surrendered and none of you, it seems, is responsible. I am very anxious to discover the man who is." After striding across the room several times the president suddenly threw up his bowed head and exclaimed: "I have it! 1

know who is responsible!" "Who, Mr. President; who is it?" asked the distinguished quartet as they looked anxious, if not troubled. "Gentlemen," said the president,

"General Lee is the man." There was a lack of mirth in the laugh created, and the four generals took their departure with a determination that they would not again be placed under suspicion.

with a meaning twinkle in his eye,

#### SLEEP MYSTERIES.

Tasks Often Performed While the Worker Slumbers. A psychologist was discussing the

miracles of sleep. "One can become so accustomed," he said, "to a monotonous task that one can fall asleep and still keep on working. Thus in India there are punka coolies, men who turn a fan all night long in the hot weather while their English masters rest, and it is not uncommon for a punka cooly to acquire the knack of sleeping at his task. On and on he sleeps through the hot, per-

turns the punka pulley. "Men have composed great literary bla Khan' is the most famous example | and when I saw what a profit there | be absolutely annihilated. works in their sleep. Coleridge's 'Kuthis; but, then. Coleridge was a morphinomaniac, and his sleep was scarcely natural. But R. L. Stevenson, Corelli and Longfellow have also done

good work while sleeping. "Divers sometimes fall asleep deep down in the sea, but some unknown part of their brain keeps watch, and at the proper moment, though asleep. they give the order to be hauled up. This is a good deal like the miracle that happens to all of us-the miracle whereby if we tell ourselves on retiring that we must wake at 7 we invariably do wake at that hour-how or why it is impossible to say. Some part of us watches, works, keeps awake all night, so that at 7 it may call us."-New Orleans Times-Demo-

Penny For a Priceless Book. A workingman once purchased for a penny an aged looking volume bearing date of 1540. The man tried to read it, but threw up the attempt apparently in disgust, and the volume was relegated to the cupboard. A friend of his happened to see the book and took it to the British museum authorities, who promptly made an offer of £90, the highest sum the librarian is allowed to expend without a special vote of the trustees. Had the man known what he was about he would have stood out for more, as the authorities would have paid almost any price rather than allow the volume to slip through their fingers. It was, in fact, the first book printed by Gutenberg and was therefore almost priceless .-London Tit-Bits.

Improved on Solomon In a certain Sunday school a little

girl told the story of Solomon and the | family surrounded by angels, while the disputing mothers in this wise: "Solomon was a very wise man. One day two women went to him, quarreling about a baby. One woman said, 'This is my child.' and the other woman said, 'No, 'tain't; it's mine.' But Solomon spoke up and said: 'No, no, ladies; don't quarrel. Give me my sword, and I'll make twins of him, so you can both have one."

### WONDERFUL BREAD.

The Veracious Narrative of Its Mak-

ing, Baking and Sale. "How did I happen to become a hotel clerk?" replied the man behind the desk. "Well, it was this way: I used to be a sailor. That was where I learned about whales. In fact, I was in jaundice and is an excellent diet for second mate of the first iron ship that dyspeptics. ever rounded the Horn, bound from Boston to San Francisco, loaded with four, yeast and salt to furnish grub to the California miners soon after the givil war.

"We got around the Horn all right when we ran into about the worst bit of weather ever brewed on the Pacific. Iron ships were an experiment then, and we soon found ourselves in trouble. The fresh water tanks sprang a leak, and the water ran down over the cargo. To make matters worse, the flour barrels and boxes of yeast broke loose, and with the rolling of the ship we soon had it all mixed up together. In other words, the whole ship below decks was full of dough that the rolling of the ship kneaded just as a regular breadmaking machine does out in the kitchen here. And it began to rise.

"We fastened down the hatches at first, but soon had to take them off on the lower decks or the expanding dough would burst the ship. And we put on all steam for San Francisco. We crossed the equator like a race horse. and there we made our second great mistake. The strain on the engines caused them to break down, so we had to go at half speed, and we were at a standstill for two whole days right there under a burning sun. The storm imposed upon and one day set himself we had run out of, and the weather to watch while the band was playing. was clear and hot. Whew!

"Then we got under full steam again other his anger increased perceptibly and plowed north to the Golden Gate until he burst forth in uncontrollable with a deck hand sitting on the safety | rage: valve. But we were too late. The tropic sun had baked that shipload of dough into one huge loaf of bread. Don't drum in the middle of it all the How to get it out of the ship was a

question. "The owners, who were the captain and one of our passengers, sold the ship just as she arrived for only half what they had paid for her new in Boston. But the new owner was a genius. He put the hungry miners to work with picks and shovels cutting out the bread his hand mechanically and steadily and sold it at the rate of \$1 a shovelful, rape. If a field is infested with this-It was the finest bread you or any one else ever ate.

"I was out of a job as second mate, is to sow it with rape. The thistle will was in that bread I just naturally went into the feeding business myself, and that's how I became associated with the hotel business. Front! Show this gentleman to the cafe."-Portland Ore-

Mary Stuart's Curious Watches.

Among the watches owned by Mary Stuart was a coffin shaped watch in a case of crystal. Probably the most remarkable one in her collection was the one which was bequeathed to Mary Seaton, her maid of honor. It was in the form of a skull. On the forehead of the skull was the symbol of death. the scythe and the hourglass. At the back of the skull was Time, and at the top of the head were the garden of Eden and the crucifixion. The watch was opened by reversing the skull. Inside was a representation of the holy

# Medical.

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#### Eight Thousand Idie Trains.

shepherds and their flocks were wor-

shiping the newborn Christ. The works

formed the brains, while the dial plate

was the palate. She also possessed an-

other skull shaped watch, but it is not

The Egg In Medicine.

corrosive sublimate. The poison will

coagulate the albumen, and if these

poisons be in the system the white of

an egg, if swallowed quickly, will com-

bine with the poison and protect the

stomach. An astringent poultice is

made by causing it to coagulate with

alum. This is called alum curd and is

used in certain diseases of the eye.

The yolk of the egg is sometimes used

Bungle's Bad Break.

Mr. Bungle always takes a deep and

sympathetic interest in the welfare of

his fellow man. While out for a stroll

one day he met a friend, who seemed

"Hold on, Jones," said Bungle, grab-

"Bungle," said Jones, removing his

bing his friend's arm. "Why this rush?"

hat and wiping his brow, "I'm hot foot-

ing it to a specialist. 1 believe my

Mr. Bungle, to allay the fears of his

"Pshaw, Jones, you shouldn't worry

"I mean you shouldn't let such a lit-

tle thing as your brain-that is, Mr.

Jones, you shouldn't get so excited over

nothing-of course-ah, good day, Mr.

Teaching the Drummer.

It was the custom in the days of our

old navy for the men to bring to the

mast all the wornout articles which

were to be inspected, handed in and ex-

changed for new. The drummer had

applied for so many drum heads that

the commodore felt sure he was being

As one rattling martial air followed an-

"There, now, confound you! I see

why you use so many drum heads.

time. Drum all over that drum, I tell

Plants That Hate One Another.

Fancy two plants being so unfriend-

ly that the mere neighborhood of one

is death to the other. Yet this is the

case with two well known English

plants. These are the thistle and the

tles which come up year after year

and ruin the crops, all you have to do

about such a little thing as that!"

friend and show the customary com-

in a great hurry.

brain is affected."

"Wh-hat?"

Jones!"-Bohemian.

miseration, said jovially:

The white of an egg is an antidote in

known what became of it,

New York, Jan. 24.-Figures prepared for one of the large railroad companies show that a week ago there were 320,000 idle freight cars in the United States and about 8000 locomotives, which are laid up because of the falling off in traffic. As there are 2,200,000 freight cars in the country, this would show that 14 per cent of all the cars owned by railroads are stored on cases of poisoning with strong acids or

side tracks waiting for loads. Figuring the value of cars at \$1000 each and of locomotives at \$15,000 each, the statement shows that the sailroads have \$440,000,000 tied up in rolling stock, for which there is no present use. The great shortage in rolling stock last year caused large orders for cars to be placed by rail-roads. As late as last October the report-

ed shortage was 87,000 cars. Estimating the average freight train at 40 cars, the 320,000 cars now idle would be equivalent to 8000 trains, for bandling each of which four men are ordinarily required, so that it may be estimated that ore than 30,000 men less are needed than if all these cars were in service. Many men have been placed on short time. As fixed charges must be met in dull times as well as in active, and maintenance and other expenses must be provided for, the managements of many railroads are undertood to be discussing the question of reducing wages, as a necessary measure.-In Altoona Gazette.

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7 27 ......Strubles 8 45 7 31 ...Blocm do ..... 7 40 7 35 Pine Grove M'ls 7 35 F. H. THOMAS, Supt.

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