### The Star-Independent

V. HUMMEL BERGHAUS, JR.,

nications should be addressed to STAR-INDEPENDEN ditorial, Job Printing or Circulation Departmen

ed at the Post Office in Harrisburg as second-class

enjamin & Kentnor Company, New York and Chicago Repr lew York Office, Brunswick Building, 225 Fifth Avonu hicago Office, People'z Gas Building, Michigan Avenu Delivered by carriers at 6 cents a week. Mailed to subset three Dollars a year in advance.

THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN ADVERTISERS.

CUMBERLAND VALLEY Private Branch Exchange,

Friday, April 9, 1915.

APRIL Wed. Thur. Fri. 2 9 10 15 14 16 20 21 23 26 27 28 MOON'S PHASES-

Last Quarter, 6th; New Moon, 14th; First Quarter, 22nd; Full Moon, 29th.



#### WEATHER FORECASTS

Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair and warmer to-night with lowest temperature about 40 degrees. Saturday partly cloudy, probably showers.

Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair to-night, warmer in north and west portions. Saturday partly cloudy. Light to moderate south winds.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURE IN HARRISBURG Highest, 70: lowest, 37; 8 a. m., 46; 8 p. m., 63.

#### CLEANLINESS SAVING LIVES

British army surgeons who have found time in the midst of operations involving numerous legs, arms and trunks of injured soldiers, to make statements for publication regarding their more or less benevolent occupation have declared that comparatively few men wounded in this war are dying of blood poisoning.

The explanation is that increased cleanliness and enforced sanitary conditions among the soldiers prevent rifle bullets, unless they strike vital organs, from seriously endangering life. Credit has been given to bodily cleanliness in London for the stamping out there of the typhus fever, which is now bringing death to thousands in Servia. Much additional proof could be furnished by this country, or any other, that filth is the ally of disease and death.

Blood-poisoning caused the death in the Franco-Prussian war of seventy-five out of every hundred wounded men who were operated upon, while in the more recent Russo-Japanese war only two men in a hundred died from this cause following operations. The figures are quoted by London surgeons as proof that increased cleanliness means fewer deaths from wounds not immediately fatal when inflicted.

If soldiers in this war are being taught cleanliness as thoroughly as is indicated by attending surgeons, then those of them who are alive after the war may reasonably be expected to profit by their training when they resume their ordinary occupations. As to the friends of those who bravely and gloriously die despite all sanitary precautions, they will have the satisfaction of knowing that, with the exception of keeping out of the war, the soldiers did everything they could to preserve their lives.

#### ANNIVERSARY OF MIDDLETOWN'S FIRE

Just five years ago to-day it was that the borough of Middletown, in the lower end of Dauphin county, was visited by the most disastrous fire in the town's history. Two blocks of the business section were swept away within four hours by flames that had their origin in the old frame market house, West Emaus street, in the afternoon at 2.15 o'clock.

The blaze at first appeared to be trifling but within half an hour it had assumed such propor-tions that the Middletown fire chief sent calls for assistance to Harrisburg, Steelton, Columbia and Lancaster. Four steam fire engines, after working ore than two hours, got the fire under control. he visiting firemen, however, remained on duty during the greater part of the night. A high wind carried embers for miles and caused fires that destroyed the Fair Association's two exhibition buildings, three barns and two farm houses and also caused numerous forest fires.

To-day Middletown has almost fully recovered from the effects of that fire. Modern brick buildings replace the frame structures that once formed a part of the business section. Only the Y. M. C. A. building, a few dwellings and several stables that were destroyed have not been rebuilt. The deternination of the people of the town to overcome obstacles despite grave discouragements is shown in the thriving borough of Middletown to-day, with its expanding industries and its prospects for greater development.

#### A CONVICT'S QUEER DISEASE

An alien who has served in various jails more than half of his twenty-seven years in this country, for looting street corner mail boxes, was yesterday sentenced in a New York United States District

Court to five more years of prison life, after pleading guilty to his usual offense

A doctor's examination of the thief has resulted in a statement to the effect that the man is suffering from a mental disease about which even spe cialists in such disorders know little. The trouble is not kleptomania, in the doctor's opinion, but an unnamed disease which made the prisoner delight in stealing mail matter from street boxes, and made him careless of consequences.

It is obvious that criminals prompted to steal solely for gain would not confine their activities to the looting of often unproductive mail boxes, and certainly they would not be likely to persist in their petty thefts after being repeatedly convicted and imprisoned for previous offenses of exactly the same kind. They would not regard their arrests and imprisonments so much as matters of course, either, as the "diseased" alien, who was again sentenced yesterday, seemed to regard his.

The man surely cannot be in a healthy state of mind; else why, if he wants to steal, should he disregard, for instance, pocketbooks carelessly handled in public places by thoughtless women, and turn all his attention to the contents of mail boxes, which for the most part contain nothing of interest or value to any persons except those to whom the separate pieces are addressed?

The "diseased" alien's most recent crime, for which he was sentenced to five years' imprisonment, consisted of the theft from a corner mail box of a parcel containing thirty-two handkerchiefs. Five weighed down with grief; her eyes we years is a rather long time for a thief to be imprist the eyes of one who has cried oned for making so small a haul as that, but it is a and could cry no more. She stood lookvery short time for a man to be safely in custody who has a disease which makes of him an habitual offender.

It is to be hoped that some cure may be found for the disease, or that the victim may be moved, after he has served his term, to some place where there will be no mail boxes to tempt him. Even if he is not tiring of imprisonment, the postal authorities are getting weary of arresting him.

How to raise money for the State is not the least of Governor Brumbaugh's worries.

The river wall gap will probably be closed if it doesn't make too big a gap in the City's finances.

Some of the justices of the peace who pay out the state's money in bounties for rat and chicken heads represented to be the heads of weasels and goshawks might profitably invest in strong-lens spectacles.

We repeat the question, why do not the City Commis sioners purchase the land needed for the upper end play-ground by the competitive bidding method? There are a number of plots that might well serve the purpose in the not-fully-developed northern part of Harrisburg.

Apparently the Stock Market is not the only institution whose business is taking a boom, from which it may be argued that there is justification for the recent advances in the values of some of the standard securities that have not risen in too precipitate a manner. Investors should be eautious, however, in banking too heavily on the sensa tional advances that have occurred in some of the more

#### TOLD IN LIGHTER VEIN

EASILY DONE

In these mercenary days a man can break up his home by dropping his wad .- Dallas News.

THE ACTRESS' TROUBLE

About the time an actress recovers from one attack of matrimony she has another .- Chicago News.

WHY HE WAS MAD

One of the maddest men we ever saw was a chap who yelled loudly for a square deal and got it.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

#### IT WILL NEVER HAPPEN

Miss Oldun-"I'd just like to see any man kiss me." Miss Young-"What a hopeless ambition!"-Boston Transcript.

REASON FOR REITERATION The reason a politician always finds it necessary to reiterate the fact that he trusts the people is because he doesn't."-Boston Transcript.

#### THOUGHT IT WAS A MONKEY HOUSE "Why, there's nothing but bees here."

"What did you expect to find?"

Well, when I asked to be directed to the apiary I cer- asserts that Austria and Germany had tainly thought I was going to the place where they kept no intention in the beginning, of territhe apes."-Baltimore American.

waited a long time. When he remembers how long the time has been he uses strong language under his breath.

And she had called to him that the analysis of the conduction of t And she had called to him that she would be right down. Pretty soon her scamp of a little brother comes into the

"Sis is dolling up," he volunteers.

says the young man as he frowns at his watch. "I was beginning to think she might be meditating."-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

#### SHE UNDERSTOOD

When you inspect 25 applicants for a position as your nursery maid for a whole morning, and then find yourself much in the same position as you started, you begin to feel tired. Just so was Mrs. Newrich. But No. 26 seemed to know her business. What was better still, she knew how to make tea "do" for six people without using more than three teaspoonfuls. Here was a capture.

"And you understand childree, you say? I have four

children,' said Mrs. Newrich.

"Oh, yes; I understand 'em all right, and I'm blowed if I'll work wherever the little varmints are, mum," came the disheartening reply.-Answers.

#### JOSH WANTED TO SEE

Some time ago Uncle Josh was spending the day with a city relative, and in order to while away the time he was taken around to the fire-house. Just as they entered the door an alarm was struck, and down the pole like squirrels came the firemen from their quarters overhead.
"Come along, Uncle Josh," said the city relative as the

apparatus sped out. "Let's go to the fire."

"No fire for me, Henry," was the rather emphatic response of Uncle Jose. "Im goin' ter stay right here."

"Dont you care for fires?" shoot up that pole ag'in."-Exchange.

## Sate and Sure

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## Tongue-End Topics

"I saw the Queen of the Belgians o-day," recently wrote a Scotch sol to-day," recently wrote a Scotch sol-dier from the front to relatives in London, "I had gone up to the ruined Cathedral with one of my officers for the afternoon service. While we were there the Queen arrived. She came un-No one, so far as I know, expectedly. dreamed of her coming. She was dress ed with what I can only describe as re ligious simplicity—a severely plain costume and a tourist cap. Her companious were a Belgian officer and her physician. So far as I could hear no word was spoken. Her Mapesty fascinated me. She was as one who is ing at the burnt and battered walls of the sacred building, awe-inspired, broken, crushed. She acknowledged our sa-

#### lute with a melancholy smile." Work of the Women Patrols

The National Union of Wome Workers of Great Britain has issued an appeal for more volunteers to look after the welfare of girls in the neighbor-hood of soldiers' camps. The work was started about three months ago and has met with the cordial support, both civil and military. The Union now has 1,200 volunteer patrols engaged. Lord Kitchener recently issued a General Order informing officers that these women patrols were doing good service and should have every possible co-operation from the army officials.

#### 625 Miles of Prisoners

To visualize the number of Russia orisoners and guns taken by von Hin-denburg in the so-called "Winter's Battle" to the east of the Masurian akes, one of the German papers has figured out what a great procession they would make. If the 104,000 risoners, the 300 pieces of artillery and the 2,000 wagons, it says, were to form a procession with four men abreast, with the artillery and wagons in usual marching order, they reach 112 miles in length. It would equire thirty hours for such a procession to pass a given point. In the same way it is figured that all the prisoners of war now held by Germany—a tota of 780,000 men—would make a proces sion 625 miles long.

#### Clergyman's Strenuous Duties

A call for recruits in Glasgow to assist in the manufacture of shells brought forth a clergyman, who was promptly accepted. He is the Rev. Stuart Robertson of Pollokshield church, a tall, athletic figure who now from 6 o'clock in the morning until 5 at night in a large engineering shop. His day's work over, the Rev. Robertson attends to his pastoral duties as his evening's recreation.

#### Opposing Seizing Territory

Count Julius Andrassy, former Hun-garian Minister of the Interior, has written a book, just published at Buda-pest entitled, "Who is Responsible for the War." The book has received ficial approval and is to be published in German at Leipsic and Berlin, and in Switzerland in French. A version in English will also be brought out. Count Andrassy is at present in Leipsic super ntending the publication. The Count argues in his book that Slav aspirations rought out the war, and that the Russian ambition to possess the Darda nelles contributed greatly to it. He torial aggrandizement, and urges them not to think of it when final victory is won. He thinks they should be satisprove of any great advantage.

Jews Promoted From Ranks

A Jewish newspaper in Hamburg reports that the number of Jews pronoted from the ranks in the Prussian army to positions as officers was 43 up to the first of February. Because only partial lists of the promotions have been available it is believed that the number is much larger. Until the present war Jews were not eligible as of-

#### WHITMAN CHEATS CHAIR

Commutes Death Sentence of Murderer Who Regained Sanity
Auburn, N. Y., April 9.—Governor Whitman yesterday notified Warden Rattigan, of Auburn prison, that he had commuted the sentence to death of Antonio Africano to life imprisonment. The murderer has been twice declared insane by commissions appointed by former Governor Sulzer and was sent to Dannemora State Hospital for Criminal Insane.

Dannemora State Hospital for Criminal Insane.

While there Africano recovered his sanity and, under a State law, was sent back to Auburn to be electrocutated. Governor Whitman, under the law, must designate the new date for his death. Instead, the Governor commutations of Uncle Jose. "Im goin' ter stay right here."

"What for?" was the wondering rejoinder of Henry. Dont you care for fires?"

"Yes," answered Uncle Josh, "but I want ter see 'em head up that pole ag'in."—Exchange.

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### LANDMARKS THAT HAVE **CONE FROM SOUTH** SECOND STREET

Continued From First Page

established there August 10, 1793, with John Wyeth as the first post-

established there August 10, 1793, with John Wyeth as the first postmaster. Another picture was of the Adam Boyd home, at the southwest corner of Mulberry and Second streets, which was made of bricks imported from England especially for the construction of that building.

Three Governors of Pennsylvania lived in the section—Governor Shunk, at 123, and Governor Packer and Curtin, the war Governor, at No. 11 South Second. Robert Harris, son of John Harris, founder of the city, lived at 218 South Second street, one of the buildings torn away. Another historic building removed was that at the northeast corner of Second and Mulberry streets, which was once a hotel patronized by the most distinuished visitors coming to Harrisburg, including General Lafayette, in 1824. It was known at different times as Smull's hotel and the Mansion House.

Dr. Hamilton said in the course of his talk:

"Us fellers whose thin hair shows like snow, "Though still about here—down be-

"An' dart like swallows round the 'sky;
"The lightn' running the railroad cars,
"An' electric lights outshine the

"Real old-time candidates for the sky, "That have read their titles in days gone bye;
"An' this is the thought that's creepin' night

I know not what sorrow is o'er me, What spell is upon my heart; But a tale of Old Times is before

"Incidents, that will not depart.

"Incidents, that will not depart.

"Travelers from the Holy Land revert to Biblical narratives. Shakespeare has rendered places in Italy and England immortal by his dramas. Scott has filled Scotland with characters that made its glens storied with vivid pictures of olden times.

"This new country passes so rapidly from country lanes to city pavements! Who has not "gone for" chestnuts, hickorynuts and walnuts, where now hard asphalt and stefen straight streets cover the sward of previous joyous juvenile trips?

"How soon the lanes and byways of Old Louisbourg and Maclaysburg, less than 100 years, are forgotten while in realization of the facts to day that some of the streets and fields of Harrisburg formed by the union of these, villages known to us since childhood's days, are being obliterated.

"We walk and chat by the Susquehanna river whose glorious sunsets reflected in its slowly flowing water are admired because it is now "The Harris Park." "Hardscrabble" is vanishing. The Eighth ward sinks to its own demolition.

"Encircling our city, like ramparts, runs the Parkway, embracing the Reservoir and Wildwood's nature garden.
The Capitol building is adorned with appropriate statuary, forever fixing in

carved imagery the gracious history of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the veritable Keystone of our Republic, of our Statehood and of this its own Capital City.

"To-night, your attention is called mow before it is too date, to the changes in South Second street below Chestaut—the original town of Harrisburg. The absence of the common carrisburg. The absence of the common carrisburg.

Chestaut—the original town of Har-risburg. The abode of the fashionable and prominent in the former days. The scene of paegents until it fell asleep

amid its lack of appreciation of its visitation and sunk deep, into slum-slumbers."

Dr. Hamilton then displayed the photographs of the various individual buildings that have been razed and gave the history of each.

"Sir, I came down from a long line of ancestors."

"Indeed! Were many of them hanging on it?"—Exchange.

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