MIDDLEBURGH, PA., MARCH 4, 1897.

Russia is not only to build her own railroads through China, but is to build China's own railroads for her.

It is estimated that the present wealth of the United States exceeds the wealth of the whole world at any period prior to the middle of the eighteenth century.

The New Jersey grange does not believe in giving tobacco to the convicts in the penitentiary. Part of their punishment, it thinks, should be a deprivation of such luxuries.

A mining prospector, whose experience is said to cover almost every mining region of the Northwest, has been lately waxing enthusiastic over the future of the Cascade range in Oregon as a gold-producing section.

The South is becoming a formidable rival to New England in the matter of manufactures as well as to other sections of the country in the matter of products and in her foreign trade, observes the Trenton (N. J.) American.

Sir John Gorst, who is at the head of the educational department in England, is in hot water for declaring in a public speech that "at birth there is not much difference between a baby and a monkey," and that the monkey has the advantage.

A Boston man who dines regularly at a prominent hotel was interested to discover the other day that his waiter, whom he has been tipping liberally all along, owns five tenement houses in the Hub, all clear of mortgages, and that his tax bill is considerably larger than his patron's.

A writer in the Detroit Journal has attempted to provide Major McKinley with a long line of illustrious ancestors. He traces the Canton Napoleon's lineage in a direct line back to Duncan McDuff, the celebrated Thane who was born about the year 1000, and who was afterwards made famous by Shakspeare, who told of some interesting experiences this Scottish chieftain had with Macbeth, who had trouble with his hands and one Banquo, a gentleman, with a ghost.

The Eastern express and railroad companies have adopted the proper method of discouraging train robbery by offering a bonus of \$500 for every robber maimed and \$1,000 for every one killed. This may seem a coldblooded scheme, but it is perfectly legitimate, and we are sure that it will do more to check train robberies than offers of big rewards for the capture of the criminals after they have once escaped with their booty. At any rate, it gives employes some return for risking their lives in defence of railroad or express property and furnishes a stimulus to the purchase of the best weapons as well as to practice in using them instantly and effectively.

Farms in England are selling at a ruinous reduction of their former value, and in many cases cannot be sold at all. Many properties within two hours' ride of London are deserted. Recently at the sale of Langdon Abbey 639 acres of land, with farmhouse, stabling, homestead and seven modern cottages, only realized \$28,500, or less than \$45 per acre. Fifteen years ago the property was valued at over \$100,000, and four years ago it was mortgaged at \$70,000. In Essex County, within a day's walk of the Bank of England, a farm which in 1875 rented for \$2,000, has for the last five years rented for 35 per annum. the occupant paying the taxes, amounting to about \$750. In many cases farms have been sold for less than one-tenth of their value twenty years ago. Well-to-do farmers are abandoning the business and going to the colonies or cities to start life anew. Nor does there seem to be any hopeful outlook for the industry in the future. Although the situation is grievous, there may be some consolation in the fact that it is worse on the Continent and seems to be equally irremediable. We have not yet suffered so severely in this country, adds the New York Tribune, but have by no means escaped the depressing influences which seem of it. to have fallen on agriculture everywhere.

Brown-I wonder why Paynter was so angry when I asked him what school of art be belonged to? Smith-What school? That implies that he has something to learn .- Puck.

THAT BASHFUL BLINKER

she sat with her shapely fingers dancing on the keyboard of her typewriter. I think in the time come when this

shall have become the classic period for the future centuries, as the ancient Greek is the classic for us of this time, that instead of the maiden with the distaft as we have, they will have the maiden at the typewriter, as one of the beau-

tiful figures that make art everlasting. Her eyes were so blue, her cheeks were so pink, and truly, her hair must have been transplanted from the banks of the Pactolns whose shifting sands

were crystals of pure gold. The man sat near her dictating

letter. On the window pane next to the street were the words "Hurford, Blinker & Co., Brokers," and the man dictating was the Blinker of the firm. He was also the Hurford and the Co., seeing that he had bought out everybody else, including the well-known name of the firm.

And what a man was Blinker-Haverhill Blinker. A bachelor of forty years' experience, a business man of large and increasing wealth, a calculating speculator, a good all 'round fellow, and among women the very prototype and synonym of bashfulness. To see him bow and smile to and at a lady when meeting her would how he was ever going to finish. have led the most critical to say he "I know that," he admitted, "but was a courtier of courtiers, but if it became necessary for him to go beyond the bowing and smiling limit, life had no further charms for Haverwas not always conscious of his weakness, and there were times when he really thought he was quite a ladies' man.

When he recovered from one of these latter attacks he was always surrounded by a large circle of sympathizing friends (male).

Until within six months he had never been able to persuade himself that the real and only way to accustom himself to the use of a woman's society was to employ a "lady typewriter," and then he did it because a relative of his, his aunt, in fact, in a neighboring town, had asked him as a special favor to help the daughter of an old school friend of hers, in sore distress, who was quite a skilled stenog- had thought enough of her to warrant rapher and typewriter.

It was entirely beyond the comprehensibility of Mr. Bluker's aunt that Mr. Blinker would give her employment, but the aunt thought he might know someone who had a place for her. Therefore, when he wrote to his aunt saving that he would give the young woman a place in his office at \$40 a month she was more than surprisedshe was delighted, and sent the golden-haired daughter of her dear old school friend right over to her nephew.

The day she made her first appearance Mr. Blinker was out when she called about 11 o'clock, and the office boy and the clerk having insisted upon her remaining for a few minutes until Mr. Blinker should return, she sat down near the window and waited, never once noting the fact that the office boy and the clerk were each putting in every moment of his spare time watching her and wondering what the mischief business an angel right from heaven had with Mr. Blinker.

When Mr. Blinker finally appeared, and the office boy and the clerk col-lapsed, he hadn't the least idea who she was, and his heart began to pound so on the inside of him that he thought it was the janutor turning on more steam and shaking up the radiwoman in his office, and the experience | bashful Mr, Blinker. was so entirely novel that for an instant he was speechless.

"Is this Mr. Blinker?" she inquired. rising to meet him as he came hesitatingly toward her.

"Yes'm," responded Mr. Blinker, as if he were a schoolboy about to be licked for pasting a wet wad on the "May I inquire to what I am wall. indebted for the honor of this visit, ma'am?"

Blinker would no more have made such an egregiously silly and stilted speech as that to a man than he would have tried to have told the truth in Chicago, but this was a woman, and Blinker was not responsible.

"Your aunt," said the visitor, with roguish twinkle in her eye, but Blinker didn't see it any more than he

saw profit in honest politics. "I-I-beg your pardon, ma'am,"

he stammered. The very idea of his saying "Ma'am," to a girl like that! It would have

been criminal if Mr. Blinker had been responsible. Then she told him who she was, and the way Mr. Blinker began to assume airs and strut around as if he were a mighty potentate with a lot of sub-

jects was as funny as it could be. Now she had been with him six months, and he sat near her dictating a letter.

In the midst of it he stopped short. He had been tempted to do this many times before. He had studied the matter thoroughly, as he thought, and having considered it in every light and having deliberated upon it for many days, and having tried to accomplish the desired result by every means in his knowledge, he had at last determined to do this.

Therefore he stopped in the midst

"I am very sorry, Miss Prince," he began, quite abruptly, and as if he wanted to get through with the disagreeable task in a burry, "but I am afraid I shall have to lose you as my typewriter.

OW pretty she was as of the machine as if to support her

"W-w-why," she stammered with qvivering lips, "why, Mr. Blinker, what have I done that I should be discharged without warning?"

"But I'm giving you warning," he said, half with bravado, half with apology. "You don't have to go right away.

"I do not want to go at all until know why I am going," she argued. This is all I have in the world, and I am entitled to know why I am unfitted for this.' "Oh, it isn't your fault, exactly,"

he went on evasively. "There are no such things, you know, as misfortunes. which can scarcely be classed as faults. In your case, Miss Prince, your misfortune is that you are too pretty," and Mr. Blinker actually tucked his head to one side and simpered at her. She had been suspicious for a long

time, as most women are when they have their wits about them under circumstances similar to those surrounding Miss Prince and Mr. Blinker, and she almost smiled through the mist

that was gathering in her eyes.
"You have always said, Mr. Blink-er," she pleaded, "that you liked to see pretty things in your office."

He coughed nervously, uneasily. How many things he had said to her he did not know. How many more he wanted to say he did not know. What he was now saying he did not know

sometimes, you know, my dear Miss Prince, a man cannot always have what he wants. As long as I was a bachelor, Miss Prince, I could do as I hill Blinker. Strange to say, too, he pleased, but I am to be married, at least I hope so, and you know a man's wife sometimes differs with him on what may seem to the world at large to be quite trivial points." Married!

At one blow all her castles were thrown to the earth, with not so much as a corner standing to show that they had ever been other than crumbling ruins.

True, he had never said anything definitely to her, but there is so much more in what is never said, and daily out of the unspoken affinity which surely existed between these two congenial people the more foolish woman had constructed such hopes as women cherish to the end of time. That he tnese hopes, a thousand wordless witnesses testified.

Now thus in the very midst of the work that he had given to her to do for him, and that she loved to do because it was for him, the blow fell.

"Yes?" she responded to his statement in the faint pathetic questioning that fills a woman's voice when she is thus called upon to face her heart's doom, and her hands unconsciously sought to go, on with her

"Yes, Miss Prince," he said, with no sound of sympathy in his voice, "and I am pretty sure my wife will not permit you to remain here as my typewriter. I may say," and he simpered again, "as my pretty typewriter."

She never so much as saw the simper, and in that far Mr. Blinker should have thanked his good fortune. "I have thought the matter all

to you as a fairminded woman whether it is my duty to gain a wife and lose a typewriter, or vice versa?"

By this time she had recovered from the primary shock. She had even begun to wonder how he had ever mustered up sufficient conrage to propose to the future Mrs. Blinker. She even went further and made up her mind that the lady was a widow, ators in the office and halls. It was and had used the traditional wiles of the very first time he had ever seen a the widow on the unsuspecting and

> "By all means, Mr. Blinker," she said coldly, "gain the wife. The world is full of typewriters, but it is not every day that a man can get a wife. At least such a wife as you deserve," and in spite of herself there was something soft in her tone that she did not want to be there.

Mr. Blinker noticed it, too, but he didn't stop to comment upon it.

"Good for you, Miss Prince," he laughed. "I knew you were a woman of sense." She shrank as if she had been

touched with a hot iron. "Thank you, Mr. Blinker," she said.

"Now, if you please, we will go on with our work. It had seemed as if a lifetime had past since she had written the last word, and as she bent down over it, as if the better see what it was, a tear fell

upon the line. This Mr. Blinker also observed, but

said nothing, seeming to enjoy it.
"Before we do, Miss Prince," he said. "may I ask a favor at your hands

-a promise?"
"What is it? Yes," she answered. Mr. Blinker braced himself.

"That, if this woman whom I am soon to ask formally to be my wife,' he said, "should refuse me, that you will marry me."

For an instar, the girl looked at him, then she see to her feet, her eyes fairly blazing. Mr. Blinker saw that the tigress was

"Wait, stop!" he exclaimed, holding up his hands as if to shield himself from the blow. "Hold on till I tell you who the woman is. It's you, Miss Prince-you-you! Won't you stripped her and sold the hulk to marry me? Will you be my wife? Charles Bartlett, who bought it for

me like that!"

mentally and emotionally, and the sides a cargo of 1200 tons of coal, most pewriter. She clutched suddenly at the sides dawned upon her all at once that the script.

more bashful a bachelor is the m ridiculous he is in love, and the only way to prevent a tender emotion from becoming ludicrous is to accept it on the spot.

Which she did, and Mr. Blinker never had another pretty typewriter. -New York Sun.

His "Little Feller."

"I happened to be down in my cel lar the other morning when the ash man came around to collect the ashes, said a gentleman who resides in Second avenue. "I was opening a barrel of great red apples at the time, and when the big, dust-covered and necessarily untidy man came back with the empty ash barrel I picked up an apple and held it out toward him, saying as I did

"Won't you have an apple?"
"He took it eagerly, saying as he

"'Thank ye, sir; I've a little feller at home who'll be tickled to death to git it. I most always find something or other in the ash barrels to carry home to 'm at night, but it ain't often I git anything equal to this big apple. I tell ve the little felier's eyes will shine when he sees it.'

"I don't know how many times that day my thoughts were of that big, rough handed fellow, with that apple put away so carefully in his pocket for that 'little feller'

"When evening came I thought of the 'little feller' who was on the lookout for the big, dust-covered father, with the calloused and soiled hands, but with the true heart and kindly word that made him a king in the eyes of that 'little feller.'

"It must have been a very poor and humble home to which the man went at the close of his weary day, but then there was the 'little feller's' presence to make beautiful even the bare walls and floors and to bring the love light to his father's eyes and joy to his father's heart.
"These 'little fellers' glorify and

beautify many a home in which poverty abides. But human affections can sweetly and patiently endure toil and rags and poverty when there is a 'little feller' to meet and greet the father when the long day is done."--Detroit Free Press.

Climate and Movement,

"The most important physical factor in determining lines of movement," says a well known man of science, 'has been climate. Speaking broadly, migration follows the parallels of latitude, or, more precisely, the lines of equal mean temperature, and not so much, I think, of mean annual heat as of mean winter heat. Although the inhabitants of cold climates often evince a desire to move into warmer ones, they seem never to transfer themselves directly to one differing greatly from that to which they are accustomed; while no people of the tropics has ever, so far as I know, settled in any part of the temperate

"There is one instance of a North European race establishing itself on the southern shores of the Mediterranean-the Vandals in North Africa, and the Bulgarians came to the banks of the Danube from the still sterner winters of the middle Volga. But in the few cases of northward movement, as in that of the Lapps, the cause lies in the irresistible pressure of stronger neighbors; and probably a similar over," he continued, "and I leave it pressure drove the Fuegians into their

inbospitable isles. "The tendency to retain similar climatic conditions is illustrated by the colonization of North America. The Spaniards and Portuguese took the tropical and sub-tropical regions, neglecting the cooler parts. The French and the English settled in the temperate zone, and it was not till this century that the country toward the Gulf of Mexico began to be occupied by incomers from the Carolinas and Northern Georgia. When the Scandinavian immigration began it flowed to the Northwest and has filled the States of Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Dakotas,"-New York Herald.

Grades of Mackerel.

"Mackerel only comes in three grades," said a well known groceryman, "though there is not one buyer in each thousand who knows anything about it. These grades are bloaters, selects and extras. They are also known as Nos. 1, 2 and 3. Number ones should measure thirteen inches from the tip of the nose to the crutch of the tail: number twos should be not less than eleven and a half inches long, all sizes smaller are lumped under the general head of number three. The terms bloaters, selects and extras refer to the quality and condition, and not to the size. Mess mackerel means that the heads and tails have been removed. In the case of mackerel the fatter the fish the better is the quality. Mackerel are also referred to as Norways and shores. This indicates where they are caught. Shores are not as fat as Norways. The mackerel caught off Prince Edward Island and known as islands should be of a dark red color. Those caught in the St. Lawrence Bay are known as 'bays,' the meat of which is darker than that of the 'islands.'"-Washington Star.

Fortune for 870.

about to spring, and he was fright-Several days ago the schooner Robert I. Carter struck on Alden's Rock, off the coast of Maine, and to all appearances was a total loss. Nautical experts agreed that she would leave her bones there and her owners Haven't you always known I didn't 870 "on spec." Wind and tide floated care a cent for any woman on earth but the schooner off, and to the amazeyou? Ruth, darling, don't look at ment of the salts she drifted up Portland Harbor. Bartlett had her towed Mr. Blinker was going all to pieces in. She is worth \$45,000 and has be-



BOADSIDE DIRT FOR FIELDS,

Wherever there is a low place beside the road accumulating the wash from the road bed the soil will probably be rich enough to pay for plowing up and carting into adjoining fields. This will improve the road as well, as it makes a place into which its surplus moisture will flow. But the dirt should be closely examined to see that it does not contain quack roots, which often find lodgment on roadsides without getting into adjoining fields.

KNEE SPRUNG HORSES,

In reply to my friend McLellen I cheerfully give him my views on paper in regard to the subject in question, writes Charles R. Wood, V. S. I wish every blacksmith was as anxious to qualify himself as he is.

There is considerable diversity of opinion as to the causes of this defect, which is not considered a disease. While some assert that it is due to a relaxed and lengthened state of the extensors, others are equally positive in attributing it to contraction of the flexors, and thus destroying the equilibrium of said flexors and extensors.

Neither of these bypotheses seems to be verified by dis-ections of the forelegs, which invariably disclose permanent shortening of the ligaments at the hinder part of the knee. Various experiments made confirm this theory. The ligaments at the back of the knee, being shorter than they should be, the animal naturally refrains from putting them on the stretch, the consequence being that when standing the extensors are a little relaxed and the knee bent forward. In time this abnormal position becomes permanent.

Though blistering and rest may effect some improvement, hard and fast work will bring on the trouble again. Let the animal be shod with a moderstely high heel, or shoes growing thinner from toes to heel. It is now generally conceded that a horse which is knee-sprung cannot be permanently cured of the defect, as the ligaments directly posterior to the knee are permanently shortened.

We have used shoes with low or thin heels. In this we have to a great extent adopted the views of most veterinary writers, but having never received any decided benefit from such, we have tried the effect of using highheeled shoes with considerable satisfaction, and on this theory explain the fact that the ligaments, above mentioned, being permanently con-

tracted, they cannot be extended. The animal while in motion does not seem to be troubled by the defect, but the moment he is permitted to stand the knees are slightly bent to ease the ligaments. When high-heeled shoes are worn the tendons are never stretched, even temporarily, and the effect upon the quality of the mi animal has always (without any effort On the other hand plenty of goods on his part) a solid foundation to stand | increases the quantity of milk until upon, thus affording considerable east when the ligaments are involved. We tion. are free to advise our patrons to adopt to the influence of feed upon them this method of shoeing. From my ity of milk is equally true related standpoint I do not think a heel ought the amount of butter that can be milk to be extremely low or high; that must from a given quantity of mile ! be governed by the length of the pastern joint. A happy medium will answer any purpose.

An animal suffering from pavicular disease is invariably knee sprung, and when the trouble about the foot is obviated, the legs generally assume their normal position, especially after neurotomy is performed. There is no doubt in my mind that compelling a horse with this trouble to travel with a low heel increases the difficulty very materially; the less leverage upon the parts the better he will be. -Boston Cultivator.

RUST IN SMALL GRAIN.

Speaking of the rust diseases that attack wheat, oats barley and grasses in North Carolina, Professor McCarthy, of the State Agricultural Experiment Station, says:

The three fungi which attack grasses and cereals do not all have the same alternate host. Pucinnia graminis has for alternate hosts the garberry, mahonia and probably other shrubs. Pucinnia coronata has for its alternate hosts the buck thorns, Rhamus lanceolota, frangula and other species. Pucinnia Rubigo-vera has for its alternate hosts the common and disagreeable weeds Viper's buglass, Echium vulgare and Gromwell Lithospermum arvense.

Knowing that to complete this cycle of growth these fungi require a host widely different from grasses and grains if we could extirpate all such host plants within a half a mile or so of a grain or grass field we could effectually stop their further development. Yet we cannot hope to exterminate these pests in one or two seasons, even by completely destroying their alternate host plant. Once the "Red rust" or uredo spores of the Coronata and Rubigo-vera species are produced on grain or cereals, these in our warm climate, where growing glumsceous plants are found in a green condition all the year round, may go on reproducing themselves indefinitely, as well as producing at the same time the succeeding black form. the teleuto spores, which are then able to stock the ground or infect any chance alternate host plant which negligence or accident may allow to re-

As these pores are extremely small and light, and are produced in almost railroad which it has been dem incredible numbers, the few alternate build at a cost of \$2,000,000.

host plants which may survive e the most careful care may supple accidio spores enough to inflict ha dreds of acres of grass or grain.

Common and destructive as then fungi are in the United States, in Ar tralia they are still more so and as eral conventions of scientific men as practical farmers have been held the to devise methods for repressing the pests, but so far without success Practical experience recommends following measures:

1. Use dry or well drained lands small grains.

2. Plant only hard stemmed, hair carly maturing varieties of wheat 3. Plant those varieties which in you locality resist rust best—the so calls 'Rust proof" wheat and oats. 4. Sow thinly to give plenty of sa

light and air to the plants. 5. Plow the land deeply as some the crop is harvested to destroy

unteer growth, or burn the stable and straw on the field. The lan plan is best where grain is ground a large scale. 6. Carefully search out and destaall alternate host plants found with

one-half mile of a wheat or out fall

7. Rotate crops so that some en or other than grasses or cereals w come on the land each two years out 8. The use of fungicidal sprays growing grain has not so far given isfactory results. The best fungiel

for this class of plants are: Sind solution of iron sulphate. 2. Comsucrate. Directions: Apply in finest possible spray as soon at the grain begins to flower - repeat ever ten days until grain is in the dots Then harvest it.

EFFECT OF FEED UPON THE COMPOSED OF MILE. Feed has very little, if any, die

upon the quality of milk. By can we refer to the per cent or and of total solid matter in the raik. R a well-recognized fact that some feel affect the flavor of milk and result to a slight extent its color. Feel rich in protein have a tendency she ly to increase the percentage of fati case of some cows; the same calls said of feeds rich in fat. This income is probably only temporary, house the milk gradually coming back be normal composition. Animals un thin in flesh and insufficiently fel, brought into good condition by proper feed, will probably yield mik rather better quality. The maps ment in quality will not, as a rela-very marked. The milk-profess function is to a large extent under control of the nervous system. A influence that disturbs the quiti normal condition of the animal, be rough usage, extremes of temperate exposure to rain, etc., will have ! nimal reac What has been said with rem the amount of butter that can be mi method of feeding has yet bear covered that so improves the quality of the milk as to make a given que tity of milk produce more butter one time than another. The qual of milk varies during the differ stages of lactation, but this is called independent of the influence of fa The above statements are based on teachings of carefully conducted periments. They are contrary the general belief that the better animal is fed the better the quality

the milk produced. The writer is of the opinion two feedings, morning and late she noon, are sufficient daily. The anis thus fed is abundantly able to take that is necessary for her welfare. I cow desires considerable time w masticate her feed, and there surely be no advantage in the miss feeding. Feeds that are liable to be the milk should be fed immedia

after milking. Cows should be watered twice dis if possible, namely, after the moth and evening feeding. It is a ga advantage to have the chill the from the water in winter. Average cows' milk has the fells ing composition:

Water.... Fat. Casein and albumen (curd).

Milk sugar.... Ash..... The average composition of milk different breeds is as follows:

Total solids Fall st.
Per ct. Devon..... 13.4

While the above figures ou taken as types, they do not mean every cow of a distinct breed will milk of the above composition fact, a great many Jerseys pro milk with four per cent. of fat. families and individual core Holstein breed yield milk as rich many Jerseys or Guernseys. - Ball No. 39, Massachusetts Expens Station.

Tokio, Japan, has adopted the system for the two miles of railroad which it has been dend