

THE DAILY DEMOCRAT
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THE LATEST BOOK

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J. H. HELLER, Manager.

The Democrat wishes all its readers and everybody else a happy and prosperous New Year.

Democratic banquets are frequent here of late. The one last night at the handsome Delaware hotel in Munroe, and given by the Democrats of Delaware county, was great in many ways. Many speeches were made and a general good time had.

Representative Thurman Gottschalk will leave Tuesday for Indianapolis, where he will remain until after the session of the legislature adjourns. He goes without any strings of any sort and will represent the sentiment of the people without a doubt.

It is safe to wager that the relief given the sufferers in the appalling earthquake disaster by the Decatur members of St. Marys church will not be exceeded by any other like membership. Rev. Wilkins and his congregation are patriotic always, and what is more they give with a free hand to any worthy cause.

Invitations have been received in this city to a reception to Governor and Mrs. Thomas R. Marshall, the same to be given them by the citizens of Indianapolis on the evening following his inauguration Monday, January 11. The reception will take place at the Propyleum and will be quite an enjoyable event and attended by many people from Indianapolis and over the state.

J. B. Merriman, representative-elect from Wells county, announces that he will not introduce any new bills but will content himself with objecting to the passage of useless and harmful measures. Mr. Merriman probably will not be an aggressive figure in the legislature, but if he carries out his intention he will be a most useful one. A man with his ideas is badly needed sometimes.—Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette.

A Coin Trick.
Rub a coin against a smooth, upright surface for a little while, then press it hard and take your hand away from it. You will be surprised perhaps to see this coin stick to the wood. The reason is in rubbing the coin over the wood and then pressing it hard, you drive out all the air between the two objects, and the pressure of the atmosphere keeps the coin in its place.

Just Suited Her.
"Please, ma'am, I haven't a friend or a relative in the world," said the tramp.

"Well, I'm glad there's no one to worry over you in case you get hurt. Here, Tiger!" said the housekeeper.

NEW YEAR USHERED IN

(Continued from Page One)
officers, especially to the president, Mrs. J. N. Fristoe, who has made an excellent officer for the past eight years. Mrs. Spetnagle, assisted by Mrs. W. Lee, served sherbet, cake, coffee and candy. Every one enjoyed a pleasant time.

THE BIG BENEFIT SHOW.

To Be Given by Firemen Will Be Great Affair.

Preliminary arrangements for the firemen's benefit show to be given in the near future are being rapidly completed and it is their intention to give to their friends an entirely new novel and up to date local talent show. The play will be one of the new western plays now the rage in the cities and will be embellished by a big double chorus of ladies and gentlemen in a catchy and tuneful musical program comprising the latest song hits and beautiful and fanciful chorus groupings and formations with elaborate costuming and scenic effects. The chorus will contain the best musical talent in the city and the cast will be made up of old time favorites. The proceeds of the show will be for the purposes of securing better equipment for the local department, and they hope to make it a financial success and they request the hearty co-operation of the public which they will no doubt receive as their efforts to give the city better service is certainly a laudable one and deserves the hearty commendation of all our citizens.

PUBLIC RIDICULE.

The Time When It Served as Punishment For Lawbreakers.

It is the problem of all ages to make the punishment fit the crime, but they seem to have come nearer its solution in Plantagenet times than they ever were after the introduction of flogging.

When burglary meant the total ruin of the man who kept his whole fortune in his house the burglar was hanged. But in the same period public ridicule served as a punishment for most crimes, and the man who sold bad meat was placed in the pillory and his bad meat burned to windward of him; the vintner who sold bad wine was forced to drink some of it and the rest was poured over his head; for more serious offenses the criminal had to walk along Cheapside bareheaded, dressed only in a shirt and carrying a wax taper, escorted by the mayor's sergeants.

The result was that law and order were maintained far better than when men became brutalized by the horrible floggings of Georgian times.

Punishments became worse with religious persecutions, and after the reformation the pillory, with its terrible accompaniment of slit ears, whippings, etc., became popular, to say nothing of torturing, burning at the stake, and so on. At St. Thomas' hospital one of the sisters, "for a grave offence, contrary to the laws of God and according to the proofs of three witnesses," was ordered to "be punished and have all stripes well laid on."

But all this, bad as it was, was less demoralizing than the terrible criminal code of George II's reign, when there were forty-eight times punishable by death and forty punishable by whipping, transportation or pillory. Flogging for mere vagrancy began with Henry VIII, and as late as 1804 six women were publicly whipped at Gloucester for this unavoidable offence. And never did public morality sink so low.

In these good old days we flogged our sailors "to encourage the others," and there were many trussed at the triangles who would now be simply admonished.

A pleasant form of punishment was "flogging through the fleet." It was given to the ignorant sailor who struck a superior officer.

And when he had been carried from one ship to another and flogged in each he survived—if he was unfortunate—for six months. The lucky man died accidentally.—London Chronicle.

A Ghost Story.

Floors castle, home of the Duke of Roxburgh, was the scene of a curious physical mystery over a century ago. Sir Walter Scott relates the incident. John, third duke of Roxburgh, who died in 1804, the celebrated book collector, when arranging his library employed neither a secretary nor a librarian, but a footman called Archie, who knew every book as a shepherd does each sheep of his flock. There was a bell hung in the duke's room at Floors which was used on no occasion except to call Archie to his study. The duke died in St. James' square at a time when Archie was himself sinking under a mortal complaint. On the day of the funeral the library bell suddenly rang violently. The dying Archie sat up in bed and faltered, "Yes, my lord duke, yes, I will wait on your grace instantly." And with these words on his lips he fell back in bed and died.—St. James' Gazette.

The Broken Bottle Symbol.

The breaking of a bottle over the bow of a vessel at launching seems to be taken by many people as having a convivial, a sort of here's-looking-at-you significance, but nothing of the kind is meant; neither has it any association with Christian baptism, for the name of a man-of-war is given months before the launching. The real thing typified is sacrifice. Building a town or setting a ship afloat was a solemn matter away back in the dim past, and such an act was not to be undertaken without devoting a life to propitiate the gods. Our refined and human civilization no longer dares to offer up a prisoner or slave on such occasions, and therefore a bottle is broken to symbolize the taking of a man's life.—United Service Gazette.

ARE NO PRISONERS

(Continued from page 1.)

Moltke, of Denmark; C. C. Arosemena, of Panama; Senor Joubert, of the Dominican Republic; and L. A. Corrias, of Greece, all new ministers members of the corps, were given especially cordial greeting by the president and their colleagues.

Following the glittering diplomatic procession came the chief justice the associate justices of the supreme court, other members of the judiciary, former members of the cabinet, U. S. ambassadors and ministers, senators and representatives.

Next, although the holiday season left but few in the city, another pleasing splotch came immediately after—officers of the army and navy and other military organizations wearing the regulation special full dress. At 12:15 the procession

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NEW YEAR AT



One of the finest shows ever

come to the city. Don't forget

TONIGHT

Buffalo Bills' Wild West

A Farmers' Trouble in a Hotel

—

THE GERM

CHURCH

—

MYSTERIOUS KNIGHT

SICILIAN HERMIT

Music.

—

"O'Brian Has No Place to Go"

—

"Everybody goes to the

Grand"

—

THE GIRL WITH THE AUBURN

HAIR.

—

CHUR

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PARISIAN SAGE

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