

THE MIDDLEBURGH POST.

T. E. HARTER, Editor and Prop.

MIDDLEBURGH, PA., MAR. 10, 1902.

The Sunday-School Magazine, of Philadelphia, says that while San Francisco has a population of 300,000, its churches will seat only 55,000 people.

The St. Louis Republic takes no stock in the theory of the overproduction of cotton. It says that when the Southern farmers raise all their foodstuffs they cannot produce too much cotton.

A Denver boarder made disparaging remarks about the cooking set before him, and much to his amusement the landlady sued him for \$20,000. His merriment died away when the jury brought in a verdict for \$750, and he has put in his time since in wondering what there ever was in the episode to strike him as humorous.

Pork is dearer now than it has been in ten years, or since Bismarck began to make war on the American hog. This is doubtless in part due to the opening of European markets to our pork.

The London Graphic has a portrait and sketch of Potara, a Maori cannibal, who is eighty-five years old and still has a good set of natural teeth.

The statement published by the New York Sun of Consul Roosevelt at Brussels that it has been found profitable to ship cargoes of horse meat from this city to Belgium to supply the tables of the poor classes may be news to most New Yorkers.

In the opinion of the Chicago Herald "the criminal art gallery is the worst fruit that has been produced by grafting civilization on barbarism. It is bad enough to have the portrait of a convicted felon placed on exhibition for all the world to see, even after he shall have expiated his crime by serving his term of imprisonment.

Italy expends every year \$95,000,000 for her soldiers, and less than \$4,000,000 for schools. In Spain it costs \$100,000,000 to maintain the army, and only \$4,500,000 to educate the children.

Every one that has observed the treatment of private soldiers in European armies knows how like cattle they are regarded. Not long ago, relates the Buffalo Courier, a saddle race was arranged between officers of the Austrian and Prussian armies, the course lying from Vienna to Berlin.

LAWYER (to kicking client)—"Well, have you at last decided to take my advice and pay this bill of mine?" Client—"Yes."

THE HELP THAT COMES TOO LATE.

'Tis a wearisome world, this world of ours, With its tangles small and great, Its weeds that smother the springing flowers, And its hapless strife with fate.

A Drummer's Adventure.

It is many years since I first went "on the road," and I believe my fellow commercial men reckon me as 'cute as they make them.

It was my first circuit in the employment of Hinde and Cooper, wholesale jewelers and silversmiths, of Birmingham. My round was an extensive one—from Stirling, on the edge of the Scottish Highlands, to Inverness, in the north.

"Can I see Mr. Macgregor?" I asked a shopman, as I drew up at the door of an obviously flourishing establishment in the High Street of Stirling.

Mr. Macgregor examined it carefully. "It seems all right, I am thankful to say," he remarked; then holding it between him and the light on the table: "it's a forgery, the watermark's wrong!"

"I was really thankful to be able to oblige old Macgregor, especially as by doing so I saved myself further trouble in the matter of the forged notes. A prosecution would mean a loss of time and money, and what would my employers have thought of my lack of caution?"

"What do you mean, and who are you?" "I don't crow so loudly," he means that I'm a detective, and you must go with me to the police office.

But he did not require showing in, for he had followed close on the waiter's heels. He came hastily forward and shook me warmly by the hand. He was an elderly gentleman, whose long white beard and white locks gave him a very venerable appearance.

Fishes Sleep.

"Never saw a fish sleep, eh?" said Cornelius Hinman. "Well, I have. I've seen them sleep sound and much to their sorrow, especially catfish. There is nothing more wary than a fish.

A Discovery of Gold in a Well.

"I was one of the first to discover gold in the Ember District of New South Wales," said Harold Meyer, of Australia. "The fact that gold existed there was not known until 1881, when I announced my discovery by staking my claim and beginning operations.

"The following bills were introduced: Providing for the appointment of trustees of normal schools by Governor. For protection and propagation of fish in private ponds and streams. To create the office of assistant superintendent of schools in cities containing over 100,000 population, also to prevent peddling of produce and merchandise in cities of the second and third classes without a license.

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"Anything you say may be used in evidence against you," he warned me. On our way to the station he told me that my ten-pound note was a forgery, that others of a similar kind had been in circulation, and that suspicion pointed to me as one of the gang uttering them.

On the fifth day of my incarceration I was told that some one had called to see me. In a waiting-room I found Mr. Hinde, young Mr. Macgregor, and an old gentleman whom I did not know.

Two days after I again appeared in the dock, and to my great satisfaction there stood in it also the old gentleman whose acquaintance I had made at Lintonhew, and the horse man I had seen in Macgregor's shop.

Along with other two they were sentenced to fourteen years' penal servitude each. Since then I do not allow sentiment to come in the way of business.

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These bills passed finally: To create a State Board of Undertakers; to prohibit the use of oleomargarine in penal or charitable institutions; to provide for inspection of vessels on inland streams; to provide for publication of history of birds and mammals of Pennsylvania in the quarterly reports of the State Board of Agriculture.

Every vessel that floats has as part of her company a family of rats. They travel the world over, on both steam and sailing craft, but seldom make more than one voyage on the bulk of carriers, as the cargo causes among them a distemper which not only injures the lungs of the rat but also changes the color of their hair.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

THIRTIETH DAY.—In the Senate the following bills were introduced: Providing for monthly returns and payments by county and city officers of moneys received by them for use of the State.

Practically the entire session of the House was taken up in reading and referring petitions. They related to almost every important bill on the calendar, and included over 100 from pastors and members of churches protesting against any modification of the Sunday laws.

The following bills were introduced: To amend an act for incorporation of cities of the third class by extending power of city council to allow a percentage for prompt payment of taxes and to add penalties for non-payment of same.

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THIRTY-THIRD DAY.—In the Senate today the following bills were introduced: Providing for a recount of votes in contested election cases. To give street railways the same power possessed by steam railroad companies so far as appointment of police is concerned.

These bills passed finally: To constitute Lawrence county a separate judicial district; to quiet titles to land which has ceased to be used by corporations leaving right to eminent domain; to give manufacturers, spinners and throwers of cotton, woolen and silk goods a lien on property of others that may come into their possession.

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