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This is a great country, indeed. Many of the men who are behind the guns will again become the men behind the plows.

If there is anything left in the jewel box Dewey ought to have it. He is the sturdiest fighting Yankee of them all.

More than two hundred clergymen will accompany the German Emperor on his trip to Jerusalem. The chances are that he will preach a few sermons to them, just to show them how the thing is done.

The inadequacy of the plan to make Rear-Admiral Dewey a Vice-Admiral is in the nature of the title. Vice-Admiral means just what the words imply, deputy to an Admiral. Admiral is a noble title. It is from the Arabic Emir-al-mar, which means "Prince of the Sea." Admiral is the title given by every civilized nation except ours to the commander of a fleet.

The Chicago Board of Education has set about extending the usefulness of the public school system upon lines of recognized utility. It proposes to make the teaching of cooking and sewing a regular part of the training given to girls, as well as the ordinary rudimentary instruction in reading, writing, ciphering and grammar.

The recent announcement of the remarkable project undertaken by the West Australian Government, namely, to lay some 328 miles of water pipe, made of steel spiral imbedded in concrete, has received much attention, in view of the peculiar kind of pipe to be thus utilized. In the manufacture of this pipe, the sheet steel, after being cut into strips of a width varying with the required diameter of the pipe, is riveted or welded into a continuous strip of the required length; this strip is then fed automatically into the pipe-making machine, and during its passage through it the rivet holes are punched, and the laps of the edge of the strips are brought together under pressure, and held during the process of riveting. The rivets are all set by compression. The edge is slightly recessed, throwing the lap on the outside. In this way the inside diameter of the pipe is maintained evenly throughout the entire length.

The New York Sun observes: The demonstration of the importance of sea power throughout our war with Spain has been striking; but it is worth noting what a powerful agent in peace-making our navy was even when at rest. What was it that Spain of late most dreaded? Not immediately our land forces, either in the Antilles or the Philippines. In Cuba she saw General Shafter's army moving away from the island on account of the fever, and she knew that no campaign against Havana would be tried until after the rainy season. In any case, she was ready to give up both Cuba and Porto Rico, while the fall of Manila had been a foregone conclusion ever since Dewey's victory. But while nothing over the seas immediately threatened her which she had not already faced, she could not endure the home panic which would be caused by an attack of our fleet on her coasts. That our own Government was fully alive to this fact was evident from its continued preparations to send an overwhelming force across the Atlantic, in case of a serious hitch in the peace negotiations. Thus the influence of our sea power was visible even while the negotiations for peace were going on.

THE OLD CANTEN.

(By a Veteran of the Mexican War.) Where were those that marched that morning? Elbow touching elbow true? Many sleep, but few are waiting. For that silent, last review. Guns and knapsacks both have vanished. In the years that long have been; This remnant of all remaining— My old army tin canteen.

"A VERY POPULAR MAN."

A TALE OF POLITICAL LIFE. By ASHLEY LAWRENCE.



ANY it those who may, nevertheless to gratify ambition for public life in our country, it is often more essential that a man should be popular than that he should be competent. So, at least, thought Mr. Van Buren Croft—a young man who felt, from the hour he cast his first vote, a call to go higher, and take a prominent seat among the rulers of the land.

the subject of marriage. It was, next to popularity, the thought with which he most busied his brain; and, as he desired his popularity to give him honors and office, he was anxious his marriage should bring him wealth and high social position. It was with this feeling that he sought every opportunity to meet beautiful Jennie Livingston, the daughter of the wealthy Judge, who had declined a foreign mission, and who was spoken of for the Supreme Bench.

The Livingstons were very aristocratic, and this branch of the Croft family had never been named for their position. Miss Jennie, it is to be feared, was a coquet, for she delighted in being the recipient of attentions, and a more popular man than Mr. Van Buren Croft might have been flattered by the encouragement she gave him; an encouragement so marked that Mr. Croft's brothers and fellow-members began to joke him about his approaching marriage, and the gossips, who flourish so vigorously, discussed the alliance with characteristic freedom and sense of certainty.

He was a tall, student-like man; a member of no society, and the only support of a widowed mother. Mr. Wilson was dignified and reserved in his manners; but those who knew him well said he was the soul of generosity and honor, and those who did not know him well, had an idea that he was very learned, as all reserved professional men are generally supposed to be.

The election came off and the returns came in. Mr. Van Buren Croft was beaten—it was an awful blow—a blow that changed as if by magic the whole nature of the popular man. He sought the society of the Jolly Larks, and was seen, one day, in court, under the influence of liquor. He openly denounced brothers and members who had voted against him, till, at last, brothers and members began to wonder how they could ever have endured him.

Croft aided in the search; but from that day on he was a shunned man. He had still a member's standing in the societies, but the brothers avoided him. His clients, never many, dwindled away. Men whose hands he had clasped in mystic fraternity, crossed the streets to avoid him, and he walked a solitary man in the streets, where the children had shouted his name, and where his journeys had been often delayed for hours by the extemporized ovations of his acquaintances and friends. He was wise enough to leave the town; but whether he went, no one knows even to this day.

The fact that skeleton remains of elephants are so rarely found in any portion of Africa is explained by an explorer, who states that as soon as the bones become brittle from climatic influences, they are eaten in lieu of salt by various ruminant animals. A Berlin (Germany) patent agency announces that a Polish engineer has found a way of chemically treating straw in such a way that it can be pressed into a substance as hard as stone and cheaper than wood paving, for which it is expected to prove a substitute.

In 1808 Sir Humphry Davy made the first electric light; it was not adapted to commercial use, however. Electric lamps were made in France early in the fifties. The exact date seems not to be known. Edison adapted the incandescent light to commercial use. It is believed that lightning is visible at a distance of 150 miles, but opinions still differ as to how far away thunder can be heard. A French astronomer has made observations on the subject, and he declares it impossible for thunder to be heard at a greater distance than ten miles. An English meteorologist has counted up to 130 seconds between the flash and the thunder, which would give a distance of twenty-seven miles.

Secretary Watson of the Lumbermen's Exchange reported that a vast forest of walnut had been unearthed in Southeast Missouri. In 1811 an earthquake in that part of the State resulted in the sinking of large tracts of land. Since then there have been annual floods in that district, each year adding to the accretions. A while ago two farmers, walking through a part of the district, noticed what to their eyes seemed to be the ends of walnut trees sticking out of the sunken places and tipped over. Remembering that vast amounts of cedar wood have been dug up in various places, the farmers reported their observations, and the ground was explored. It was found to be rich in trees of black walnut from twenty-eight to thirty-six inches in diameter.

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Grounds For Suspicion—An Example at Hand—Mother Knew Better—A New Application—On the Way—Juvenile Finance—Results of the Loan, Etc. I have a little pear tree That blossomed in the spring, And with watchful care and loving I have nursed the graceful thing. Two pears grew on its branches, The first it ever bore; Each weighed, when last I saw them, Full half a pound or more.

Mother Knew Better. He—"Why is it your mother so seldom trusts us alone?" "Oh, mother knows me better than you do, George."—Life. A New Application. "We call our new safe Samson." "Because it is so strong, eh?" "Yes, and its strength depends on its locks."—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

An Example at Hand. She—"Did you ever see a bird on a man's hat?" He—"Yes, dear; there's one on my hat now. Will you kindly get up?"—Yonkers Statesman. Juvenile Finance. "Come here, Bobby; would you like to have me give you a quarter?" "No; gimme a dime; I can spend that 'fore pa or ma wants to borrow 'em."—Detroit Free Press.

On the Way. "The scorching is a nuisance," declared the quiet man, "and should be exterminated." "Well," replied the frivolous one, "he is going fast."—New York Journal. Usually the Way. Blister—"I'd like to see that new levee of yours for preventing the theft of a watch." Kister—"Can't show it. It was stolen from me yesterday by a pick-pocket."

Results of the Loan. Storekeeper—"Have you nothing smaller than a \$50 bond?" Customer—"Eh? Oh, yes, here, I forgot. I have a couple of 20's somewhere about me."—Philadelphia North American. At the Opera. "Did you enjoy the opera?" "No; I didn't hear it." "Why not?" "Two women sitting in front of me were explaining to each other how they loved the music."

One Good Result. "The war has developed John's memory wonderfully." "In what way?" "He can sing four lines of 'The Star-Spangled Banner' almost correctly."—Cleveland Leader. How the Quarrel Began. Mrs. Kindlee—"The woman who ill-treats her husband deserves to have her house burned over her head." Mrs. Cross—"That's so. By the way, is your house insured, my dear?"—Jacksonville (Fla.) Times-Union.

Not Disposed to Delay Him. "I would go to the end of the world for you," he exclaimed, passionately. "I'm sure I wish you would," she answered him, coldly, "and—then jump off!"—Somerville Journal. A Heavy Part. "They have given me the heaviest part in the new play." "You don't say! What is it like?" "I have to catch the big fat leading lady when she faints in the fourth act."—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

A Timely Suggestion. She—"George!" He—"Yes, dearest." She—"It is just 10 o'clock, and as papa says you must not stay longer than 12, don't you think it is about time to begin saying good-night?"—Up-to-date. A Change of Scenery. Stage manager (to lessee of theater)—"Our scene shifter wants a holiday. He says he hasn't been away for three years." Lessee—"Well, tell him he cannot have one. He gets change of scenery enough for anybody."

A Recompense. Mrs. Tomkins—"Mrs. Yabsley has had such an experience! Arrested for shoplifting! All a mistake, of course." Mrs. Jenkins—"I suppose she must have been very much annoyed?" Mrs. Tomkins—"Not at all. The papers all said she was of 'prepossessing appearance.'" The Gulleless Youth. "Do you know, Mr. Gilley," said Miss Sears, enthusiastically, "that I have ridden a century?" "Oh, come, now, Miss Sears," replied Mr. Gilley; "you can't have done that, doncher know, because bicycles haven't been invented that long, av."—Detroit Free Press.

JUST ABOUT THESE DAYS.

I dunno what th' reason that along about this season. When th' golden-rod is tallest an' th' gyarden's gittin' browdy; When I hear th' crickets honin' an' th' locusts dronin', 'dronin', An' th' apples in th' orchard one by one a-droppin' down, Thet I stopper down my burry an' fo'git about my worry As I loaf aroun' th' pasture an' enjoy th' autumn haze, An' fo'git th' crickets' hummin' as I feel th' 'tear-drops comin', An' I somethin' hear th' voices that I heard in other days.

Humor of the Day. "Is Hobbs a man of fads?" "I'm inclined to think so. He has a fifth wife." Miss Atkins—"Do you claim to understand women?" Jack DeWitt—"Not! I know them too well."—Puck. "He always went to the foot in school." "Then, maybe, that's how he turned out to be a corn doctor."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

"Don't you think that's rather a clever drawing of Dauber's?" "Well, the face does look rather drawn."—Philadelphia Bulletin. Mrs. Wallace—"It is the ambition of your life, I suppose, to do without work." Perry Patetic—"Not to do, mum; to be."—Cincinnati Enquirer. Mrs. Hilver—"Husband, dear, what makes you so pensive?" Mr. Hilver—"Possibly, love, it's because you are so expensive."—Jeweler's Weekly.

"They say that the boys in camp are occupying cramped quarters." "Yes; they are between a peach orchard and a watermelon patch."—New York World. Singleton—"They say Meekton fell in love with his wife at first sight." Benedict—"Well, I'll bet he wishes he had been gifted with second sight now."—Truth.

Little Girl—"It is selfish of you, Johnnie, to play at ships when I have not got one." Ditto Boy—"You can play, too; you can be the storm, and blow."—Puck-Me-Up. William (reading)—"Pa—'It's something you'll never be able to understand, my boy, until you grow up and get married.'"—Chicago Daily News. Dasherly—"The Spaniards call us a 'nation of shop-keepers.'" Flashery—"Well, what kick have they got coming? We gave them a great deal more than they bargained for."—Puck.

Chimmie—"Billy, I've hit a job as elevator boy. Dat's wot I bin aimin' for two years." Billy—"Two years! Golly! You must have some Spanish blood in ye."—San Francisco Examiner. Tenor—"When I gave my first concert four people had to be carried fainting out of the hall." Friend—"O, but since that time your voice has considerably improved."—Fliegende Blaetter.

Florida Native—"They say that rich gent from the Nawth has a half-grown alligator." Second Florida Native—"Ya-as; an' bimely they'll say that a full-grown alligator has got that rich gent from the Nawth."—Harper's Bazar. "Yes," said Miss Passeigh, "I enjoy the society of Mr. Ayrleed. He keeps me interested. He is always saying something that one never hears from anybody else." "Really!" rejoined Miss Cayenne. "Has he been proposing to you, too?"—Washington Star.

"Your brother-in-law still at your house, Wallace?" "Yes, but he is beginning to weaken." "I have him pushing the lawn-mower every morning and the ice cream freezer every afternoon. I think he will go before I am driven to starting him in on the washing." Lake of Black Dye in California. In the vicinity of the Colorado River in Southern California there is one of the most remarkable bodies of water in the world. The strange black fluids bears no resemblance whatever to water; it is thick, viscid and foul-smelling. Experiments have proved it is not poisonous, but makes an excellent dye. It has been analyzed, but its qualities are not yet made known. The lake is situated about half a mile from a volcano, and occupies an area of about one acre. The surface is coated with gray ashes from the volcano, which serves to conceal it from the view of the unwary traveler, and makes it a dangerous locality. Nothing definite is known as to its source of supply, but it is undoubtedly of volcanic origin. Naturally the Indians have a legend in connection with this remarkable phenomenon. The lake, they say, is composed of the blood of their bad brothers, who are suffering in their hell, amid the volcanoes. The surroundings suggest the infernal regions with active and dead volcanoes, spouting geysers, boiling springs and a "lake of ink."—New York Tribune.