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Yes, the horse is still in the ring. The bicycle and the motorcycle and the trolley may relieve the noble ani-mal somewhat, but they can never displace him altogether either for ornamental or useful purposes.

Unique Japan, original in art, orignal in literature, original in thought, has conceived a cabinet the members of which are absolutely without party affiliations. And the world looks on with amusement tempered by amaze

The Russian author, Bliokh, whose book, "The Future War," convinced the Czar that proportional disarma-ment is an absolute necessity, says that the United States are the richest of the peoples and their wealth is growing at a greater rate than that of He adds. "The in cause is the absence of militar-The decline of population is said to

The decline of population is said to have become almost as serious a problem in the Kingdom of Greece as it is in the French republic, and the patriots are offering all sorts of schemes for its solution. The most amusing of all, says the Westminster Gazette, is the suggestion of an Athenian journal that the constituencies should refuse to listen to the address of any candidate for a seat in parliament—whatever may be his virtues or whatever may be his virtues or whatever his party—unless he be a married man: This universal demand of mat-'imony as a qualification for legisla-tion, our Greek contemporary thinks, would exercise a powerful influence upon the selfish bachelors of Hellas. What splendid opportunities it would give for "heckling," if it were only partially adopted, we need scarcely to Bay.

The United States has a higher reputation for locomotive building than any other country in the world, and the Baldwins of Philadelphia, the Brookses of Providence, the Schenectady Locomotive works, the Richmond (Va.) company and other builders are now shipping locomotives to nearly every country on earth. The Chinese government has recently ordered eighty-three locomotives from the Baldwins, who send them also to the British government roads in Egypt. Baldwins, who send them also to the British government roads in Egypt. The Richmond company has recently sent a shipload of locomotives to Russia, the Schenectady company has sold a great many in Japan, and there is scarcely a nation where the whistle of an American locomotive cannot be heard. Even the emperor of Germany was hauled by an American locomotive when he went from Jaffa to Jerusalem.

At a recent meeting of the New England Association of School Super-intendents a report was presented on legislative enactments, by a commit-tee appointed a year ago. This com-mittee consisted of the highest educa-tional officer in each of the six New England states, and one purpose in its creation was to initiate a movement for the extension to the smaller and feebler towns of the superior facilities as to education now at the service of the children in the cities. On this point the committee recommends that the state supplement local effort in providing such facilities, with due rethe state supplement local effort in providing such facilities, with due regard, however, to local interest in the schools, and to local self-reliance in maintaining and managing them. Other recommendations are that laws for compulsory school attendance should be more stringently enforced, that there should be some minimum standard of professional training for the teachers, and that school committees should be required to appoint superintendents of schools especially trained and qualified to exercise that direct educational oversight of the schools that experience has found to be so educational oversight of the schools that experience has found to be so helpful to efficiency therein, such small towns as are unable independently to employ superintendents to be united into districts for such employment, and to be sufficiently aided by the state to insure the success of the plan.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY.

Chosen for large designs, he had the art Of winning with his humor, and he went traight to his mark, which was the human heart: Wise, too, for what he could not break he bent.

Upon his back a more than Atlas-load— The burden of the Commonwealth was ed, and rose up to it, though the

Ie stooped, and rose up to a, road
Shot suddenly downwards, not a whit dismayed. Hold, warriors, counselors, kings! All now give place

To this dear benefactor of the Race.

-R. H. Stondard.

ANCESTRY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The Abraham Lincoln legend is the distinctively American legend. It is the most popular legend of democracy. It tells the story of a poor boy, born in a log cabin on the rude frontier, learning to read and write by the light of the fire from the open hearth; of his hard labor on the farm, doing all the rough work of an American peasant lad of the pioneer stock; of his calloused hands, made hard and coarse by swinging the axe as a "rail splitter," of his struggles to get a few books out of which to educate himself by nights of difficult study after days of strenuous toil; of his simple courtship and unostentatious marriage to a homespun-clad Kentucky girl of the same pioneer period, and, finally, of his rise, by the strength of his own merit and fitness, to the leadership of a great party and the Presidency of the Nation in its hour of sorest meed and direct peril. The Abraham Lincoln legend is the

Antion in its hour of sorest meed and direct peril.

That is the great Lincoln legend, that will live as long as the Republic lasts. And the doctrine of democracy is all included in it—the everlasting truth sung by Burns, that

"The rank is but the guinea's stamp; A man's a man for a' that."

Thomas Lincoln married Nancy Hanks, in Washington County, Kentucky, June 12, 1806. It was an old-time Kentucky wedding, and all the neighbors came to it—but not in broadcloth. There was gas supper and a boisterous merry-making. The feast included bear meat, wild turkey and a sheep barbecued whole in a pit. There was good whisky, too, and the fun included a race for a big whisky bottle.

And when the wedding was over

On November 4, 1841, at Spring-field, Ill., Abraham, the son of Thomas



WHERE THOMAS LINCOLN, ABRAHAM'S FATHER, TOOK HIS BRIDE, NANCY HANKS.

coln, and still as poor a man as his er was married to Miss Mary

Lincoln, and still as poor a

father was married to Miss Mary Todd.

The Todd family had "position."
Miss Mary's papa might, if he had felt that way, have taken the same view of the match as Robert T. Lincoln took of his daughter Jessie's engagement to young Warren Beckwith not good enough; or, to put it an, other way, and perhaps a little plainer-too poor. But he didn't look at poor but honest Abe Lincoln, the briefless lawyer, in that light.

So Abraham Lincoln became the husband of Mary Todd. The knot was tied in the Episcopal Church, and after it was over the young couple,

destined in later years to live in the LINCOLN'S SECOND INAUGURATION. THE CANADIAN "CZAR." White House at Washington, went to a modest home of one room in the Globe Tavern. The rent of it, with



WHERE ABRAHAM LINCOLN TOOK HIS

table board for the two, cost Abraham just \$4 a week.

table board for the signates a week.

Four dollars was a larger sum relatively in those days than now. Still, it was an exceedingly modest start in life.

it was an exceedingly modest start in life.

But Abraham and Mary, his wife, struggled on through poverty to a moderate income, derived from his growing law practice—he did not have to work in shirtsleeves any longer—and at last, as all the world knows, they came to occupy the first and, in a representative sense, the grandest home in America.

His Personal Escort Carried Pistols and Clubs—Ex-Governor Osborn's Story.

Ex-Governor Thomas A. Osborn, of Kansas, was present at the second inauguration of Abraham Lincoln as one of the escort to the President. He was associated with General Ward H. Lamon, along with fourteen other United States marshals from different parts of the Northern States.

"People who are able to refresh their memory," Governor Osborn said in a recent interview, "will remember with what anxiety the inauguration was approached. It was believed that an assault of some character would be attempted upon the President. The Government detectives had been able to gain a vague sort of information about a conspiracy against the President's life, but there was nothing tangible enough to enable them to make arrests. That their suspicions were well grounded was well determined just forty days later when the President was shot down by Booth and the conspiracy came to light.

"President Lincoln was rather disposed to pool-pool the idea of danger. He refused to have himself surrounded with soldiers at the inaugural exercises, but finally consented that what of the District of Columbia, should ake such steps as he deemed necessary, stipulating, however, that there should be no ostentations display of arms or force. General Lamon at



Interesting Lincoln Medals.

Many interesting medals were issued in 1860, when Lidcoln was the dead of the Presidenty. A handsome one of bronze has on its face y a bust of Lincoln, surrounded by a small stars. Below are the words: a "Abraham Lincoln, Republican Candidate for President, 1860," on it he other side is an octagon, formed of interesting portions of a rail of ince, with the inscription in the centre: "The Great Rail-Splitter of the West Must and Shall Be Our Next of the West Must and Shall Be Our Next of the West Must and Shall Be Our Next of the West Must and Shall Be Our Next of the word of the free outlet, shall never forget the consultation of the young man engaged in splitting alog of wood near a rail fence. Above it is inscribed, "The Rail-Splitter of 1890."

Called Lincoln Superstitions.

When Lincoln was at New Orleans, in 1831, he visited a voodoo fortune by the case of the word of the free of the word of the first in the case of the word of the first in the case of the word of the first in the case of the word of the first in the case of the word of the first in the word of the first in angare in the case of the word of the first in the word was waged solely to preserve the Union.

Lincal's Great Regret.

When Lincoln was on his way to the Southern people. There was hardly a day during the war that he was not projecting his great personality between some Southern man. He was not projecting his great personality between some Southern man, wonther was not projecting his great personality between some Southern man, word was his mind that it cost him nothing to stand upon the resolution of Conpress of 1801, which declared that the war was waged solely to preserve the Clain."

Lincal's Great Regret.

When Lincoln was on his way to to the was the possed it, and he exceeding the case of the case o

The command former Granters Protections of the Control of the Cont

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

"Its strange that little Withelmine Should take up with a Wied.

"Cleveland Plain Dealer." "Cleveland Plain Dealer.
"By the way, Smith, you never use perfumes, do you?" "No," drawled Smith, lazily, "I don't have to. I take a bath every morning,"—Paper Mill.

Fashionable Young Lady—"If I give you some money will you promise me to go and take a bath?" Beggar—"A bath! And is it a mermaid you take me for?"

Irate Patron—"I thought this railway was for the benefit of the public." Railway Official—"You're in error. The public is for the benefit of the railway."—Tid-Bits.

Police Justice—"If you were there for no dishonest purpose, why were you in your stockinged feet?" Burglar—"I heard there was sickness in the family."—Standard.

Adoring One (in lavender kids and a blue searf)—"Oh, how I wish I were that book you clasp so lovingly." She—"How I wish you were, so that I could shut you up."—Ally Sloper.

There are laurels for the hero And badges for his breast;
But the man who hash' done a thing—dets a chance to rest.

"Hopkins cught to go into the army." "Why?" "He's so brave.

THE POOR CITY

Oh the city boy is bundled
In his heavy overcoat,
With his costly leather leggings,
With a slit thing round his throat,
And he slides upon the sidewalk
Where the ashes have been spread,
And imagines he is happy
On

his

bright new

There's a hill that's high and sloping,
In the country, far away,
Where a boy who wasn't bundled
Fit to smother used to stray;
With the swiftness of the lightning
Down the gleaming hill he sped,
And no ashes ever grated
'Neath'

his made

Oh I pity the poor city
Boy who never gets beyond
The narrow, asny sidewalk
Or some hampered little pond;
Ah, the hill was high and sloping,
And the way was clear ahead
Where a country boy went coastin
On

sled. -Cleveland Leader.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

He—"When we are married 1 will lie at your feet." She (interrupting) —"Yes, and to my face, I suppose." —Punch. Little Harry—"Pa, what's an an-achronism?" Pa—"A brown wig on a seventy-year-old man," — Chicago Daily News.

illy News.

With all the flowers of manhood
That are blooming o'er the mead,
Tis strange that little Wilhelmine
Should take up with a Wied,
—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

—Chicago News.

"Hopkins cught to go into the army." "Why?" "He's so brave. He borrowed my wheel and rode it all summer, and now he has brought me a bill for repairs."—Brooklyn Standard Union.

ard Union.

Graham—"Going to move? What for?" White—"They've got a baby next door to my house, and it makes so much noise my dog can hardly get a wink of sleep all night."—Boston Transcript.

Burgling Bill—"No, no! I won't go in again! She's talking in her sleep." The Mouse—"Well, dat ain't nuthin!." Burgling Bill (hoarsely)—"But she's a loidy elocutionist."—San Francisco Examiner.

"Were you out in all thet more ward."

a loidy elecutionist."—San Francisco Examiner.

"Were you out in all that rain?" asked the Clifton girl. "No," said the young woman from Boston. "I was merely in the portion of the rain that descended in my immediate vicinity."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Frances—"Harry says he just wants to fall down and worship me all the time." Her Mamma—"Oh, well; don't mind that dear. After you're married he won't lett interfere with his business."—Chicago News.

"Now," said the attorney for the defense, "here is a skull. Can you tell us to what species it belongs?"
"It's the skull of a lawyer," replied the expert witness. "How can you tell?" "By the cheek-bones."—Rural Home.

Office Boy's Brother—"Johnny's

tell?" "By the cheek-bones."—Rural Home.

Office Boy's Brother—"Johnny's sick a-bed, sir, and won't be able to come to work for a week." Employer—"Indeed!" The Brother—"Yes, sir; but he wants me to gets what's due him, so he can have it to spend while he's out."—Roxbury Gazette.

Lady (in railway train on windy day)—"Dear me! I can't get this window up." Gentleman (behind)—"I would assist you, madam, but I presume the railroad company has glued the windows down to prevent the loss of patrons by pneumonia."—New York Weckly.

"When that man came to this town, said Rivers, "he hadn't a rag to his back. Look at him now." Brooks walked to the window, looked in the direction indicated, and saw a swarthy son of Italy walking down the street bending beneath the weight of a sack of rags three or four times his size, strapped to his back. This led to another quarrel between two old friends.—Chicago Tribune.

A Beautiful Snake

A Beautiful Snake.

Perhaps one of the most beautiful snakes of the United States is the harlequin. This snake has permanently erece poison fangs, is venomous, but not fatal, and is of an extremely mild disposition. Its coloring is exceedingly rich and beautiful, being red, with seventeen broad black bands bordered with yellow. The harlequin is found from Virginia to Arkansas, while four other species inhabit Florida and Texas. They spend most of their time under ground, often being turned up by field workers, and seem to have a fondness for sweet potatoes patches.