adored me, while the commanders of the regiment, who were constantly being changed, looked upon me as an incurable

"I was calmly, or rather boisterously, enjoving my reputation, when a certain young man joined our regiment. He was rich, and came of a distinguished family-I will not name him. Never in my life did I meet with so brilliant, so fortunate a fellow!young, clever, handsome, with the wildest spirits, the most reckless bravery, bearing a celebrated name, possessing funds of which he did not know the amount, but which were inexhaustible. You may imagine the effect he was sure to produce among us. My leadership was shaken. Dazzled by my reputation, he began by seeking my friend ship. But I received him coldly; at which, without the least sign of regret, he kept

sicof from me.
"I took a dislike to him. His success in the regiment and in the society of women brought me to despair. I tried to pick a quarrel with him. To my epigrams he replied with epigrams which always seemed me more pointed and more piercing than my own, and which were certainly much livelier; for while he joked, I was

Finally, at a ball at the house of a Polish landed proprietor, seeing him re-ceive marked attention from all the ladies, and especially from the lady of the house, who had formerly been on very friendly terms with me, I whispered some low insult in his ear. He flew into a passion, and gave me a slap on the cheek. We clutched our swords; the ladies tainted; we were sepa-rated; and the same night we drove out to

'It was nearly daybreak. I was standing at the appointed spot with my three seconds. How impatiently I awaited my opponent! The spring sun had risen, and it was growing hot. At last I saw him in the distance. He was on foot, accompanied by only one second. We advanced to meet him. He approached, holding in his hand his regimental cap, filled full of black cher-

"The seconds measured 12 paces. It was for me to fire first. But my excitement was so great that I could not depend upon the certainty of my hand; and, in order to give myself time to get caim, I ceded the first shot to my adversary. He would not accept it, and we decided to cast lots. The number fell to him; constant favorite

of fortune that he was! He aimed, and put a builet through my cap.
"It was now my turn. His life at last was in my hands; I looked at him eagerly, trying to detect 1: only some faint shadow of unersiness. But he stood beneath my pistol, picking out ripe cherries from his cap and spitting out the stones, some of which feil near me. His indifference enraged me. 'What is the use,' thought I, 'of depriving him of life, when he sets no value upon it.'

brain I lowered the pistol. "You don't seem to be ready for death,' I said; 'you are eating your breaktast, and I don't want to interfere with you.'

As this savage thought flitted through my

You don't interfere with me in the least,' he replied. 'Be good enough to fire. Or don't fire if you prefer it; the shot remains with you, and I shall be at your service at any moment." "I turned to the seconds, informing them

that I had no intention of firing that day, and with this the duel ended. I resigned my commission and retired to his little place. Since then not a single day has passed that I have not thought of my re-venge; and now the hour has arrived."

Silvio took from his pocket the letter be had received that morning, and handed it to me to read. Someone (it seemed to be his business agent) wrote to him from Moscow, that a certain individual was soon to be married to a young and beautiful girl. "You guess," said Silvio, "who the cer-tain individual is. I am starting for Mos-

We shall see whether he will be as indifferent now as he was some time ago, when in presence of death he ate cherries With these words Silvio rose threw his cap upon the floor and began pacing up and down the room like a tiger in his cage. I remained silent. Strange contending feel-

lugs agitated me.
The servant entered and announced that the horses were ready. Silvio grasped my hand tightly. He got into the telega, in which lay two trunks, one containing his vished good-bye a second time, and the you ready? A pistol protruded from his his dark eyes is scarcely equal to the averside pocket. pistois, the other some personal effects. We horses galloped off.

II.

Many years passed, and family circum stances obliged me to settle in the poor little village of N-. Engaged in farming, I sighed in secret for my former merry, careless existence. Most difficult of all I found it to pass in splittude the spring and winter evenings. Until the dinner hour I somehow occupied the time, talking to the starosta, driving round to see how the work went on, or visiting the new buildings. But as soon as evening began to draw in, I was at a loss what to do with myself. My books, in various bookcases, cupboards and storenoms, I knew by heart. The housekeeper, Kurilovna, related to me all the stories she could remember. The songs of the peasant women made me melancholy. I tried cherry brandy, but that gave me the headache. I must confess however, that I had some fear of becoming a drunkard from ensul, the saddest kind of drunkenness imaginable, of which I had seen many exaninles in our district.

I had no near neighbors with the exception of two or three melancholy ones, whose conersation consisted mostly of hiceups and Solitude was preferable to that. Finally I decided to go to bed as early as possible, and to dine as late as possible, thus shortening the evening and lengthening the day; and I found this plan a good one. Four versts from my place was a large

estate belonging to Count B.; but the steward alone lived there. The Countess had visited her domain once only, just after her marriage, and she then only lived there about a month, However, in the second spring of my retirement, there was a report that the Countess, with her husband, would come to spend the summer on her estate, and they arrived at the beginning of June. The advent of a rich neighbor is an im-

portant event for residents in the country. The landowners and the people of their household talk of it for a couple of months beforehand, and for three years afterward. As far as I was concerned, I must confess, the expected arrival of a young and beautiful neighbor affected me strongly. I burned with impatience to see her, and the first Sunday after her arrival I started for the village, in order to present myself to the Count and Countess as their near neighbor and humble servant.

The contman showed me into the Count's

study, while he went to inform him of my arrival. The spacious room was furnished in a most luxurious manner. Against the walls stood inclosed bookshelves well furnished with books, and surmounted by bronze busts. Over the marble mautel piece was a large mirror. The floor was covered with green cloth, over which were spread rugs and carpets.

Having got unaccustomed to luxury in my own poor little corner, and not having beheld the wealth of other people for a long while, I was awed; and I awaited the Count with a sort of tear, just as a petitioner from the provinces awaits in an ante-room the arrival of the Minister. The doors opened, and a man, about 32, and very handsome, entered the apartment. The Count ap-proached me with a trank and friendly look,

I tried to be self-possessed and began to in-troduce myself, but he forestalled me. We sat down. His easy and agreeable conversation soon dissipated my nervous

timidity. I was already passing into my usual manner, when suddenly the Countess entered, and I became more confused than ever. She was, indeed, beautiful. The Count presented me. I was anxious to appear at ease, but the more I tried to assume an air or unrestraint, the more awkward I telt myself becoming. They, in order to give me time to recover myself and get accustomed to my new acquaintances, conversed with one another, treating me in good neighborly fashion without ceremony. Meanwhile, I walked about the room, examining the books and pictures. In pictures I am no connoisseur; but one of the Count's attracted my particular notice. It represented a view in Switzerland. I was not, however, struck by the painting, but by the

fact that it was shot through by two bullets, one planted just on the top of the other.
"A good shot," I remarked, turning to "Yes," he replied, "a very remarakable

"Do you shoot well?" he added. "Tolerably,' I auswered, rejoicing that the conversation had turned at last on a subject which interested me. "At a distance of 30 paces I do not miss a card; I mean, of course, with a pistol that I am accus

of great interest. "And you, my dear, could you hit a card at 30 paces?"
"Some day," replied the Count, "we will try. In my own time I did not shoot badly. But it is four years now since I held a pistol in my hand."

"Really?" said the Countess, with a look

in my hand."
"Oh," I replied, "in that case I bet,

Count, that you will not hit a card even at 20 paces. The pistol demands daily practice. I know that from experience. In our regiment I was reckoned one of the best shots. Once I happened not to take a pistol in hand for a whole month. I had sent my own to the guasmith's. Well, what do you think, Count? The first time I began again to shoot I four times running missed a bottle at 20 paces. The Captain of our company, who was a wit, happened to be present, and he said to me, 'Your hand, my friend, refuses to raise itself against the bottle.' No, Count, you must not neglect ito practice, or you will soon lose all skill. The best shot I ever knew used to shoot every day, and at least three times every day before dinner. This was as much his habit as the preliminury glass of vodka." The Count and Countess seemed pleased

that I had begun to talk. "And what sort of a shot was he?" asked the Count. "This sort. Count: If he saw a fly settle

on the wall—. You smile, Countess, but I assure you it is a fact. When he saw the fly he would call out, 'Kouska, my nistoll' Kouska brought him the loaded pistol. A crack, and the fly was crushed into the 'That is astonishing!' said the Count. "And what was his name?

"Silvio was his name.

"Silvio!" exclaimed the Count, starting from his seat. "You knew Silvio?" "How could I fail to know him?—we rere comrades; he was received at our mess like a brother officer. It is now about five years since I last bad tidings of him. Then

you, Count, also knew him?"

"I knew nim very well. Did he never tell you of one very extraordinary incident "Do you mean the slap in the face Count.

that he received from a blackguard at a ball?" "He did not tell you the name of this blackguard?"
"No, Count, he did not. Forgive me," 1

ndded, guessing the truth, "orgive me-I did not-could it really have been you?" "It was mysell," replied the Count, greatly agitated, "and the shots in the picgreatly agitated; and the sat meeting." "Oh, my dear, said the Countess, "for God's sake, do not relate it! It frightens

me to think of it." "No," replied the Count; "I must tell him all. He knows how I insulted his friend. He shall also know how Silvio revenged himself." The Count pushed a chair toward me, and with the liveliest in-

terest I listened to the following story:
"Five years ago," began the Count, "I got married. The honeymoon I spent here, in this village. To this house I am indebted for the happiest moments of my life, and for one of its saddest remembrances.

"One afternoon we went out riding to gether. My wife's horse became restive. she was frightened, got off the horse, handed the reins over to me and walked home. I rode on before her. In the yard I saw traveling carriage, and I was told that in my study sat a man who would not give his name, but simply said that he wanted to se me on business. I entered the study, and saw in the darkness a man, dusty and unshaven. He stood there, by the fireplace. I pression of his eyes. During the campaign approached him trying to recollect his face.

said, in a tremulous voice.
"'Silvio!' I cried, and I confess, I felt that my hair was standing on end.
"'Exactly so,' he added. 'You owe me a shot; I have come to claim it. Are

that corner, begging him to fire quickly, before my wife came in.

He hesitated and asked for a light. Candles were brought in. I locked the doors, gave orders that no one should enter, and wain called upon him to fire. He took out his pistol and aimed.

"I counted the seconds .... . I thought of her ..... A terrible moment passed ! Then | The points of his shoulders press forward Silvio lowered his hand. "'I only regret,' he said, 'that the pisto is not loaded with cherry stones. My bullet

is heavy, and it always seems to me that an affair of this kind is not a duel but a murder. I am not accustomed to aim at unarmed men. Let us begin again from the beginning. Let us cast lots as to who shall fire first."

"My head went round; I think I ob jected. Finally, however, we loaded an-other pistol and rolled up two pieces of paper. These he placed inside his cap; the which, at our first meeting, I had put the bullet. I again drew the lucks number. "'Count, you have the devil's luck,' he

said, with a smile which I shall never for- | 300 pairs of socks. About one-third of his

"I don't know what I was about, or how it happened that he succeeded in inducing me. But I fired and hit that picture." The Count pointed with his finger to the picture with the shot marks. His tace had become red with agitation. The Countess

was whiter than her own handkerchief; and I could not restrain an exclamation. "I fired," continued the Count, "and, thank heaven, missed. Then Sitvio-at this moment he was really terrible-then Silvio raised his pistol to take aim at me. "Suddenly the door flew open, Masha

rushed into the room. She threw hersell upon my neck with a loud shriek, Her presence restored to me all my courage. "'My dear,' I said to her, don't you se that we are only joking? How frightened you look! Go and drink a glass of water and then come back; I will introduce you

to au old friend and comrade." "Masha was still in doubt, "'Tell me, is my husband speaking the truth?' she asked, turning to the terrible Silvio; 'is it true that you are only joking?' " 'He is always joking, Countess,' Silvio replied. 'He once in a joke gave me a slap in the face; in joke he put a bullet through this cap while I was wearing it; and in joke, too, he missed me when he fired just now. And now I have a tancy for a joke.

With these words he raised his pistol as if to shoot me down before her eyes! "Masha threw herself at his feet. "'Rise, Masha! For shame!' I cried in my passion; 'and you, sir, cease to amuse yourself at the expense of an unhappy Will you fire or not?"

roman. "'I will not,' replied Silvio. 'I am satisfied. I have witnessed your sgitation; your terror. I forced you to fire at me. That is enough; you will remember me. I leave you to your conscience.'

"He was now about to go. But he stopped at the door, looked round at the picture which my shot had passed through, fired at it almost without taking aim, and disap-

"My wife had sunk down fainting. servants had not ventured to stop Silvio, whom they looked upon with terror. He passed out to the steps, called his coach-man, and before I could collect myself drove

The Count was silent. I had now heard the end of the story of which the beginning had long before surprised me. The hero of it I never saw again. I heard, however, that Silvio, during the rising of Alexander Ipsilanti, commanded a detachment of insurgents and was killed in action.—Translated from the Russian of Alexander Push kin for the Strand Magazine.

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MRS. WINSLOW'S Soothing Syrup for Chil ren Teething produces natural quiet sleep.

POLITICAL FREAK.

All About the New Curiosity in Washington, Sockless Jerry.

HOW HE SUDDENLY WON HIS FAME.

Seductive Lodgic With Which He Carried Away the Grangers.

WILD WESTERN FINANCIAL THEORIES

WASHINGTON, March 2.-Jerry Simpson, of Kansas, the Congressional curiosity, is now one of the leading attractions of Washington. He is better known as the "sockless statesman," and by this name he will



be recognized as the Kansas farmers' hope in

the next session.

Jerry promised his buffalo grass constitu ents that he would camp within gunshot of the Capitol. So far he has kept his word— he is at the Kenmore on Capitol Hill. When a caller sends his card up to Jerry he always comes down to see what the trouble is about. So far he has not resorted to being sick or out, but has responded in a "route way and seen every visitor.

Jerry's Personal Appearance. Jerry is an ordinary looking man and should himself and another man be lined up and a third induced to pick out the Congressman Jerry would be second choice every

The sockless pride of the West is about five 5 feet 10 inches high. When he stands erect he looks as if he were leaning against a post. This is supposed to come from his habit of eaning against posts around his town, where, through ward politics, he was Town Marshal for some years before his elevation to Congress.

The handsbake of Jerry discloses the fact

that while he may be intended for a farmer representative, he is not of the class of farmers who report in person for labor in the fields. His hands are the softest thing about him except his new office. He is reterred to by those acquainted with him as a armer by consent for political purposes. This hay press and sockless statesman was enjoying Washington when I called on him

to-day. Some foreign glassware was being rapidly prepared for the ash barrel. "What are you doing, Mr. Simpson ?" ] "I'm drinkin' a little clarieta "he renlied

A Head of Rebellious Hair. I took a glass of claret and looked over my friend, whom I had known in Kansas. Gold rim glasses partially obscured the ex roached him trying to recollect his face. it was a plain wire rim. His hair seemed 'You don't remember me, Count?" he inclined to be independent—almost obstreperous—and stood on end, each particular hair apparently fighting for more room. Constant agitation by Kansas zephyrs is thought to have lent it a quality of stiffness. The distance between the hair line and

cordially. "Won't ye jine?"

"I measured 12 pages, and stood there in facial angle is suggestive of a town marsha or a rider of a bucking bronco. The mus-tache looks downward, and instead of arresting its progress in its downward course by the timely interference of a barber, Jerry surrenders it to the mercy of a cigar "snine" and the incisors in the immediate

He has an emphatic malaria complexion and downward, even more so than the average farmer as he follows his cultivator on a

right spring morning.

He does not move as if he was trying to stop a herd of cattle on the stampede; it is decidedly a town marshal walk with a record of "two drunks per month." He wears a No. 9 shoe without apologizing to anyone. By way of statesmanship he re-marked to-day that he was not embarrassed in that part of his anatomy in the slightest degree, and said, "I can stand a good deal of tramping over in that house called the

Capitol. Overwhelmed With Gifts of Socks.

Jerry has been somewhat embarrassed since the campaign by the receipt of over stock is a present from a woolen mill at Fort Scott, Kan. They were accompanied by a card in which it was expressed rather deli-cately that the manager hoped from the bottom of his heart and pocket that the re-cipient would ever be found on the side of protection to the woollen industry in its many branches. Jerry says that he promised his people to do whatever they directed and should they request that he show no favors to his Fort Scott triend he will be placed in an exceedingly delicate position. He hopes the manager who grasped the sit-uation so thoroughly and his constituents will agree, and this will relieve him of hi first embarrassment since his great victory. In the absence of a great rush to see him all Jerry's callers will be supplied with his card. He decided on the wording soon after his election, and used it without any reservation during the Senatorial fight in Kansas, when he had a weather eye to succeeding Ingalls in advertising his State for the United States Senate. The card was as

> JERRY SIMPSON. Medicine Lodge,

Congressman-elect. Big Seventh-No socks.

Kansas.

Jerry has donned stockings, but there is

no mistaking the fact that he is rigged out a la farmer. He intends that his makeup shall be that way, and, having seen a great many farmers, he is able to produce a fair imitation. The stripes in his "pants" are very dis-

tinet and run perpendicularly instead of longitudinally. His present stock of "pants" shows a broad, yellowish stripe alternating with a chestnut sorrel section His coat and vest came off the same shelf Everything fits like paper on the wall when the floor above has been visited by the fire

But it is not on the surface that the Samson qualities of Jerry was discovered. His dynamite strength in the political quarry, as will be recalled, was due to his disregar of socks. It is rumored that since Jerry broke into the improved conditions he claims that he always were socks, but this is certainly untrue, as there are many thousands of people in the southwest quarter of Kansas who know better. It is thought there he should not seek to leave the boa hat took him across the political sea. The most telling leature in Jerry's cam

paign speeches among the fellows who circulate in the short buffalo grass was proabsolute that he did not wear socks. In order to get up the enthusiasm that would raise him, as the rolling waves do the bather, he would, very early in his speech, elevate one prong of his "pants."

Proof of His Uncovered Feet. At this the old white hats with leather bands invariably were thrown recklessly to the stiff Kansas breezes and Jerry scored a point. He appreciated this good point much better than anyone else, and he always gave the boys time to yell loud and The Astronomical Spring Begins on

He would follow this Sullivan blow with another equally as effective. He would state that his opponent were silk stockings. This was a clincher. Jerry always had time after this to touch his lips to a glass of water and run his hand over his face without a handkerchief.

By the time the echoes of the uprour had

died away Jerry was pressing his cause by stating that his opponent was a "town feller," and "don't know anything about what we farmers want." This was another shot that was answered by yells of delight. The opponent, who was lost under a cyclone of ballots over 7,000 deep. Colonel R. Hallowell, of Wichits, was a linplonel after engaging in over 50 battles. He took a bath presumably before entering into the campaign, and changed shirts, under ordinary circumstances, once a week. Added to this deficiency he was not able to prove to the people that he did not wear socks. He made the usual liberal Western Republican promises, including pensions, while Jerry met him more than half way on the pension promises by spelling pension with an "h" as many of Jerry's letters show. Lavish With Political Promises.

In the promise department no one could make a better showing than Jerry. In this he was end man and the other man was not "in it." Jerry not only promised with an earnest "Canuch" expression but always accompanied it with an acceptable guar-

He would often leave a strong suspicion in the minds of everyone that he would forever drive out of Kansas the hot winds and pull the gold away from the monopo lists "down East" in favor of Kansas crops, and that running streams would make happy the valleys of sudness. The sod houses would soon develop into marble mansions surrounded by a network of lightning rods and glittering brass balls. The red clover this side of the Missouri and Kentucky's blue grass were to locate in his district between suns, and the teiling part about it all is the people believed it.

Jerry told them that he would give them

all the circulating medium per capita they wanted. They were all a little short on circulating medium and he would make it at least \$150 per man, woman and child. If his constituents wanted it "raised" to \$4 000 per capita they need only send him a card to Washington, D. C., in the shadow of the Capitol, and he said, "you shall have it." His favorite scheme was to have the boys appoint a committee to "figger an estimate" on the gold and silver in the mountains 'not found." "Take this estimate as a basis and grind

out your paper money to cover it," he frequently exclaimed. Mr. Simpson's Financial Policy.

If this would not make the amount of circulating medium the boys wanted, and if the boys should say, "Turn her some more,"
Jerry would say, "We will give that press
down there another whirl and you shall have more on a raised estimate of that pre-cious metal in the mountains." This was one of his pet schemes and guarantees and always interested the people. In the presence of national banks he took

unto himself the peculiarities of a Texas bull when confronted by a man wearing a red shirt. He always made the national banks mount their horses,
He maintained that it would not be easy for him to pass a law to compel the Government to loan money on land until after the amount of money in circulation was increased. The land, he claimed, was all mortgaged to the point of changing owners,

but if they wanted him to put the cart be-fore the horse he would do so. He would never be "stnek up," but always keep a sharp lookout for Kansas' best interests, The sub-treasury scheme was very much polished by his artistic hand. He would have the Government loan money on all the products of the farm, and, if necessary, loan one year ahead on products and the promise of any good constituent that he would cultivate a certain number of acres. Uncle Sam was to be given a lesson in domestic affairs

ing money ever ready for any member of his tamily. Logic That Captured the Farmers.

and be a kind, gentle old man, with spend-

Jerry referred to the distillers as "the pre-ferred creditors of the Government." He insisted they got "money certificates" on "roung whisky"-whatever this means. From this he would increase the noise until reaching the climax, where he proved to the crowd conclusively that the Government should loan money on cribs of corn and bins of wheat. This was a fatal blow to his opponent, and Jerry was referred to as the most practical man that ever made himself

known in this world or any other. Jerry was seen to-day "in the shadow of the Capitol," and in answer to a question said he was afraid that he would not be able to put everything through this term. It might require a second term. During the campaign when he had made the promises he was acting under the hope that the Alliance would capture the Government at the election of November 4-Presidency and both Houses of Congress. He did not ment to elect a President, but to force that present high official to deny himsel; of the pleas ant sensations of the veto power in the face

of a universal uprising of the Alliance. But he is certain he will be in a live maiority at every point of the compass next time, and if he fails this time the boys need only show their confidence in him once more when the Government will sustain the people for a time by way of thanks for the people having for a century sustained the Government.

Such are Jerry and his financial views.

THE RIVAL CONFERENCES.

A Member of the Bowman Body Expelled

for Defamation of Character. ALLENTOWN, March 2.-The Bowman Evangelical Conference this morning deposed from the ministry and expelled from the Church Rev. N. A. Barr, of Adamstown, for gross slander and defamation of character. Rev. S. P. Sprong brought the charges on the strength of postal cards written by Barr to Sprong, in which occur these words: "Bob Ingersolt is the champion blasphemer. You are tast gaining the reputation of being the champion liar of America. If you have a superior, it must be Esher, Horn, Bowman or Yeakel. Not for all the bishops' hats, historical chairs and editorial tripods in the world would I want to be in your place.

Yours, in pity."
Officers elected were: President, Rev. S. B. Brown; Vice President, Rev. W. K. Wicand; Secretary, Rev. A. Krecker. The Sunday senool and Tract Society elected Rev. O. L. Saylor President; Rev. J. S. Newhart, Vice President; Rev. T. L. Wentz, Secretary; Rev. A. Kindt, Treasurer. The previous treasurer, Rev. Mr. Seyfurt, having paid no money into the general Conference treasury, Rev. Messrs. Weidner, Williams and S. T. Leopold were appointed a committee to obtain an explana-

tion from him. The anti-Bowman Conference transacted routine business mostly. Revs. F. H. Romig and G. W. Gross enrolled themselves as willing to take work. Revs. C. S. Baker, F. F. Erdman and D. S. Stauffer were appointed to investigate the affairs of the Charitable Society.

In Need of Help.

Mrs. Betsey Hicks, of Burgin, Ky., is at the Sixth Avenue Hotel and is badly in need of help. She came here to attend the funeral of her son Robert who was killed by falling from a bridge at Stenbenville.

The Handsomest Lady in Pittsburg And all others, call on druggists for a free sample Kemp's Balsam, the best cough cure.

REAL ESTATE SAVINGS BANK, LIM. 401 Smithfield Street, Cor. Fourth Avenue Capital, \$100,000. Surplus, \$69,000. Deposits of \$1 and upward received and interest allowed at 4 per cent. TIS

NEGLECT your hair and you lose it. PARKER'S HAIR KALSAN renews growth and color, PAR KER'S GINGER TONIC strengthens the weak.

THE MARCH HEAVENS.

the 20th of the Month.

VENUS WILL BE THE MORNING STAR

Both Mars and Jupiter Are Now Illuminating the Evening Sky.

ANCIENT NOTIONS OF THE PLANETS

The sun enters the sign of Aries on the 20th, venal equinox then takes place, astronomical spring begins, and as the golden rays once more illuminate the North Pole the days and nights are equal all over the globe. The equinoctial crosses the ecliptic every year when the sun enters Aries, but not at the same point. It retrogrades about 50 seconds of are in a year, and this complicated movement is called the precession of the equinox.

This backward movement continues for about 25,000 years, when a new cycle begins. If the earth were a perfect sphere there would be no precession of the equinoxes. There is, however, a protuberance of matter at the equator, and the powerful influence of the sun and moon acting upon this forces the earth to respond to the attraction and causes a rolling or wabbling motion of the pole of the earth around the pole of the ecliptic, in a small circle, and with so slow a motion that a revolution is completed in about 26,000 years. The change in the polar star is another result of this movement. The present pole star will not hold that distinction 2,000 years hence, but will be replaced by the bright star Vega. Movements of the Son and Moon

The sun rises on the 1st about 6:30 and sets shortly before 7, the day being one hour and a quarter longer at the close of the month than at its beginning. The March moon does not come in until the 10th. Before the waning moon takes its departure it is in opposition with Jupiter, Venus and Mercury, but planet and crescent are rather too far apart and the meeting at too early a period of the day for any but the earliest risers to obtain a view. Mars and the young moon meet on the 13th, followed two days later by conjunction with Neptune. On the 23d the moon and Saturn come fairly close to each other, but the disk of our satellite is too well rounded to admit to Saturn's light being seen to advantage.

One of the most important events, as far as the church calendar is concerned, occurs on the 25th, when the moon fulls. The Sunday tollowing this full moon is Easter Sunday, from which the date of Ash Wednesday and other church days are reckoned. Conjunction with Uranus on the 27th closes the lunar events for the month. Venus is morning star, and is during the month peerless among the planets. She is the most glorious object that adorns the firmament during the early morning hours

among the myriad hosts that glitter and twinkle in the celestial world arching above the observer who rises in time to behold the enchanting picture.

Venus Approaching a Conjunction. Her luster has been growing dim during the past two months, though the change can scarcely be perceived. She is approaching the sun now, and will be 20 minutes nearer that luminary when the month closes than she is to-day. It requires 220 days to make the journey from western elongation to superior conjunction, which occurs on Septemb 18, but only 72 days are necessary in passing from interior conjunction to western elongation. The conclusion has been reached by astronomers that the period of rotation of Venus around her axis is equal to the period of revolution around the sun, and that the actual period of the length of the day in the planet is 224 of our days. Nothing has so far been disclosed in relation to the progress. of the eight-hour labor movement, as to whether laborers appear to be paid by the

day or by the hour.

Jupiter is also morning star, but just at present he is not very brilliant. He has not emerged sufficiently from the sun's rays to admit of our seeing him, as he rises only half an hour ahead or the sun. He is, how ever, gradually widening the distance, and at the end of the month will be up one hour and a half before suurise, and as his size is gradually increasing he will be a beautiful object some little time before morn begins gleaming in the East. Jupiter is moving rapidly to the westward, and is approaching Venus as the latter moves to the eastward and the two are also getting closer together in declination, Venus moving north with greater rapidity than Jupiter, so that early in April there will be a rare treat afforde us, as the two brightest planets will be in

conjunction. Saturn an Interesting Study. It will be well worth the sacrifice of a por ion of the morning nap to take a peep at the time of the event, as the conditions are

case. when he reaches a point 90° from the sun, or what is known as opposition, which, on account of its being the most favorable for bservation, is the one in which astrono mers like best to catch him. Owing to the motion of the earth, the times when the edge of Saturn's ring is turned toward us do not accurately correspond to those when it is turned toward the sun, and the points of the planet's orbit in which this may occur range over a space of several degrees. The most interesting times for viewing the rings with powerful telescopes are on those rare occasions when the sun shines on one side of the ring while the dark side is directed oward the earth. On these occasions th plane of the ring if extended far enough would pass between the sun and the earth. Saturn's declination to-day is 80 18' north, he comes to the meridian shortly after midnight, his polar diameter is 16' 6", and he is

ound in this constellation of the Lion. Mars is evening star, and to careful observers who have followed his course and oticed his gradual reduction in size and in appearance from the fiery red and very bright planet to the very modest proportions he has attained will probably have but little difficulty in picking him out, as his ruddy glow has not entirely faded out, and he remains above the horizon almost three hours after sunset. When he does disappear he goes down about nine degrees to th ward of the spot at which the sun sets.

Mars, Mercury, Neptune and Uranus, It is difficult, however, to realize that this can be the planet that aroused so deep and world-wide an interest at his opposition in 1888. His right ascension is 1 hour and 33 minutes, his diameter 5', and he is in the onstellation of Aries.

Mercury is morning star until the 23d. when it is in superior conjunction with the sun and becomes again an evening star. He is now too close to the sun to be seen with unaided vision. Even were the distance greater, the southern declination of the lanet would render it almost impossible to pick him out in the early twilight. He is rapidly coming north, and his size is also increasing very fast, so that we shall soon be able to see him at his best.

Neptune is evening star, and we can get a very fair idea of his whereabouts it we look midway on a line extending from the bright star Aldebaran, in the eye of the Bull being pursued by Orion, to the Pleiades. The moon on the 15th will also serve to mark the position of the planet, as the two heavenly bodies are at their closest for the month at that date. Neptune and Mars share the honor of being the only two evenng stars as the month opens.

Uranus rises about 9:45 o'clock in the evening, but his position is such that he is, astronomically speaking, a morning star. The fact of his being in conjunction with the moon two days after it is full, although

serves to dim all stars in its immediate

on and Declination Defined We find the terms right ascension and declination occasionally used in our attempts to indicate definitely the positions of heaven-ly bodies. These terms are used in a way analogous to that in which the position of a city or ship is defined on the earth, namely, by a system of celestial latitudes and longi-tudes. The measure which in the heaven corresponds most nearly to terrestrial longi-tude is called right ascension, and that which corresponds to terrestrial latitude is called declination.

The celestial meridian from which right ascensions are counted is the one which

passes through the vernal equinox or point where the equator and ecliptic cross each other. The right ascension of any star on this meridian is zero, and the right ascension of any other star is measured by the angle which the meridian passing through it makes with the first meridian, this angle declination of a star is its distance from the celestial equator, whether north or south, exactly as latitude on the earth is distance from the earth's equator.

The earliest observers of the stars had no

suspicion of their true nature or of the distances that separate them from us. If they did not think them within reach of their hands, they supposed that they were at least, almost in a literal sense, accessible to the voice. Homer says that the highest pines of Mount Ida passed beyond the limits of the atmosphere and penetrated into the ethereal region through which the clangor of the arms of his heroes reached to the sky. This sky was a solid hemisphere, a bell rest-ing upon the earth, or, according to Euripiies, cover set over the work of the subsime Artisan. Some Ancient Notions of the Heavens.

The Hebrew psalmist of the eleventh century before our era said to the Lord: stretchest out the heavens as a pavilion.' The stars of Anaximenes were fixed in this vault like nails. The celestial bell covered a flat earth which was surrounded by water on every side and every nation imagined it-self in the center of it. The Incas exhibited this center in their sanctuary of Cuzco, the name of which signifies navel, as the Greeks also saw it in the Temple of Apollo at Delphi, which was called the navel of the world, and was celebrated by Pindar under

The Chinese located the navel of the earth in the city of Khotan. The conception of the earth as flat and like a cake prevailed in European civilization till the Crusades, and the lazzaroni of Naples have it still.

THE SIGNS THAT FAIL. Hoot Owls and Wild Geese Come in Con-

tact in Weather Predictions This Year-The Old Time Weather Bureau-That to Come To-Day. During much of the time of the last 28

nonths most people have been in the habit of indulging in uncharitable reflections on the Weather Bureau, but if they take the trouble to inquire into their premises for a ew minutes they will be more lenient. The de oresting of the country has upset all ealculations, and we can no longer safely give the warning: When the peacock loudly bawls, Then look out for rain and squally,

Even pigs, intallible barometers in olden tme, no longer squeal with their zealous regularity to indicate to their owners hanges of weather. Forty years ago nearly all farmers still retained a portion of primitive instinct and

could tell by the turning of leaves, "tramping of snow," by their wood fires, rheamatic twinges, aching bones, burning of corns and bunions and many other infallible signs when a change of weather was on the programme but the remains of that instinct have een lost in the dependence on the Signal Service, near its stations, and, as above stated, the climatic disarrangement caused by forest destruction in the East and tree culture in the West, have unset all the prog-

nostications of the backwoodsman.

This winter the ornithological and groundhog authorities contradict each other, with the odds strongly in favor of the latter. The hog is getting there with all four feet, and the King of beasts backs him, while the wild geese, bins, and several species of spring-singing birds are this morning mourning the error in their calculations. The only bird that has vindicated his reputation for wisdom is the hoot-owl. Mr. Charles Robb, of Robin son township, swears by the hooter and he has vindicated the faith placed in him, but like the Signal Service people, he only makes predictions for short On Tuesday night they hooted with a vigor and weird solemnity that carried conviction to the minds of all who have made a study of their language that a radical change o some kind was impending, and a day or two later the Weather Bureau caught on.

THE RUENOS AVERS TROUBLES

State of Siege Is Still Continued But There Is Not Much Fear of Trouble. BUENOS AYRES, March 2 .- The state o siege which was declared some time ago and which was raised during the holding of the elections of members of the Chamber of Deputies continues here. It is not likely that there will be any immediate trouble.

It is generally believed that the intervention of General Mitre, ex-President of the Republic, will lead to a settlement of the difficulties which are agitating the country. Business throughout the country is at a tandstill. There is little confidence in the situation and in consequence the granting of discounts has been greatly curtailed. All news which was received in this city regard-

ing the revolution in Chile is generally mis-

NEGROES IN A BAD WAY. Those Who Emigrated to Oklahoma Without Money and Without Work.

OKLAHOMA, March 2.-A deplorable tate of affairs exists among the negroes who lately emigrated to this Territory. They have come to the number of several thousand with the understanding that the Government would feed them, and give them s They are now opening their eyes to the fact that the land is all taken by white men.

and that the Government will not feed them, and as they have no money and there is no work for them to do, they are in a deplorable condition. They are at starvation's door with not a friend within 1,000 miles, as many of them are from Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas.

FARMERS IN A SCRAP.

A Dispute Over the Rental of Acres That Results in Murder. COUNCIL GROVE, KAN., March 2 .- Isaac Dowell shot and instantly killed J. H. Wharton, about eight miles north of this

Wharton were farmers and the shooting grew out of frouble over a farm which they both claimed to have rented. Dowell was arrested several years ago in this county on a charge of murder, but turned State's evidence and was acquitted. Dowell claims that Wharton fired two shots at him first and he only acted in self defense while the friends of Wharton claim be was unarmed. The Coroner's jury is now investigating the circumstances of the killing.

Censured the School Directors On account of the trouble in the Seventh ward school, Allegheny, a special committee has audited the books and found them to stand as reported in THE DISPATCH vesterday. The committee only censures the board for not publishing annual state-

For coughs and throat troubles use Brown's Bronchial Troches. "They stop an attack of my asthma cough very promptly." - C. Falch, Miamiville, O. \$1 00-Until May 1-\$3 50.

it might serve to locate the plauet, would 12 cabinet photos, or one life-size cra not aid us in distinguishing it, as the very for \$3.50 at Aufrecht's Elite Gallery, brightness of the almost round face of Luna Market street, Pittsburg. Use cievator. 12 cabinet photos, or one life-size crayon for \$3 50 at Aufrecht's Elite Gallery, 516 SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND. IS IT INCURABLE?

As They Are Contrasted With Those in the Emerald Isle.

THE DUTIES OF THE INSPECTORS.

Says:

Reading of the Bible Relegated to Denominational Schools.

SYSTEM THAT SHOWS UP WELL

WEITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH I In your issue of THE DISPATCH of Sunday, February 15, you have an article on 'Schools in Ireland," written by a person who seems to know something of the educational system of that country, and who endeavors to show that the public school system there is far below or much inferior to that of the public school system of the United States. Not having resided in the Emerald Isle, and not having studied the Irish school system, I therefore cannot gainsay anything J. H. Leonard asserts in his article: but some of his assertions appear to

me to be somewhat misleading. For instance, he says the District Inspector visits the schools once a year only to note the average attendance, on which he bases the teacher's salary. If this be the only duty an inspector of schools in Ireland has to perform, I cannot see why the inspectors should be university men, or men who have passed examination in advanced English studies. Any person of ordinary intelligence might be able to examine school registers and report the average attendance o the "Board of Education."

The Schools of Great Britain.

But Lam wandering from my subject. Public schools in Great Britain are variously named. Some are termed Board schools, others Nationel, others British, others Wesleyan, others Roman Catholic, Free Church, etc. A boy or girl is at liberty to attend any public elementary school in his or her district, by paying the weekly fee, which amounts to from 2 cents to 12 cents per week, according to the standard or step the pupil may be in. Besides this weekly fee, the pupils have to provide themselves with books, slates, etc., at their own expense.

In quite a number of schools everything

in the shape of books and slates is provided free; the only things the pupils have to provide where this obtains are pencils and exereise books. I may here add that the reasing of the Bible and the teaching of Catechism is resorted to in denominational schools, that is, schools conducted by Wesleyans, Episcopals, Catholics, etc., but every parent has the right to withdraw his child from such instruction if he has any objections to it. The law on the point is very plain, and is hung on the walls of every school receiving Government grants in money. It is termed the conscience clause. The religious instruction given in any public elementary school in Great Britain must be given either at the commencement of the day's studies or at the

The subjects of instruction in these schools are: Reading, writing and arithmetic-termed the three R's; geography, grammar, history, singing, and, besides these, they can give instruction in one or two of the following subjects: Botany, physiology, mathe-matics, physical geography, mechanics, French, German and Latin. These latter subjects were termed special. Children under 7 years were termed infants, and attended what was termed the "infant school," while those over 7 attended the boys'; girls' or mixed school, the latter being

composed of both boys and girls. In boys', girls' or mixed schools it was not com-

pulsory to teach anything but the three R's,

but even in small country schools, where there were only from 40 to 60 pupils, the

The Course of Studies.

teachers were never satisfied with merely teaching the three R's, singing, geography, grammar and English or Scottish history be-

ing taught in addition. How They Are Inspe All these public elementary schools were visited once every year at least by the much-dreaded and majestic Inspector of Schools and his assistants, for the purpose of examining the pupils in their studies for the year. Some teachers thought the inspectors remained too long in thier chools, and others were under the impression they were too eager to get away from the school. I must say here that the amount of money granted by the Government to each school depended entirely upon the report which the School Inspector submitted

to the Education Department. This grant of money by the Education Department did not depend solely on the average attendance of the pupils for the year, but also on their proficiency in the 3 R's, singing, history, grammar, geography, discipline of pupils and general tone of the schools. A certain sum was paid per head for average attendance, and a certain sum for passing satisfactorily in each subject examined. In a school of 300 pupils, the grant of money from the Educational De-partment would reach \$1,200 or \$1,500, and the school fees would amount to \$1,200 or \$1,300.

Private Subscriptions Help.

In country places, if these monies were schools, then private persons paid subscriptions yearly to make up the deficiency. Attendance at school is compulsory in Great Britain, and officers are employed in every School Board District to whip in the irregular attenders. Many parents have to appear before the police magistrates and answer for the irregular attendance of their children, and many have to pay fines, which would pay a quarter's school fees. High schools are established in most of the large towns in Great Britain, where pupils who have passed a certain standard or step, may receive instruction in the higher branches of their studies, by paying a very small fee-not more than they paid in the lower school. Those whose parents are too poor to pay school lees can have their fees remitted by the "Poor Law Board," by attending and stating their case. In large towns there are schools (free) to the poorest boys and girls. and should persons coming to this country exhibit any signs of illiteracy, I do not think it is or lack of educational facilities in Great Britain.

Duties of Inspector School Inspectors in Great Britain act in a similar capacity to your "county or city superintendent" in this country. They for their assistant must pay one official visit to each school in their district and report on

not being properly conducted, he would recity, this forenoon. Both Dowell and port accordingly to the Education Department, and also to the school managers or directors. If, when paying this unexpected visit to a school, he should find any errors in the marking of the school registers, the head master, or principal of the school, would be liable to lose his certificate as teacher, and be dismissed from the mastership of said school. I have here used the term "unex-

pected visit" to distinguish it from his "ex-

teachers are always notified of the examina

tion visit, but never of his secret or unex

mination visit." The school managers and

the same to the Education Department every

year. Besides this visit, which might be

spector may drop into a school at any time, and should be find that the school work was

termed the "examination visit,"

pected visit.
I daresay I could say much more on the question of schools, etc., in Great Britain, but am afraid I have already said as much as you will care to read. One thing I wish to say before drawing to a close, namely persons who have been a number of years away from the "Old Country" do not always represent things as they exist there at pres ent. I have heard "Irishmen" speak o their country and its people as though civilization had not dawned on it, and as though Ireland and the Irish were in the same condition now as 30 or 40 years ago.
Assertions from this class of people should

not always be taken for granted "PEPIN LE BREF."

No, Results Prove That Catarrh Is Cured.

A VERIFIED CLAIM.

Can the dread disease, catarrh, be cured? Yes, beyond a doubt our treatment has proven successful when all others have failed. There successful when all others have failed. There are numbers of treatments, but none so scientific nor so sure in its results as Drs. Copeland & Blair's treatment. Their treatment is the result of long years of patient study, practice and medical researches. We, at first, had to assure people of its undoubtedly successful results. Now our corred patients do it for us, and in consequence others are suffer account. Now our cored patients do it for us, and in con-sequence others who suffer crowd our offices daily to receive treatment and none are turned away that are not benefited.

Mr. J. O. Nicely, residing at Derry station, 45 miles from Pittaburg, and a traveling sales-man for Otis, Shepard & Co., wholesale grows, doing business on Seventh avenue, this city, savs:



Mr. J. O. Nicely, Derry Station, Pa.

"I was troubled for over six years with catarrh which came from a cold I contracted while on one of my trips. My head and nose became stopped up, first one side then the other; could scarcely breathe. The dropping of mucous into my throat was so bad that I had to sit up in bed to sleep. I was subject to occasional dull, heavy pains over my eyes and nose. Had ringing or roaring noises in my ears. Coughed in the morning and raised up quantities of mucous, I suffered from sharp shooting pains in the chest, in the region of the heart and under shoulder blades. My appents was poor. I felt distressed and suffered from a massea at the stomach. Felt dizzy on suddenly raising myself and my sleep was restless and disturbed. I always felt tired in the morning. "Called at the office of Drs. Copeland and Blair, and after examination, finding their charges so reasonable, I took treatment, Almost immediately my symptoms disappeared. most immediately my symptoms disappeared. Headaches stopped and pains in chest have ceased. Nose and head became ricar, and I cossed coughing or raising mucous. Slept well and felt refreshed upon arising. I feel better in every way since they have treated me than I have felt for years."

INDORSEMENTS

Of Dr. Copeland's Home Treatment for Catarrh. The following are the names of a few of the many grateful patients who have been cared by Drs. Copeland's Home Treatment, and have kindly requested their names be used as refer-

ence:
Miss Lottie J. Forker, No. 299 Arch street,
Meadville, Pa.
Mr. Harry Phillips, Hulton, Pa.
Mr. W. C. Wilson, Canonsburg, Pa.
Mr. Jacob Altmeyer, Risher, Pa.
Mr. Thomas C. Hooper, Braddock, Pa.
Mr. Williams, Hickman, Pa.
Mr. John Wright, Chicago Junction, Pa.

Mr. W. T. Henshaw, of Prospect, Pa., says:
"For years I suffered from catarrh without being able to find relief. Dr. Copeland's Home Treatment cured me."
Mr. Henry Rose, of Eckhart's Mines, Md., says: "I suffered constantly from chronic catarrh; could get no relief. Dr. Copeland's Home Treatment cured me entirely."
Mr. G. C. Bellis, corner Main and Cunningham streets, Butler, Pa., says: "I had all aggravated symptoms of catarrh; suffered constantly."

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE BY MAIL.

vated symptoms of catarrh; suffered constantly nothing relieved me until I began Dr. Cope-land's Home Treatment. To-day I am a well DRS. COPELAND & BLATE treat w Pas. Cofficient of Sixth avenue, Pittsburg, Pa. Office hours, 9 to 11 A. M., 2 to 5 P. M. and 7 to 9 P. M. (Sundays included). Specialities—Catarrh and all diseases of the eye, ear, threat and lungs, chronic diseases. Consultation, Sl. Many cases treated successfully by mail.



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DR. HAINES' GOLDEN SPECIFIC, the patient is a moderate drinker or an alcohol wreck. IT NEVER FAILS. It operates quietly and with such certainty that the patient undergoes no inconvenience, and ero he is aware free. To be had off it off A. J. RANKIN. Sixth and Penn st., Pittsburg. E. HOLDEN & CO., G. Federal st., Alleghen, Trade supplied by GEO. A. KELLY & CO., Pittsburg. Pa.