

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

—On the evening of the 23d, preparatory to replacing the rails on a section of the Manitoba Railroad, near Anoka, Minnesota, a gang of men drew every alternate spike. On the 3d, when a work train, containing seventy men, went along the road at a speed of 20 miles an hour, the rails spread, the train ran off the track and the men were thrown off the cars. John Griffin, of St. Paul, was killed, and six others were dangerously injured, two of whom—John Burke and Ole Forest—are not expected to recover. Two freight trains on the Air Line Railroad collided, near Westfield, Connecticut, on the morning of the 4th. Conductor Stebbins was killed and Brakeman Cheney was badly injured.

—Despite the protests of Yale students and graduates the historic fence, which has been their lounging place for years, is doomed, the corporation deciding that it must be removed to make room for a new recitation hall.

—James Cooley, a letter carrier employed in the Allegheny Post Office, was arrested on the 4th, charged with robbing the mails. He was captured with decoy letters in his pockets.

—Six men in the employ of the Pierce Company at Ottawa, Ontario, attempted to run the rapids at Head Lake, on the Petawawa river on the 2d, when their boat upset and three of the number were drowned.

—John Owsley, his wife and four children were taken violently ill on the 3d, at their home in Windsor, Missouri, and it was discovered that strychnine had been placed in the coffee. The 12-year-old negro servant girl denied that she was guilty, but refused to drink the coffee. She was forced to drink, and died in half an hour. Before her death she confessed she had done the poisoning, and said she was forced to it by negroes, whose names she gave. The Owsley family are still in a dangerous condition. Chas. Schreeves, a hardware merchant in Murray, Iowa, killed Louis Mears, a farmer, on the evening of the 3d. Their quarrel grew out of Mears's objections to Schreeves paying attention to his sister. Near Bridgeport, Ohio, on the morning of the 4th, four men got into a fight about two disreputable women, and during its progress one of the women, Gertrude Williams, drew a revolver and fatally wounded Samuel Waters, and also lodged two bullets in the body of Cornelius Waters. The women were arrested. During a fight between Jeremiah Shea and Patrick Green in New York, on the afternoon of the 4th, the former fell with Green on top of him. Shea was not able to rise and died in a short time.

—Frederick Fowler and William Ferguson, two members of a gang of counterfeiters who have been working in the vicinity of Chattanooga, Tennessee, have been arrested. It is estimated that upwards of \$15,000 in counterfeit coin is now in circulation there, besides a large number of \$5 silver certificates.

—A storm which visited the vicinity of Milton, North Carolina, on the evening of the 2d, did a great deal of damage. Large plantations of recently planted tobacco and corn were destroyed, and bucketsful of hail stones as large as guinea eggs could be gathered. Since the storm the weather has been so cold that the hail is still seen on the ground, and people are sitting by fires. A furious storm swept over Washington county, Arkansas, on the 2d, causing a heavy loss of property. In one hamlet twelve houses were destroyed. Seven or eight persons were badly injured, and it was rumored that in the interior seven persons were killed. The report of the loss of life, however, has not been confirmed.

—In Paris, Kentucky, on the evening of the 4th, D. Porter, a son of ex-Governor Porter, was shot and killed by Alexander B. White, cashier of the Commercial Bank. Porter had accosted White and made a motion as if to draw his pistol. Earlier in the evening Kennedy Porter, another son of the ex-Governor, assaulted William Edmunds and shot him three times. His wounds are severe. Edmunds had shot Porter some months ago. Edward Watkins shot and killed "Budd" Trail in Middlebrook, Maryland, on the 4th. There was a feeling of jealousy between the two men on account of a widow who lived on the farm of Watkins's father. The body of Agatha Peterson, who mysteriously disappeared from Wausau, Wisconsin, three weeks ago, was found in the Wisconsin river on the 5th. She is supposed to have been thrown off the bridge. The body of John Newman, a driver on one of the city teams in Chelsea, Massachusetts, was found near Chelsea bridge on the 3d. His skull was fractured and it is thought he was murdered.

—Two freight wrecks occurred on the morning of the 5th on the Pennsylvania Railroad, near Pittsburg, which stopped passenger travel for over three hours. About the same time freight trains at Irwin and Brinton Stations telescoped preceding sections, destroying several cars and blocking the track. A construction engine on the Cleveland and Mahoning Valley Railroad was derailed near Niles, Ohio, on the morning of the 5th, and wrecked, Harry Schofield and John Rosenberg were killed.

—The safe of Lewis & Kearns grain buyers at Albany, Illinois, was robbed on the 3d of \$1200 belonging to the firm. The safe was in the jewelry store of E. F. Schneider, who claimed that he had \$900 in money and valuables taken. He was arrested on the 4th for the robbery.

—A despatch from the City of Mexico says a railway accident occurred on the evening of the 4th, just outside of Tampico, in which many lives were lost. A construction train was derailed near a bridge by a cow and a donkey which were on the track. The train crashed through the bridge and went down an embankment, so far as known 18 persons were killed and 41 injured.

—Three of the four men who were buried in the St. Lawrence mine in

Butte, Montana, by a land slide, were taken out alive on the morning of the 5th. The only person killed was Patrick Harrington.

—Forest fires are raging along the line of the Omaha Railroad, 14 miles from La Crosse, Wisconsin. Thirty cars, 5000 ties, 3000 posts, three dwellings and the post-office have been destroyed.

—The Democratic National Convention on the 6th, renominated Grover Cleveland for President of the United States.

—A train from Yonkers ran into a gang of Italian trackmen on the New York City and Northern Railroad, in Westchester, New York, on the 6th, killing Joseph Treask and Frank Paulaglio and badly injuring Rafael Omarch and Joseph Romana. The walls of the Land and River Improvement Company's hotel in Superior, Wisconsin, fell on the 6th, burying five men and injuring as many more. A boat containing eight persons was capsized while crossing the river at Wesner, Nebraska, on the 5th, Lena, Anna and O. M. Matthes and Franz Marx, all children, were drowned.

—Reports from the western part of Massachusetts show that excessive heat prevailed on the 6th, and a severe thunder storm did great damage in many places. At St. Johnsbury, Vermont, a hailstorm with a high wind prevailed, tearing up trees and damaging buildings. At Littleton, New Hampshire, the storm unroofed many buildings, and tore up a number of trees. Lightning struck the spire of the town hall in Westminster, Vermont, totally destroying the building and a dwelling owned by Frank Heywood. The Town Hall was one of the oldest land marks in the vicinity. It was built in 1770, and was thoroughly repaired a few years ago. It was in this building that the first Legislature of Vermont met. The loss on the hall is \$5000. During a severe storm on the evening of the 6th lightning struck and destroyed the farm house of Stephen Clemens, near Keene, New Hampshire. A telegram from Ottawa, Ontario, says the destruction on the 6th, by the storm was wide-spread. Great damage was done to the crops, roots just peeping forth being literally blown out of the ground. Young apple orchards in nearly every locality in the district were destroyed. The loss will not, it is thought, fall short of \$300,000. Besides three persons already reported killed, a large number were seriously injured. A brick school house in Osgood township was blown down and 20 children were buried in the ruins. Some of them were fatally injured and none escaped without painful wounds.

—A despatch from St. Johns, Newfoundland, says destructive forest fires are raging on the north shore of Conception Bay. At Colliers nine houses, at Placentia the dwelling of the railway officials, at Harbor Grace Junction seven houses, and at Seal Cove seven houses have been burned. At Little Bay North, twenty-six families have been burned out, nothing being saved, and one woman and two children burned to death.

—Thomas Rowlands, a liquor seller in Charlestown, Massachusetts, quarrelled with his wife on the 7th on account of jealousy, and shot her dead. He then shot himself, and died in a short time. Walter A. Spicer, a master painter in Chicago, shot himself in the temple on the evening of the 6th. There had been trouble between his wife and himself.

—The Democratic National Convention at St. Louis concluded its labors on the 7th by the adoption of a platform and the nomination of Allen G. Thurman, of Ohio, for Vice President of the United States. Mr. Thurman was nominated on the first ballot, and the nomination was made unanimous amid an outburst of enthusiasm which recalled that evoked by the renomination of Cleveland the day before. The platform adopted, among other things, reaffirms the tariff utterances of the platform of 1884, as interpreted by the President's Message. Supplemental resolutions were adopted approving the tariff bill now pending in the House, and expressing sympathy for Home Rule in Ireland.

—T. Harrison Garrett, the well-known banker of Baltimore, and brother of Robert Garrett, was drowned in the Patapsco river, on the evening of the 7th. His yacht, in which he and a party of friends were returning from a trip to Annapolis, was run into and sunk by the steamer Joppa, but all on board escaped except Mr. Garrett. Five men were terribly burned by the overturning of a ladle at the Bessemer mill of the Pennsylvania Steel Works, near Harrisburg, on the 8th. Wilson Shaeffer died in an hour, and Samuel Zarfoss is not expected to recover. The boiler of an engine on the farm of Edwin Mickley, at Maple Grove, Lehigh county, Penna., exploded on the morning of the 8th, and immediately thereafter followed an explosion of 125 pounds of dynamite and a quantity of powder, stored in the engine house. Mickley's barn, erected at a cost of \$5000, was completely wrecked. Window panes half a mile distant were broken.

—While a number of Italians were excavating for a sewer in Brooklyn, New York, on the 8th, the earth caved in and buried Fredonia Gurefepo and Michael Mingo. They were both killed. At Niagara Falls, on the 8th, a party of five entered a car on the inclined railway on the Canadian side during the absence of the attendant. The car descended at a terrific rate of speed and was dashed to pieces at the bottom of the decline. Mrs. Santana, it is feared, is fatally injured, and her daughter was badly cut under the chin. The others of the party escaped unhurt. Charles Murphy, a young fisherman, 33 years of age, was drowned on the falls at Louisville, Kentucky, on the morning of the 8th, by being drawn by the current into the whirlpool under the Table Rock. It is supposed he was dragged into the rapids by a large fish making a sudden plunge in the net.

—An ineffectual attempt was made to rob a train near Delhi, a few miles west of Cincinnati, on the evening of the 8th. The robbers were five in number. During the melee Joseph

Ketcham, baggage master, was shot five times, and James Boyd, engineer, was beaten into insensibility.

—The Commissioners of Allegheny county, Penna., were on the 8th notified by County Controller Spear that there was a deficit of \$15,850 in the accounts of ex-Sheriff Joseph Gray, who retired from office a few months ago. Colonel Gray has been unable to attend to his duties for several months, on account of sickness, and the Commissioners state that "he does not deny that there might be a deficiency arising from unbalanced books." At his request an expert is now at work on the accounts.

—The monthly crop report for the Memphis district, which embraces West Tennessee, North Mississippi, North Arkansas and North Alabama, says of the condition of the cotton, that notwithstanding the season as full two weeks later than last year the plant is healthy and growing well, and with favorable condition. In the future, a fine yield can reasonably be anticipated. Corn, like cotton, is somewhat late, and is about the same condition.

—Col. W. H. Webster, Treasurer of Merrick county, Nebraska, is short in his accounts \$35,000. Otto Foster, his deputy, is also short \$1000.

50th CONGRESS.—First Session.

SENATE.

In the United States Senate on the 4th the bill to repeal all pre-emption and timber culture laws was reported and placed on the calendar. House bill to make inauguration day a public holiday in the District of Columbia was passed. A number of bills on the calendar were passed, among them the following: House bill appropriating \$100,000 for a public building in Monroe, Louisiana (amended by reducing the amount to \$75,000); Senate bill appropriating \$100,000 for a public building at Waterbury, Connecticut; House bill authorizing the retirement of Alfred Pleasanton with the rank of Colonel, with an amendment reducing the grade to that of Major; Senate bill appropriating \$75,000 each for public buildings in Nashua, New Hampshire, and Altoon, Penna.; Senate bill for the retirement of Major General Averill with the rank of Major; House bill appropriating \$60,000 for a public building at Hoboken, New Jersey; Senate bill appropriating \$60,000 for a public building at Reno, Nevada. The House bill to prevent the employment of alien labor on public buildings and works was discussed, pending which the Senate adjourned.

In the U. S. Senate on the 5th, a bill was reported and placed on the calendar increasing to \$100 per month the pension of the widow of General Heintzelman. The Diplomatic Appropriation bill was considered. Amendments were agreed to, transferring to the grade of "Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary" the "Ministers Resident" in Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden and Norway and Venezuela, without change of salary (\$7500); inserting an item for "Minister Resident and Consul General" in Corea, at a salary of \$7500; transferring to the grade of Minister Resident and Consul General the Charge d'Affaires to Paraguay and Uruguay, without change of salary, and appropriating \$25,000 for the expenses of a scientific commission to visit and report upon the commercial resources of the Upper Congo Basin, in Africa. Pending further consideration of the bill, it being found no quorum was present, the Senate adjourned.

In the U. S. Senate on the 6th, an executive session was held immediately after the reading of the journal. In a few minutes the doors were reopened, and a message was received from the President, vetoing a bill pensioning a widow, on the ground that the death of the husband for which the pension was allowed had nothing to do with the military service, but was the result of suicide. The message was referred to the Committee on Pensions. The consideration of the Diplomatic Appropriation bill was resumed and the bill was passed, the salary of the Minister Resident in Paraguay being fixed at \$7500. Conference reports were agreed to on bills appropriating \$150,000 for a public building at Bridgeport, Connecticut, and \$200,000 for a public building at Bay City, Michigan. Senate bill for the purchase of a site for a building for the Supreme Court of the United States was passed; also Senate bill providing that the number of appointments to graduates of the Naval Academy to positions in the lower grades of the line and engineer corps of the navy and the marine corps shall not be less than 20 in each year—15 to the line, 4 to the engineering corps and one to the marine corps, and that appointees shall be admitted to the Academy only between the ages of 16 and 21 years. One hundred and sixteen pension bills, 64 of them being House bills, were taken from the calendar and passed. Among them were bills increasing the pensions of the widows of Major General Thomas Kilby Smith to \$7500; of Major General Heintzelman to \$1000, and of Brigadier General Schmeifentag to \$750, and giving a pension of \$50 a month to the widow of Commodore Truxton. Senate bill appropriating \$125,000 for a public building at Salt Lake City, Utah, was passed. Adjourned.

In the U. S. Senate on the 7th, Mr. Morgan, of Alabama, offered a preamble and resolutions declaring that the Fisheries treaty had been duly negotiated and is lawful and valid. Mr. Vance moved to refer them to the Committee on Foreign Relations. Mr. Morgan then, notwithstanding a point of order raised by Mr. Sherman and a ruling of the Chair that he must confine himself to speaking on the question of the point of order, read from printed slips a speech which he had made in secret session on the Treaty. When he had finished, the resolutions went over without action, and the Senate adjourned.

In the U. S. House of Representatives on the 8th, Mr. Dingley, from the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, reported back his resolution, which was adopted, calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for information as to whether any order is now in force by which vessels from the United States ports are required to pay less tolls in passing through the Welland and other Canadian canals when they pursue their voyage by way of the St. Lawrence and Montreal, than when they pursue their voyage by way of Lake Ontario, to American ports, and whether additional legislation is necessary to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to impose additional tolls upon vessels passing through the Sault Ste. Marie and St. Clair Flats Canal bound to Canadian ports if the Dominion authorities continue discrimination against vessels bound to American ports. The Tariff bill was resumed in Committee of the Whole, and the salt paragraph was disposed of, all amendments being rejected. Pending consideration of the flax paragraph the Committee rose. An evening session was held for the consideration of private pension bills. Adjourned.

HOUSE.

In the House, on the 4th, bills were introduced by Mr. Lee, of Virginia, to prevent food adulteration; by Mr. Blanchard, of Louisiana, to amend the Inter-State Commerce law; and by Mr. Oates, of Alabama, to restrict immigration. Mr. Bound, of Pennsylvania, offered a resolution, which was referred, directing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to inquire into the alleged action of the Brazilian Government in imposing an export duty on coffee nearly equal to the duty formerly imposed by the United States on that commodity and in aiding British capitalists to establish flour mills in Brazil while maintaining an excessive duty on American flour. The Senate bill making inauguration day a legal holiday in the District of Columbia, and the Senate bill to prevent obstructions and injurious deposits in the harbor of New York (the latter with amendments), were passed. Mr. Mills moved that the rules be suspended and certain evenings be set apart for the consideration of bills reported by the Committees on Public Lands, Military, Pacific Railroads, Territories and Commerce. Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, tried to propose an amendment setting apart a day for general pension bills, but could not secure recognition. A vote was taken on Mr. Mills's resolution, and, as it stood 95 to 2—no quorum. Mr. Mills then withdrew the resolution. Messrs. McKinley and Reed inquired whether it was not in order to suspend the rules and set apart days for general pension legislation. The Chair replied that the regular order was Mr. Mills's motion. Quite an uproar followed, and the Speaker *pro tempore* put Mr. Mills's motion and began to count upon a division, but the result was no quorum as before. Mr. Mills then, after a call of the House, withdrew the motion, and simply moved to go into Committee of the Whole on the Tariff bill. No quorum voted, and he moved to adjourn, which was agreed to.

In the House on the 5th, the resolution accepting the invitation to attend the centennial celebration of Washington's inauguration in New York in 1889 was reported adversely from the Judiciary, the committee holding that this House has no power to bind its successor. Mr. Dibble, from the Committees on Public Buildings and Grounds, reported back the Alien and Public Building bill, with a recommendation that it be passed notwithstanding the President's veto. The Tariff bill was considered in Committee of the Whole, and the 16th line of the bill having been reached, the committee rose. Messages were received from the President returning without his approval bills for the erection of a public building at Bar Harbor, Maine, and for the purchase of additional ground for the building at Council Bluffs, Iowa. A conference report on the bill relative to postal crimes was agreed to. Adjourned.

In the House, on the 6th, Senate amendment to the bill for a public building at Monroe, Louisiana, reducing the appropriation from \$100,000 to \$75,000, was occurred in. The Tariff bill was considered in committee of the whole. The Senate amendments to the Indian Appropriation bill were referred to a committee of conference. Adjourned.

In the House on the 7th, reports on the bills for public buildings at Bridgeport, Connecticut, and Bay City, Michigan, were agreed to. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Tariff bill. After disposing of the lumber section of the bill the committee rose. Mr. Holman from the Public Lands Committee, reported a substitute for the Senate Land Grant Forfeiture bill. The House then adjourned.

GENERAL SHERIDAN.

A SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT NOTED, BUT HIS CONDITION ONE OF EXTREME PROSTRATION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 8th.—At 11 o'clock this morning it was stated that the General's mind had remained perfectly clear. He was resting quietly, with little or no pain, and, for the time being, his condition was slightly improved. The organic diseases from which he suffers, however, remain unyielding. He was more or less delirious all through the night; not violently, though, for he was too weak for that—but he could not recognize the members of his family or his physicians, and refused to take any medicine or nourishment.

About 3 o'clock this morning his mind cleared, and he readily took peptonized milk. The medicine was given hypodermically. Each of the several attacks which he has had lately has left him much weaker than the previous one. His rallies have been but partial and unsatisfactory, and, altogether, the case is a most desperate one. From information received from high sources, it is believed that the end is not far off.

At 10.30 A. M., the General was resting easily, with no especial change in his physical condition. His mind is perfectly clear this morning. He asked his brother several questions about the political news of yesterday, and made two or three characteristic comments on the information given in reply.

June 9, 12, 10 A. M.—General Sheridan's cough has increased somewhat since the last report, and this has made him restless and nervous. His pulse is rather quicker, but of good strength, and his respiration is rather more frequent within the last two hours. He takes his nourishment with regularity and relishes it.

R. M. O'REILLY,  
C. B. BYRNE,  
H. C. YARROW.

Though there has been no very decided change for the worse in General Sheridan's condition during the day, yet the last 24 hours have not been encouraging for him. There has been a continuance of the high respiration which marked a decided congestion of the lungs and the difficulty in breathing has weakened him and prevented him from securing much-needed rest. Heretofore there has uniformly been an improvement after an attack of heart failure, but now the patient does not seem able to rally.

REMINISCENCES OF DICKENS.

His Composing Mood—An Example of His Love of Mischief.

One day Millie and I were standing on the balcony of our house when Dickens came sauntering by. On seeing us he promptly struck an attitude, with one hand pressed to his heart, and the other thrown out aloft, as he spouted dramatically:

"Tis my lady! 'tis my love! Oh, that I were a glove upon that hand, that I might touch that cheek!"

"Which of us do you intend to be Juliet to your Romeo?" inquired Millie.

"Whichever you choose, my little dears!" he answered, touching his hat airily and strolling on. Next morning we were there again as he passed, this time with merely an ungracious "How do!" He was weaving his ideas, and naturally was bored by interruption. Afterward, when his face bore this abstracted look, I always pretended not to see him. It saved him the trouble of being obliged to recognize me, did not encroach on his composing mood, and altogether pleased him. I was horribly afraid of him sometimes, and told him so once, greatly to his amusement.

Seeing him then, calm and solemn as the Sphinx, it was difficult to imagine the amount of mischievous fun of which he was capable. To give an example. We were on the pier one evening, having been amusing ourselves by dancing a quadrille, in a railed-off space which Dickens had named the Family Pew, because it costumed seats on two sides. He was in high spirits, as he enjoyed being here at dusk, where he escaped the scrutiny of the "gaping throng." He condescended to perform on his pocket comb and a piece of paper, while Fred whistled, the two thus doing duty as "band." After our caperings we strolled toward the end of the little pier, to watch the tide rippling in under the fading light. The scene had become weird and uncanny, the night seeming to drop suddenly down without a star or moon; the only light a lingering phosphorescent gleam on the crest of the waves.

All at once the spirit of the hour—a demon of mischief evidently—seemed to take possession of Dickens. He flung his arm around me and whirled me with him down the inclined plane of the jetty, toward a tall upright pole fixed at the extreme end. To his pole he clung with his other arm, while he informed me in theatrical accents that he intended to hold me there until the wild waves overwhelmed us.

"Think!" he cried, mouthing every word. "Think of the sensation we shall create! Think of the road to celebrity which we are about to tread—no, I mean, not exactly to tread, but to founder into!"

Here I intended him to let me go, while I struggled desperately to free myself.

"Let your mind dwell on the column in The Times, where will be vividly described the fate of the lovely Emma P———, drowned by Dickens in a fit of demerol! Don't struggle, poor little bird; you are powerless in the claws of such a kite as this child!"

The last glimmer of light was now gone, and close to us was the dark mystery of the surging water, very black, very cold, and above all coming nearer very rapidly. With a horrid splash it dashed over my feet! I screamed out:

"Oh! my dress; my best dress, my only silk dress will be ruined!"

He was not softened in the least by this tragic appeal, but continued ranting nonsensically and panting with his exertions to hold me, and with his suppressed laughter. Then I gave a wild shriek.

"Mrs. Dickens! help me!—make Mr. Dickens let me go. The waves are up to my knees!"

"Charles!" Mrs. Dickens called in frantic accents. "How can you be so silly? You will both be carried off by the waves (then falling from pathos to bathos) and you'll spoil the poor girl's silk dress."

"Dress!" shouted Dickens with scorn. "Talk not to me of dress! When the pall of night is enshrouding us in Cimmerian darkness, when we already stand on the brink of the great mystery shall our thoughts be of such vanities? Am I not immolating a brand new pair of patent leathers still unpaid for? Perish such low born thoughts! In this hour of abandonment to the voice of destiny, shall we be held back by the puerilities of silken raiment? Shall leather or prunella (whatever that may be) stop the bolt of fate!" The sudden parenthetical change from high down rant back again to ordinary accents was most ridiculous.

Here I succeeded in struggling out of his grasp, and fled to my friends, almost crying with vexation, my only silk dress clinging round my saturated limbs, and leaving a watery track as I stumbled on.

Mrs. Cleveland's Taste in Jewelry.

It would appear as though each and all of fashion's devotees had wearied of winter's thrall and were anxious to replace it with as gay a crown as possible. Jewels have rarely been worn in such profusion, and gems that have been hidden away for years are again brought out into the sunlight. Jewelers attribute this bit of good luck to the fair mistress of the White House, who confesses to have a decided penchant for jewels. Mrs. Cleveland's taste inclines in the direction of diamonds, and she not alone values them as ornaments, but values the limpid stones for their inherent beauty, and takes pride in a collection of unset diamonds. She has had a small cabinet provided with tiny nests, in which, wrapped separately in bits of cotton, each gem properly classified, are her cherished gems. It is stated on authority that Mrs. Cleveland's collection of diamonds, mounted and unmounted, estimate a value of more than \$50,000. The sets are mostly her husband's gifts, but the separate stones are of her own selection, and she is a connoisseur on the subject.

A Chapter on Taste.

Taste is the power to perceive the beautiful. Experience is needed for this, and, therefore, the formation of taste is not only varied, but gradual. No one would be content to adhere to his childish judgment, for in most cases it would be but an imperfect childish judgment, for in most cases it would be but an imperfect one. In the period of youth all is novelty and the estimate for everything is naturally exaggerated. A young man goes to the theatre for the first time; the actors are by no means talented, the scenic arrangement are anything but realistic, but it is of no consequence, the youth is enchanted—it is a new world to him and he is, therefore, so carried away that he is absolutely incapable of forming a sound judgment; it is not that his taste is bad, but it is simply unformed.

But besides experience, cultivation is required. To acquire a good style in composition, and, therefore, to thoroughly appreciate the best writers, it is by no means sufficient to have written a great deal, experience is not enough here; there must be a careful study of the best authors, and this study will be a great assistance to the acquisition of a sound literary taste.

STUGGS—Was it not disgraceful, the way in which Sniggs snored in church to-day?

Stiggs—I should think it was. Why he woke us all up!

FORTUNE HUNTER—Now, darling, say yes or no. I've only fifteen minutes in which to catch the train.

Heless—Better catch your train, then. You are not going to catch me.