

THE GERRYMANDER A GRAVE EVIL.

Ex-President Harrison Writes That It is a Public Reproach.

"The use of what is called the 'Gerrymander' in order to obtain an undue party advantage in the election of members of the House of Representatives has become a public reproach," writes ex-President Harrison, discussing Congress in the February Ladies' Home Journal.

Widows Preferred.

THEY FREQUENTLY MAKE BETTER WIVES THE SECOND TIME.

"There are many characteristics of widows," says an observant writer of the masculine persuasion recently, "which make them really preferable as wives. They are not so exacting for one thing. Their first plunge, if it has taught them anything, has taught them to be forbearing. Besides they are not so detestably romantic."

There is a great deal of common sense in this. Even in wooing a widow a man is sure to be saved much trouble. The dear lady can meet him half way without any sacrifice of modesty. This, to a humble minded bachelor, is much.

Again, marriage often changes a young woman in the most alarming manner. The pretty, blushing girl of one year is often hardly recognizable in the assuming, haughty young matron of a year later. She doesn't show half so attractively as a full blown flower as she did in the bud.

Prof. Starr, of the University of Chicago, insists that the American people are degenerating into Indians. Starr talks moonshine.

There are more farmers in the Maine Legislature than lawyers or the representatives of any other branch of industry or professional skill.

The Smithsonian Institute has sent as a gift to the Sultan a life-size figure of an Indian chief. When Colonel Hamid sees it he will probably equip his soldiers in Armenia with tomahawks.

No doubt the report that Queen Victoria intends to abdicate will be received by the Prince of Wales with a liberal allowance of salt. He has been hearing that fanciful story off and on for the last twenty-five years.

The Czarina of Russia, who is a granddaughter of Queen Victoria, is making herself unpopular at her own court by the reforms she is seeking to introduce. She objects to the habit Russian women have of smoking tobacco in public, and has also curtailed her husband's supply of cigarettes.

Perhaps the closest contest in any of the states at the recent election was that for the State Treasurership in South Dakota. The Republican candidate won it by a majority of 2 votes in a total poll of more than 90,000. The result was acquiesced in without contention.

Missouri enjoys the proud distinction of having the largest available public school fund of any state in the American Union. This fund is divided as follows: Common school fund, \$3,141,538.77; State Seminary fund, \$1,229,200.03; permanent county township and district school fund, \$7,912,692.29; total permanent school fund, \$12,283,491.18.

The enactment in Michigan not long ago of a law providing for "teaching in the public schools the modes by which the dangerous communicable diseases are spread, and the best methods for their prevention, has attracted the attention of the Michigan Board of Health."

Widows are active in voting as the evidence that the women in that state were nearly as active in that state as they were in 1896, which is strong proof in favor of the general franchise, which increased from 93.84% in 1892 to 100.00% in 1900. In only one per cent. Colorado's vote was the difference between them being granted the franchise as fairly as the one that the women exercised the right of franchise. The Philadelphia Press finds that the franchise of 1898 has a basis of calculation. The women cast 7.12% of the total vote was 12.79% of the whole. The franchise for President. In Colorado and Wyoming—women participate in the franchise. In three states—Colorado, Utah and Idaho the women were not permitted to vote.

\$100 Reward \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work.

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It is said that New Jersey is to have a marriage license law. If it is the case what will all those Camden preachers do for a living? But then the preachers are not the only people to be effected, for what will the young couples whose parents object to do? Surely they will have to make other arrangements.

A bill has been introduced in the legislature, by Representative Hosack of Allegheny, providing for a bicycle path along all public highways.

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

A VARIETY OF INTERESTING CHAT ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS.

Sir Arthur Sullivan at Work on Some New Music—Mrs. Drew's Wonderful Vitality—Otero's Jewels—A Recollection by Edward Harrington.

Sir Arthur Sullivan is at work in his villa at Nice on the ballet music for "The Alhambra," which some time ago he agreed to furnish.

In writing of old time variety, Edward Harrington relates this: I recall an incident at the Theatre Comique one afternoon, at a benefit to the poor of the Fourteenth Ward.

This voice emanated from the partner of the woman. They were billed for a duet. The unseen singer finished his stanza, but as soon as he had entered upon the stage in response to loud applause, the uproar was tumultuous and derisive.



VIOLA ALLEN'S GOWN.

It is a wonderful thing that Mrs. John Drew, who is 74 years old, should be acting in a wild and whirling Drury Lane melodrama like "The Sporting Duchess." The wonder is not in Mrs. Drew's age, for many actors, of either sex, have kept on playing beyond that time; but, as a rule, their ability has never been very great at any period of their careers, or else their powers have fallen to a very ordinary level.

Campanini was devoid of business capacity, the quality most essential to the success of an impresario who has under his command an army of 100 to 200 or more people. He was severe, and had a rigid manner, with the Italian idea of being the padrone of the company, as he told me on one occasion. I told him that this country was not Italy, and had no padrones.

Send police boat to meet Champagne, with detectives to take charge of Otero's jewels. This is a translation of the cable message received by the Spanish dancer's American agent recently.

The number of women who wear "spats" increases. It is given out that they keep the feet warm, and protect against mud and dampness. Possessors of pretty feet, however, should "never wear 'em."

The blue alleged Colonial net paper finds favor among many women who are and who are not members of Colonial societies. It is not known that any of them use sand instead of blotting paper, as Colonial correspondents did.

Extensive and elaborate trousseaus are decidedly out of fashion among sensible women. Prospective brides do not provide themselves with a lot of gowns and bonnets, hats and wraps that are out of style before they are literally "worn out."

Red, in a variety of shades, is emphatically the color of the season. Heretofore, the men have painted the town red, but now much of the responsibility rests upon the women.

The Mayor's fund in Chicago, for the relief of the unemployed hundreds, aggregates about \$80,000 in money and supplies.

Demorest's Cat Paper Patterns are practical on the market. They are of any size that any member of a household could require. In each copy of the Magazine is printed a coupon entitling the subscriber to a pattern (worth and regularly sold for 50c), or any number of patterns for four cents each to cover package and postage.

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Every time it will cure Backache. It has cured more cases of leucorrhoea by removing the cause, than any remedy the world has ever known; it is almost infallible in such cases.

It dissolves and expels tumors from the uterus in an early stage of development, and checks any tendency to cancerous humors. Lydia E. Pinkham's Liver Pills work in unison with the Compound, and are a sure cure for constipation and sick headache.

NEWS ITEMS.

Pennsylvania's licensed detectives will form a State Association.

On Barclay Mountain in Bradford County, a 5 1/2 inch vein of fine bituminous coal has been struck.

James Mead, of Locust Gap, was found frozen to death under the snow near Last Chance, Luzerne County last Thursday.

Butler heirs of Buchhart Moser have taken action similar to that of heirs at Reading and Allentown, to lay claim to the \$1,400,000 estate including the site of Tamaqua.

Frank Fillmore, broke through the ice and was drowned at Miner's Mills, three miles above Wilkes-Barre on Thursday.

Mary White, aged eight years, of Mahanoy Plane, had her hand blown off and face badly cut, by the explosion of a dualin cap, which she found and thrust into the kitchen stove.

Relative to the much discussed question of Constables pay for mileage. Judge John G. Love handed down an opinion in Court at Bellefonte on Thursday in a test case brought for back compensation. Judge Love holds, contrary to many decisions handed down elsewhere in the State, that the act of 1895 does not deprive Constables of their customary compensation, and he orders the Commissioners to pay same.

Simon Kreidler, aged 20 years, of Farrandville, last week shot four black bears, a mother and three cubs. The bears were in a hole under the rocks, and as they came out one by one the young hunter shot them.

Few consumptives believe they are in danger till medicine is of little avail. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral taken in the early stages, has prevented further progress of the disease, and saved many a life. At any stage of phthisis, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral affords great relief.

TABLE TALK.

Souvenir pin trays and bonbon boxes of silverware are in a measure taking the place of souvenir spoons, which are not obsolete. The former are, as yet, too expensive to become actually "common."

The number of women who wear "spats" increases. It is given out that they keep the feet warm, and protect against mud and dampness. Possessors of pretty feet, however, should "never wear 'em."

Now that people have ascertained there are several kinds of delit, the ambition to possess examples of that kind of ware has decreased. And this is where the sorrow of the china dealer begins.

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RAILROAD TIME TABLE

DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA AND WESTERN RAILROAD.

BLOOMSBURG DIVISION.

Table with columns for Stations (Scranton, Northumberland, etc.), A.M., P.M., and P.M. times for various routes.

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Pennsylvania Railroad

Time Table in effect Nov. 15, '96

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