

THE TEACHERS' WORLD.

All teachers and friends of education are cordially invited to contribute whatever may be helpful or suggestive to others in this line of work.

THE CALENDAR.

Among the ancient Romans the first day of each month was called the calends, from "calo" to call, because at that time the priests proclaimed in the presence of the people the festivals and other important days of the month then begun.

The next few days were reckoned back from the "nones," which were the 7th of March, May, July, and October, and the 3rd of the other months.

The Greeks reckoned their time by the Olympic games, those great festivals when prizes were given to contestants in athletic exercises, and also in literature.

There were 12 months in the Greek year, but a month was now and then added in different years "to keep up." The Roman pontiffs decided the length of the Roman year, and at last the seasons failed to correspond to their names and character.

After Christianity had become established many writers dated from different events in the history of the Saviour. The present method of computing from the birth of Christ was introduced about the middle of the sixth century by a Roman ecclesiastic named Dionysius Exiguus.

In England the Saxons named the months in their own tongue, from some natural characteristics. Thus, they called January "wolf-month," as the wild animals, unable to find their usual prey, prowled round human dwellings.

These names were superseded by those now in use, of Roman origin. Their derivation will be explained at some other time.

Sheridan's "Rhyming Calendar," expresses the characteristics of the months as follows:

January, snowy; February, flowy; March, blowy; April, showery; May, flowery; June, bowery; July, mopy; August, cropy; September, poppy; October, breezy; November, wheezy; December, sneezy.

The Quakers have always objected to using the Roman names of the months and the Saxon names of the days, as being "of heathen origin," therefore they call days and months by their number, thus:—1st—2nd—3rd—4th.

During the upheaval of the French revolution, in 1793, the national convention introduced a new Calendar giving names to the months descriptive of their character. They began at the autumnal equinox; Autumn from September 22 to December 23, comprising vintage month, foggy month, sleaz month.

The great Napoleon, however soon put an end to such nonsense, and

1805 the nation returned to the use of the Gregorian Calendar.

A few studies fairly within the comprehension of pupils of high school age, pursued longer and more thoroughly than is common, will turn students out who know more, (in the true sense of this phrase), and will give them a better bent of mind, either for business or for pursuing a collegiate course, than is done by scattering their energies over a large number of branches.

"The world owes me a living." The world owes no man a living. It owes you a chance, nothing more. You owe the world your best efforts.

GROUPS OF BEASTS AND BIRDS. A covey of partridges. A nid of pheasants. A wisp of snipe. A bevy of quails. A flight of doves or swallows. A muster of peacocks. A siege of herons. A building of rooks. A brood of grouse. A plump of wild fowl. A sting of plover. A watch of nightingales. A clattering of choughs. A flock of geese. A cast of hawks. A trip of dotterel. A herd of swine. A skulk of foxes. A pack of wolves. A drove of oxen. A sounder of hogs, (wild.) A troop of monkeys. A slouch of bears. A shoal of herrings. A swarm of bees.

KEY WORDS TO ADMINISTRATIONS.

July 28, 1868.—Fourteenth amendment. Ocean cable laid 1866. Hostilities between President and Congress. National treaty with China. Seceded States admitted. October 1867—purchase of Alaska. Nebraska admitted. Union Pacific R. R. opened. Sioux war. Great fires—Chicago, Boston. Right of suffrage given to emancipated slaves. Amnesty proclamation—1872. National centennial—1876. Treaty of Washington.

Hayes' southern policy. Award of 5,000,000 to Great Britain on fishery question. Yellow fever epidemic. Evangelists Moody and Sankey. Silver bill; strikes; specie payment resumed.

Great storms and floods. Assassination of President. Reform in civil service. Fearful result of Guitaue's shot. Investigation of Star Routes. Epitaph on Garfield by Blaine, Feb. 1882. Leaders of President's party oppose him. Duties of President fall to Arthur.

GAIN AND LOSS.

Here is a convenient way to give examples for either mental or written work. The teacher uses two columns, and two are left for the pupils. Of course either the "gain" or the "loss" column must be vacant.

Table with 5 columns: PAID, REC'D, GAIN, LOSS, RATE. Row 1: 30, 45, 15, 0, 15. Row 2: 70, 44, 26, 4, 19 1/2. Row 3: 80, 90, 10, 0, 12 1/2. Row 4: 140, 90, 50, 0, 35. Row 5: 8, 9.50, 1.50, 0, 18.75. Row 6: 517.50, 5.50, 523.00, 0, 124.375. Row 7: 394.40, 14.40, 408.80, 0, 104.70. Row 8: 80, 69.70, 102.70, 0, 25.675.

HISTORICAL CONUNDRUMS.

Oh, fickle their fortune to ruler that cling. He died for the failure to give up a ring. He went to the heart of a continent black. Was found by a friend there and would not come back. He was slain by one of a royal line. Whose king was beaten over a shrine. Best hated, best loved, false, beautiful, skilled. Driven out of her land, by a sister queen killed. He planted the acorn from which sprung the tree. That bore the fruit that now you see. He dug a ditch between two seas. Where largest ships could sail with ease. His pathway through the desert led. From salt sea-bed to mountain-bed. A coward, a prattler, an obstinate fool. A pedant, a king, an obedient tool. He was from historical records appears,

The greatest of men who lived in his years. A dreamer, a prophet, a king, save in name. Distrusted, then trusted and soon won great fame. Condemned by nativity, saved by disguise. Frees his people, and then in obscurity dies. A musical writer quite "length" by name. Who wrote of a woman ne'er known to complain.

OUTLINE FOR A COMPOSITION.

A SNOW STORM. 1.—How can the approach of a snow storm be foretold? (a) How grandfather and grandmother tell it. They feel it in their bones and know it by other signs. (b) How anybody can tell it. By the air, the direction of the wind, the clouds, etc. (c) Tell how the weather man tells it. 2.—The beginning of it. Everybody rejoices—especially the young. The children rush out of the house. The cattle and the poultry seek shelter. The farmer welcomes the spreading of the white blanket over his fields. 3.—It has become deep. Describe the appearance of trees, fences and buildings. 4.—It is drifting. Snow must be shoveled. Describe the work in the country and in town. Travel is impeded. Tell how railroads are opened. 5. The snow is over and the fun begins. Coasting, sleighing, snow balling, tracking rabbits, etc.

WHAT CHILDREN READ.

Superintendent Florin, of Dunn county, Wis., made a careful investigation of what the school children were reading. Here are the reports of eight children:

A girl seventeen years old: "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Little Men," "Little Women," "The Great Expectation," "David Copperfield," and "Caesar's Column."

A boy of sixteen years: "Chuck Paruly," "Little Lord Fauntleroy," "His Own Master," "Ivanhoe," "Boys of '76," "Vision of Sir Launfal."

A girl of seventeen years: "Black Beauty," "Robinson Crusoe," "Little Lord Fauntleroy," "American Girls Abroad," "Stories of American History."

A girl of sixteen: "Last Days of Pompeii," "Little Lord Fauntleroy," "In Honor Bound," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Ivanhoe."

A girl fifteen years old: "The Broken Wedding Ring," "The Woman in Black," "For Woman's Love," and "Dora Thorne."

A girl of fifteen years: "Jesse James," "Woman Against Woman," "Sunshine and Roses," "The Broken Wedding Ring," "Dora Thorne."

A boy of seventeen: "Jesse James," "Brave Old Salt," "Life on Quarter Deck."

A girl of fifteen: "The Deerslayer," "Last of the Mohicans," "The Prairie," "Hoosier Schoolmaster," "Poems of Lowell and Longfellow," "Samantha Among the Brethren," "Four Hundred Years of American History."

FOR THE LITTLE ONES.

When the sun was tired and went behind a cloud. All the rain drops gathered in a crowd. Whispering together, "He will never know— Let us take a holiday. Let us fall below." When the sun was rested and wandered out around. All the little rain drops had fallen to the ground. "Well," he said, "I'm sorry, but I'll try to smile. That will bring them back again in a little while." —Selected.

Seven People Burned to Death.

JERSEY CITY, Feb. 1.—Seven lives were lost by fire in Hoboken, a suburb of this city. There were two fires, one beginning before the other was extinguished. At the first one, which was at 410 Newark street, a woman and her five children were suffocated while her husband was playing cards in a public house near by. The dead by this fire are Nellie Schraeder, 25 years old, wife of Christopher Schraeder, and their children, Henry Schraeder, 11 years old; Katie Schraeder, 9; Maggie Schraeder, 7; John Schraeder, 3; Willie Schraeder, 3 months old. The other fire was in the three flat houses 125, 127 and 129 Fourteenth street, which is in the other end of Hoboken, from the scene of the first fire. The death by the second fire was Mabel Mangels, 5 years old, daughter of Henry C. Mangels.

Death of President Roberts.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 21, George B. Roberts, president of the Pennsylvania railroad, who died at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon at his home in Bala, a suburb of this city, from heart failure, which was superinduced by acute indigestion, aged 63 years, was first taken ill in August last, but there have been periods since that time during which he has been able to be about the house. He was forced to take to his bed about two months ago with colic of the stomach and grew steadily worse until the time of his death. During the past two weeks his condition had become practically hopeless, the attending physician giving but little encouragement to his family. He died surrounded by the members of his family and was conscious until the last.

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DOINGS OF CONGRESS.

Arbitration and Immigration in Senate.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—The feature of the senate session was a very spirited debate on the conference report on the immigration bill. Mr. Gibson of Maryland opposed the report, and Mr. Lodge defended it. After a two hours' struggle the report went over, and the Nicaragua canal bill was taken up. Mr. Vilas continuing his remarks. Mr. Teller of Colorado also entered the debate in opposition to the measure.

Mr. Chandler introduced a resolution stating that the government should steadily direct its efforts to secure and maintain the use of silver as well as gold as standard money, with free coinage of each under international agreement.

The session in the house was very dull, the whole day being devoted to debate on appropriation bills. The diplomatic and consular bill was passed, and considerable progress was made with the District of Columbia bill. The bill as passed carries \$1,673,708.

Resolutions arranging for the formal canvassing of the electoral vote of the last presidential election on Wednesday, Feb. 10, were adopted.

The Week's Business.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—In the senate yesterday the military academy appropriation bill was passed after the defeat of a clause providing for the expenses of taking West Point cadets to Washington to participate in the inauguration parade. The Nicaragua canal bill was again discussed. Mr. Sherman suggested the negotiation of a new treaty with Nicaragua under which the United States should build and control the proposed waterway.

The house session was occupied with the immigration bill, which was passed after debate by a vote of 181 to 117.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—In the senate yesterday the international monetary conference bill and the Nicaragua canal bill were discussed, but no action was taken on either measure.

The president's nomination of William S. Foran to be commissioner of internal revenue was confirmed.

In the house the Indian appropriation bill was passed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—In the senate yesterday the Wolcott bill providing for the appointment of commissioners to an international monetary conference was passed by a vote of 46 to 4.

In the house the conference report on the Atlantic and Pacific railroad was rejected by a vote of 71 to 141, and the conference instructed the committee to make amendments to the senate bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—In the senate yesterday the Nicaragua canal bill was further considered, and Mr. Vilas spoke in his motion to reconvene. Objections were made to fixing a time for a final vote on the bill.

The house passed a number of minor bills and considered the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill without taking action.

Get \$1 Damages.

TRENTON, Feb. 2.—The Mercer county court rendered a verdict of \$1 in a damage suit for \$10,000 brought by William S. Rauch of Trenton against Peter Kapsbach, proprietor of the Trenton House. The plaintiff alleged that, in company with his wife and some friends, he was denied service in the hotel. The defendant claimed that the party was disorderly and that Rauch was under the influence of liquor. This was denied.

Deputy Marshal Removed.

BUFFALO, Feb. 3.—It is definitely understood that John V. Kane, a deputy marshal, has been removed from office by United States Marshal Peck, who charges Kane with willful negligence in allowing Anton Ecker, the Hamburg counterfeiter, to escape from him while being taken from this city to Albany for trial.

Alleged Forger Indicted.

CHICAGO, Feb. 3.—The grand jury has returned indictments against George M. Colby for the alleged forging of the signature of E. Miall, commissioner of inland revenue, Canada, and for uttering counterfeit trademarks and labels of a Canadian firm.

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M'KINLEY'S CABINET.

ALL BUT THREE OF THE POSITIONS ARE NOW FILLED.

Sherman Will Be Premier—Gage to Look After Finance—Alger and Long for War and Navy Portfolios—Wilson to Be Secretary of Agriculture.

CANTON, O., Feb. 2.—The work of constructing President McKinley's cabinet is now nearly completed, only three positions yet remaining to be filled, those of attorney general, postmaster general and secretary of the interior. Those who have thus far been tendered and accepted cabinet portfolios are: Secretary of State—John Sherman of Ohio.

Secretary of War—Russell A. Alger of Michigan. Secretary of the Navy—John D. Long of Massachusetts. Secretary of the Treasury—Lyman J. Gage of Illinois. Secretary of Agriculture—James Wilson of Iowa.



General Alger's Career. General Russell A. Alger was born in Lafayette township, Medina county, O., Feb. 27, 1836. His grandfather served in the Revolutionary war and is said to have been a descendant of William the Conqueror. When 11 years of age, both his parents died. For the next seven years he worked on a farm, earning money to defray his expenses at the Hillsfield (O.) academy during the winters. Subsequently he taught school and in March, 1857, entered a law office in Akron. Two years later he was admitted to the bar.

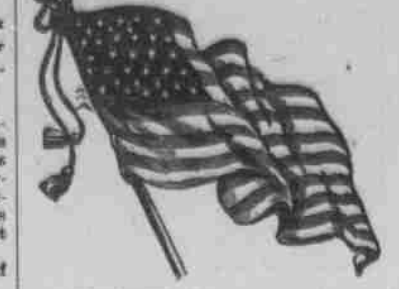
He was elected governor of Michigan in 1884, receiving a plurality of 3,060 votes over Boggs, his opponent. In 1888 he was one of the leading candidates for the nomination by the Republican convention for the presidency. Great acrimony was engendered between the Alger workers and those working for Senator Sherman.



John D. Long was born in Buckfield, Me., Oct. 27, 1838. He was graduated at Harvard in 1857, taught till 1859, studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1861, practiced in Buckfield and settled in Boston in 1862. In 1863 he removed to Hingham, but retained his office in Boston. He was a member of the Massachusetts house of

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