	A Young Man's Era	Many are Holding High Positions at Washington
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"This is the age of the young man in government," said Chief Examiner of the Civil Service Commission Ser-ven, the practical man of Uncle Sam's big employment agency. "A notable case of the successful young man in government is George B. Cortelyou, secretary to the late President McKin-ley. He is still in his thirties. After finishing a Normal School education at 20, he studied stenography and began work as a general law and verbatim principal of a school, improving his stenography all the while. Four years more and he became private secretary to the spot office inspector and later to the surveyor of the Port of New York. In a few years he was in the departments as private secretary to the fourth assistant postmaster-general. Instead of idling away his spare time he entered the law school and won' both a bachelor's and master's degree. he entered the law school and wor both a bachelor's and master's degree both a bachelor's and master's degree. "Secretaryships, are perhaps the best apprenticeships for those ambitious to become statesmen and public men. The secretaries - to Senators, Representa-tives, Cabinet officers and bureau chiefs are in elbow touch with the most in-fluential men of the nation every day. "Frank Vanderlip was but 35 when made assistant secretary by promotion from the position of private secretary to Secretary Gage. Ho began on a farm, worked in a machine shop, studied in two universities, became a reporter, financial editor and then wont to the treasury department.

"John E. Wilkie, chief of the secret "John E. Wikke, chier of the secret service, is another example for the young man. He was in his thirties when President McKinley gave him his appointment. He began work when he was 17, but improved his spare time with reading and study.

with reading and study. "O. P. Austin, chief of the bureau of statistics, another young man, came up through the rank of reporter, editor and Washington correspondent. There was James H. Eckels, appointed comp-troller of the currency when but 35. He was graduated in law at 22. He is now president of the Commercial Bank, Chicago. Charles G. Dawes was but 32 when appointed to the same re-sponsible position. "Mr. Ridgeley, the present comp-

sponsible position. "Mr. Ridgeley, the present comp-troller, is also a young man. James A. Wetmore, chief of the law and record division of the treasury, is still in his thirties. Commissioner of Navi-gation Chamberlain was but 37 when appointed. He was a Harvard gradu-ate and newspaper correspondent. "Dean C. Worcester was but 32 when he became Philippine commissioner a

he became Philippine commissioner **a** few years ago. Arthur W. Ferguson, the new sccretary of state for the Philippines, cannot be much older.

(Ppines, cannot be much older. "W. F. Willoughby, who was made treasurer of Porto Rico the other day, is but 34. He is a university graduate. Felix Brannigan, treasurer of the Phil-ippines, and W. Martin Schuster, col-lector of customs for the islands, are both young men."

THE STAR STREET START START START

Etiquette of Origin of Custom of Half-Masting

Flag Signals

What is the origin of the custom of displaying flags at half-staff, or, as people usually say, half-mast?"

This question, when it was put to me the other day, appeared to have an easy answer: "It is borrowed from the navy. The ensign or pennant at half-mast is a recognized sign of mourning." mourning.

"Yes; but was it at first a ship's signal of distress, as some say—even some of the good dictionaries?"

some of the good dictionaries?" I have heard that in the seventeenth century it was so employed by the Spaniards; but, at any rate, toward the end of the eighteenth century the signal of distress recognized by French and English sailors was a dif-ferent affair, as the following story shows: Anne 1758—The French shin Sublia

Anno 1783-The French ship Sybille, a powerful 36-gun frigate, is sighted off Cape Henry by the Hussar, of 28 guns. Now, the Sybille a few days be-fore in a drawn fight with one of the ships of the English fleet to which the Hussar belongs, sustained such injur-ies that she has subsequently been dis-masted in a puff of wind and is under jury masts. As she is therefore un-able to chase the Hussar, she seeks to entice her alongside, in order to take her by boarding, and accordingly she hoists to the peak the French ensign under the English, as if admitting that

Threw Gold

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she is captured. All this is legitimate, she is captured. All this is legitimate, whether the Hussar takes the bait or no. But the French captain goes too far. He holists in the main shrouds an ensign reversed and tied in a weft or loop. Now, this being a well known minuty-five per cent, of those taken mon humanity which no generous offi-came cheaper and sturgeon became came cheaper and sturgeon became dearer. From a fraction of a cent a once closes. Fortunately, however, pound the isl advanced to twen-ty-two cents a pound. Even at the bille, hauling down the English flag price the Grent Lakes failed to pro-at the peak and holisting the French above, endeavors to run her on board. The streeme rolling natural to a ship not steadied by sufficient sail exposes from the Hussar go through her very big. By this time another English strikes her flag—the reversed ensign is dressed and smoked it looks exact-with its weft, so dishonorably holsted, remaining in the shrouds. So much for the signal of distress whether the Hussar takes the bait or

So much for the signal of distress theory

used at funerals in England, especially before the middle of the seventeenth century, not reversed or tied in a weft, but floating in their normal posi-This practice was discontinued little by little, though no doubt some trace of its influence is still seen in the universal display of military flags on occasions of national bereavement. --New York Herald.

to Lott

Lotta, the ex-actress, in private life incown as Miss Charlotte Crabtree, is a most charming and dignified woman of petite figure and middle age. She has lived in retirement for nearly twenty ycars. She left the stage at the height of her popularity for rea-sons that have never been definitely stated. stated.

stated. Her singular influence over rough men was exemplified when she was about 17. In charge of her mother, she was making a tour of the Nevada mining campa. She landed at Ham-ilton, one of the roughest camps in the territory. An expectant crowd of particularly rough miners was at the tayern to meet her when the stage drove up.

rove up. When there alighted from the stage When there alighted from the stage a spare, elderly lady, who was Mrs. Crabtree, and a little girl in short frocks, who was Miss Crabtree, the disappointment wasloudly and vocifer-ously expressed. However, any show was better than none, and that even-ing the miners fairly packed the place where the show was to take place. where the show was to take place. Two billiard tables had been pushed Two binnard tables had been pushed together to make a stage, a curtain being dropped between for the pur-poses of retirement. At the hour set for the opening there stepped from be-hind this curtain on to the front bil-hind this curtain on to the front billiard table a demure little creature with skirts reaching to the knees and carrying a banjo slung negligently over her shoulders. The audience was very cold. In the

The audience was very cold. In less than haif an hour, however, Lotta had every mother's son of them in a state of high-wrought enthusiasm. She sang to them, danced for them, and told them funny stories with tireless energy, and they encored her again and again. Finally one man in the au-dience, carried entirely sway by en-thusiasm, came down to the front with a whoop, and, throwing some-thing on the stage cried out:

Ensigns

We know that flags were commonly

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"There, you can have my pile." The example was contagious. In less than a minute every man in the place was scrambling eagerly forward to divest himself of riches in order to lay them at Lotta's feet. The result of that night's work was the most profitable in the history of Miss Lotta's career on the stage, either in Nevada or anywhere else.— Philadelphia Saturday Evening Post.

Fancy May Adora Naked Facts. Most marvellous and enviable is that fecundity of fancy which can adora whatever it touches, which can invest naked fact and dry reasoning with unlooked-for beauty, makes flow-erets bloom even on the brow of the precipice, and, when nothing better can be had, can turn the very sub-stance of the rock itself into moss and lichens. This faculty is incomparably the most important for the vivid and attractive exhibition of truth to the minds of men.—A. Fuller.

Taxed Back Home. Expatriated Americans in large numbers, according to a New York newspaper, are returning with re-kindled and renewed love to their na-tive country, because of the recent de-cision of the English courts, which cision of the English courts, which shows that a domicile in Great Britain is sufficient to subject the dweller to heavier taxes than would be the case on this side.

God's work will not end in His glory unless it is begun in His grace. God can always grant us our desires when He has chauged our hearts.

Antiseptic preparations may easily be forced into wood by causing them to follow the lines taken by its sap; otherwise, it is exceedingly difficult to tully impregnate the wood with them.

# LAKE STURGEON DYING OUT.

ecles is Almost Extinct and Caviar 1 Scarce. Species is Almost Extinct and Caviar is Scarce. The sturgeon family of fish is prac-tically extinct so far as the lakes of North America are concerned, and makers of caviar are wondering what will fill their cans in the future. With the passing away of the sturgeon comes the announcement that none-but "cultivated" lobsters now exist. When fish merchants took stock with the closing of the season for the Great Lakes they discovered that one of the former substitutes for whitefish and trout during the months of No vember, when none of these varieties of the finny tribe is allowed to be taken from the lakes, was missing. There is no fresh sturgeon to be had. The public is already provided with a substitute for smoked sturgeon in the meant of the Missispipi River.eat-fish. True, the flesh of the catish is about as tenacious as rubber hose, but it looks good. Then many persons prefer the smoked hallbut of the Pa-cifie Ocean. The history of the discovery, in-

The history of the discovery, in-troduction into the market and ex-

The history of the discovery, in-troduction into the market and ex-tinction of sturgeon in American lakes dates back twenty-five years. Then the sturgeon was first placed on the market, though few persons ate them. The flesh was not considered very dainty. The big fish could be taken from Lake Erie by the wagon load and sold at a low price. In fact, the price was so low that few persons engaged in catching the fish. Then some one discovered that the fish was more sailable when smoked. Thousands of the fish were smoked and palmed off on the credu-lous public as smoked halibut, which was quite expensive. The increase is supply of halibut cut off the price of sturgeon to such an extent that the fishermen who had been dealing in sturgeon, were threatened with bank-ruptey.

ruptcy. It was about this time that caviar It was about this time that caviar became very popular with Americans. Caviar is made from the roe, or eggs, of sturgeon, but it had been supposed until some difteen years ago that the roe of the sturgeon from Russian sens was the only kind for cavier. Some one discovered that the roe of American sturgeon made quite as good caviar as did the Russian fish. Ther was the headpoing of the acid of

Chronicle,

### A Milk Dealer's Lament.

A Milk Dealer's Lament. The milk dealer, who also sells meat and other necessaries of life, sighed as customer went out indignant because the dealer insisted upon his having a receptacle for his intended purchase of milk. "They come here," said the dealer, "and expect me to furnish them with milk, bottles and all. But I've gotten tired of that sort of game. Those bot-des cost us quite a sum, and in nine cases out of ten where we let them go out we never see them again, notwith-standing the promises of customers to return them. Then, of course, we have to buy more bottles. I was 'easy money' so long that the milk depart-ment of the store was cutting into the profits. "What do they do with the bottles? Why, they use them to put up catsup and fruit, I got after one woman that had been working me for bottles for some time and a search warrant showed thirty-five of my bottles on her preserves' shelves.''—Detroit Free Press.

Sunnite and Shilte Hair Grow

The Mahometan religion is divided into two principal sects, the Sunnites and the Shiites. The members of these sects can be readily discriminated by the fashion in which the hair grow on their arms, for while on those of the Sunnites the growth turns down-ward from shoulder to wrist on the interior side and upward from wrist to interior side and upward from wrist to shoulder posteriorly, the hair on the Shilte arms presents the contrary ap-pearance on both sides of the arms. This singular divergence is produced by the manner of washing their arms as prescribed by the tenets of the sects respectively, for while Sunnites hold it orthodox to stroke their arms, after hold washing them, from shoulder to wrist on front and from wrist to shoulder or the back, the Shiites abhor this prac tice and stroke their arms in the oppo-site ways, and hence the two directions in which the hair is seen to grow or the arms of the two sects.-The Lan

cet.

Recently in passing through pos-sibly the prettiest village in the Cots-wolds, I saw an excellent idea that might with advantage be introduced in London and elsewhere. Within the knocker on the front door—which, in which are a standard which which which which which which will be a level with the face of the visitor a level with the face of the visitor spaying a call of either congratulation or condolence. how advantageous must it be to put the vight expression on his counte-nance-either festive or doleful-be-fore he knocks at the door.-London Graphic.

## PEARLS OF THOUGHT. All sunshine makes the desert -

Arab proverb. To be suspicious is to invite treach-ry.—Voltaire.

Mercy turns her back on the unmer ciful.-Quarles.

Early and provident fear is the nother of safety.—Burke. The heart of the giver makes the gint dear and precious .- Luther.

There is not a single moment in life that we can afford to lose-Goul-

Experience takes dreadfully is school wages, but he teaches like other.—Carlyle. The men who are always fortunate cannot easily have a great reverence

for virtue.-Cicero. Most people judge others by the company they keep or by their for-tune.—Rouchefoucauld. Dost thou love life? Then do not

squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.—Franklin.

To love truth for truth's sake is the principal part of human perfection and the seed-plot of all other virtues.— John Locke. If you will be sure that the longing

you feel for something better is not to end in disgrace when your call comes, you must now be gathering the ideas and aptitudes that will insure the place; keep your whole life open and ready.—Robert Collyer.

CHINA'S CREDIT.

Citizens of the Empire Leath to Lagd to the Government. The Shen Pao laments the fact that the Chinese people are not as ready as people in the west to lend money to the government. In China the rulers look upon the empire as a family to be administered for their private advantage. In western lands the people are the kingdom and the rulers at according to that principle. To rexample, if a wealthy land owner where to borrow money and applies to his children and servants chey are all willing to help him according to their ability, for they know the land owner has property enough to make repayment sure. Now the emperor is the father and mother of his people. Why cannot ne, on the same principles, borrow money from his own geople? It must be because they do not trust him.
All foreign countries have national debts, which they owe to their own people? It must be because they do not trust him.
All foreign countries have national debts, which they owe to their own people chiefly and only to other countries in a small degree. The governments have no difficulty in floating loans, which are at once covered by their own people, who have such confidence in their governments that they will get their interest as long as the kingdom and. For they know they will get their interest as long as the kingdom lasts.
How different it is in China. The people will not lend their money to thes attact, and no promises will move them. The curious thing is that the bigger the national debt of these for eign countries the once prosperous is the country. Thus, Japan is an instance in point. This is because they money was borrowed for the beadet of the people, that railways, etc., might be built. Inasmuch as much money has been loaned to Japan by other states these are unwilling to injure her by going to war with her. Now, Turky sing to war with her. Now, Turky is not be to built public works, which would bring in vast profits. If China borrows for right uses a national debt in otheres to builtwo the sea and and bellow

A Weak Proposition. A wrinkled Italian jerked a monkey from his hind legs from the sidewalk to the top of his hand organ with a

to the top of his hand organ with a scowl. "Coma backa," he called. The monkey rapidly removed and re-placed a jaunty cap with a feather thereon and blinked his beady eyes with rapidity. "Twenty centa to see tha monka clima de tree," said the Italian to the assembled children. "Clima way high." Straightway the little ones began gathering in the money from parent and companion. Finally the sum was turned over to the wandering organist. "Jacka getta de tree, vit!" He point-d to a tall limb and shook the cord. Jacko obeyed, scrambling up the tree

ed to a tall limb and shock the cord. Jacko obeyed, scrambling up the tree trunk with meekness and dispatch. The Italian counted the coins he had received and dropped them into his pocket. "Jacka the monka great animal; he educate." He ground a discordant lay, whole passages of which were either flat or missing The children were watching the monkey when the Italian again ad-dressed them. He pointed an unclean

monkey when dressed them. dressed them. He pointed an unclean finger up at the animal and said: "Ten enta to see monka con ie down.' didn't get it .-- Albany Journal.

Fishes Choke a River. A report from Watervliet, Mich., says that thousands of perch have been driven up the Pawpaw river, which empuies from Pawpaw lake, by the recent storms, until the millrace at Watervliet, han a mile up the stream is a mass of dead fish. The fish wer were is a mass of dead hsn. The fish were so closely packed together on the sur-face of the water that it was impossi-ble for a rowboat to pass. Men are upping up the fish in buckets and using them for fertilizer.—Chicago Tribune.

HAWAIIANS CHEER FLAG.

Oddly Mixed School Children Greet Starry Banner With Song.

Starry Banner Win Song. Seldom has Honolulu seen such a patriotic demonstration as that which took place at the Kaahumanu school where the Stars and Stripes were rais-ed aloft to the peak of the new flag-staft by grizzled and war-worn mem-bers of the Grand Army to the inspir-ing notes from the bugles of artillery-men from the United States garrison at Camp McKinley. Five hundred and sixty pupils were grouped at the foot of the pole, and as the emblem slowly rose 650 small flags were wav-ed enthusiastically and from the throats of children arose the swelling refrain of "America, My Country, Tis of Thee." It was a strange, hetrogen-eous gathering of boys and girls. File fatter file of young Hawalians marched in the shadow of Old Glory, and inter-mingled with them were scores upon scores of Chinese and Japanese, Port-uguese and South Sea Islanders, with here and there a small sprinkling of Anglo-Saxon faces. Despite the mix-ture of nationalities which were gath-ered to do honor to the flag, all seem-ed intent upon the spirit of the oc-casion and indicated their patriotism ta many youthul ways. Seldom has Honolulu seen such

Among 1.328 students at the Swiss universities last semester there were 717 foreigners, and of these 490 were All goods are alike to PUTNAN FADELESS DYRS, as they color all fibers at one boiling Sold by all druggists. The average annual amount of coal nined in England from IS51 to 1900 is 130,-00,000 tons.

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South Australia is importing \$700, 000 a year in value of fertilizer. In this trade the United States has no share.



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