

# The Democratic Sentinel.

A FIRM AD ENCE TO CORRECT PRINCIPLES."

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## A HORRIBLE PUNISHMENT.

A Chilean Criminal Shot and Tied in a Bag with Rats and Snakes.

The terrible punishments inflicted on criminals in Chili are now fortunately done away with. How terrible these penalties were the following story, told by a correspondent from Concepcion, will show: Less than forty years ago a beautiful girl, whose parents were among the wealthiest citizens of Concepcion, married the son of another equally prominent family, and the pair settled down to housekeeping with flattering prospects of future happiness. For several months their course of love ran smoothly enough, and the dear ones looked forward with pleasure to the young wife—whether on reasonable grounds or not I do not know. Among these passionate, high-strung, irresponsible people the "green-eyed monster" plays a more desperate part than cold-blooded Northerners can well understand, and the prisons are filled with his victims. The señora in question, mad with jealous rage, crept out of bed one night, heated a kettle of lard to the boiling point and deliberately poured it over the head of her sleeping husband. Of course he died, after a few hours of torture; and so did she, in a no less shocking manner. Though her father offered the whole of his wealth to save her life, and the mother begged the Government to inflict some punishment, the poor delirious girl was dragged to "the hill of death" or place of public executions and shot; and then her yet warm body was tied up in a sack, together with living rats and snakes, and sunk in the middle of the river.

## A Sensible Mexican Law.

We are apt to look upon Mexico as a poorly governed country, or, at any rate, as very far behind us in this respect. But in one of its provinces a law has been established which is certainly worthy the attention of our legislators. The Legislature of Sinaloa has reversed the order of things in the matter of assessments, and, instead of increasing a man's taxes in proportion to his improvements, it gives relief where the improvements are of value to the general public. Any one laying out a plantation with at least 500 rubber trees is to receive \$1,000; and the benefit is not to stop there, for the increased value of the land, owing to the improvements, is to be ignored by the assessors, under heavy penalties. This is a decided improvement, and seems a great improvement on our plan of making the whole burden of taxation fall on those who spend money on improvements in which the neighbors participate, and reducing the taxes of those who keep property idle and of little use to a minimum.

## Cities Are Healthy.

The doctors occasionally make some pretty wild statements. An authority on the health of cities, for instance, says that if all the human race lived in cities like London, Paris or New York, mankind would become extinct in less than two centuries. Such statements are the worst nonsense in the world, for as everybody knows the strongest, most athletic specimens of humanity are to be found in the cities, and during the civil war it was commonly remarked that the men of regiments recruited in large cities could stand more fatigue than those recruited in the country districts. City life may be more exhausting than country life, and the average length of life in the cities may be somewhat shorter, but everybody who has tried both knows perfectly well that city food is better prepared and more wholesome than that used in the country, while a regard for sanitation is daily making the condition of life in a large city more conducive to longevity.

## Fecundity of Fish.

It is said that probably about 60,000,000 or 70,000,000 codfish are taken from the sea annually around the shores of Newfoundland. But even that quantity seems small when we consider that the cod yields something like 3,500,000 eggs each season, and that even 8,000,000 have been found in the roe of a single cod. Other fish, though not equalling the cod, are also wonderfully productive. A herring, six or seven ounces in weight, is provided with about 30,000,000 eggs, after which a reasonable allowance for the destruction of many of the young it has been calculated that in three years a single pair of herrings would produce 154,000,000. Buffon said that if a pair of herrings were left to breed and multiply undisturbed for a period of twenty years they would yield a fish bulk equal to the globe on which we live. The cod far surpasses the herring in fecundity. Were it not that vast numbers of the eggs are destroyed fish would so multiply as to fill the waters completely.

## Marrried After Fifty Years.

An old man came to Jefferson, Ga., worn and bent, and began to make inquiries for some of the older families of the place. He said that he had left there in 1837, being then eighteen, and had never before returned. The cause of his departure was the preference shown by Jessie McCormick for a young neighbor, James Edward Toomer. He went into the new country of Ohio, married, raised a large family, and became one of the patriarchs of his section. Late his wife died, and a great desire came over him to see the people whom he had known in youth.

The old man was told that the girl whom he had loved was now Toomer's widow. He at once went to see her and the next day they were married.

## He Got What He Asked For.

An Englishman, thinking to have a joke at an Irishman's expense, walked into his (the Irishman's) shop one day, when he found Pat busily engaged behind the counter.

"Pat," said the Englishman, "I want a yard of meat."

Pat looked at him, and without making any remark walked over to a barrel which was concealed under the counter, and picking out three pig's feet, laid them on the counter.

"Hello, Pat," said the astonished Englishman, "what does this mean?"

"Och," says Pat, "didn't ye ask me for a yard of meat, and ain't there three feet in a yard any day?"

## One Foot Less.

A few days ago at Hennessy, O. T., a recent convert to Christian Science, who had been told that under sufficient faith he could pick up a rattlesnake harmlessly, made the test. The snake fastened its fangs in the man's arm and the wound proved fatal in a couple of hours, despite the prayers of his fellow believers. There is one fool less on earth.

## A BURGLAR'S ADVICE.

He Tells Women What to Do in Case of a Midnight Visitation.

"The best way for a woman to do if she wakes up and finds a man at work in her room," said a skilled burglar to a reporter, one day this week, "would be to keep very still and pretend she was still sleeping, or, if he knew that she had seen him, to obey his orders and sleep still. If he thought she had submitted he wouldn't watch her so hard, and it would give her time to think what to do. There's one thing, though, that would be bad for a woman. If a burglar left her room by the door she ought to listen to his footstep or smash the light o' her lantern, an' she don't want to get out o' bed or move until he is well out of hearing. A man who goes out that way will always stop when he has gone a few feet from the door where a woman is, and, if he hears her jump out of bed at once, he suspects what she's up to, and would then escape by the nearest window and be out of reach, or else he would go back an' make it dangerous for her. She wants to be cunnin'." Then she can catch him.

"A woman with a gun ain't much count. The best protection a woman in a house alone can have is a little, nasty whiffet of a dog—one o' them nasty busters that yell at everything and bark at everything with a will. I have seen him 500 times. He barks at everything. Then a baby! I'd rather meet a dozen men than run against a little baby. The kid always cries."

## Dentists at the Exposition.

The dentists of the world are going to hold a congress at Chicago during the World's Fair. They had one in the Paris Exposition, and it was a success, so that they decided to have another next year at which it is expected 3,000 American practitioners will be present, and 500 to 800 from foreign countries. No congress could be more appropriate for America's great celebration, for dentistry is a thoroughly characteristic product of American genius and skill.

Its sessions will be held in the splendid new Memorial Art Palace, on the shore of Lake Michigan, near the center of Chicago. This building will contain two large audience rooms, with a seating capacity of about 3,000 each. The official languages of the congress will be English, French, German and Spanish, and in the published transactions, which will probably make two large volumes, the papers will be printed in the language in which they are read.

## Rabbit's Foot Philosophy.

His size, weight, color of hair, eyes—even his intellect—No; but his heart, yes.

What would a man do without playthings?

Every day is a shadow across happiness.

## Bunny's Foot.

Blue skies look like out-doors. The rattle-snake is no rattle.

Listen to the winds; they are either fresh or salt; if you can but imagine it.

The universality of God's wisdom, like all other rules, has its exceptions.

Men degrade bread into poison when they pervert the natural uses of grains into liquor.

That is genius, but genius is often devoid of it.—Arkansaw Traveler.

## What to Try.

Try snuffing powdered borax up the nostrils for catarrh in the head.

Try taking your cod liver oil in to-mato catsup if you want to make it palatable.

Try a cloth, wrung out in cold water, put about the neck at night for a sore throat.

Try walking with your hands behind you if you find yourself becoming bent forward.

Try a saturated solution of bicarbonate of soda (baking soda) in diarrhoeal troubles; give freely.

Try a newspaper over your chest, beneath your coat, as a chest protector in extremely cold weather.—Health Monthly.

## Mining a Sunken Forest.

The sea is a sunken forest of white cedar on the coast of New Jersey which has been continuously "mined" for its valuable timber for more than eight years. The curious industry of digging these sunken logs is carried on by the people of Dennisville, a village which was brought into existence solely through the wealth of the buried timber in its vicinity. Over this sunken forest of large size are now growing, in many instances the growing timber is cut away in order to get at the "miserable logs" which lie only three or four feet beneath the surface. It is believed that these were sunk by an earth-quake.

A MAN spends his life in preparing himself for troubles, and forgets his preparations when trouble comes.

HOW EASY it is to plan out a path to pursue, and how hard it is to follow it when you start out on your journey.

If you have a single friend on earth, no matter how humble or insignificant he may be, strive to keep his confidence.

DON'T be too profuse in your thanks to the man who lets you have your own way. He may be doing it to cure you of a folly.

A MAN was never so rich or powerful that he had friends who would care for his children, if he should become suddenly poor.

## ABOUT LIBRARIES.

The Pomona (Cal.) public library has lost but one book in three years.

Of seven hundred boys and girls who drew books from the library of the College Settlement in Livingston street, New York, last year only two had American parents.

MRS. ISABEL POLAND RANKIN, daughter of the late Luke P. Poland, who gave to the town of Morristown, Vt., one thousand dollars toward a library which is being established there.

The records of the New Haven Public Library show that there were four thousand less books drawn last year than the year previous, the decrease being almost wholly in the field of fiction.

A SENSIBLE memorial will be that dedicated to Wilkie Collins. It will consist of a small library of choice fiction, to be presented to the "People's Palace" in London. Fifteen hundred dollars has already been raised for this purpose.

SOME one has been interviewing a country book-seller in England with an extended list, and learned from him that while the ladies are reading a more serious line of books, Arnold, Froude and Lang, the men are taking to novel-reading with a vengeance.

## French Funerals.

There are nine classes or grades of funerals, the most expensive of which costs, nominally, 8,000 francs, and the next a few francs less, and the seventh, which is usually chosen by the dead, costs about \$15. The hearse is decorated with cotton fringe, and there is no mourning carriage, though one can be had for 22 francs.

The religious service costs in addition \$4. Few persons avail themselves of the eighth and ninth grades, which cost almost nothing, preferring either the semi-gratuitous funeral or that entirely gratuitous, which present nearly all the same external signs of luxury, and to the public eye are quite as creditable.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Down in Florida last week two alligators engaged in a conflict on a river bank that lasted for nearly an hour.

## Assumes Every Hour.

One of the most striking of the arboreal growths of California is the madrona tree, the bark of which is as changeable as the colors of a kaleidoscope. Not like the redwood, which when having full growing room, attains a great size, but its bark is constantly changing in color, at times giving out all the hues of the rainbow. The young trees are most beautiful, and even the marred monarchs of time, by shedding their bark, assume all the beauty and splendor of the younger species.

## BEGONE, DULL CARE.

WHEN some men discharge an obligation you can hear the report for miles around.—Yonkers Gazette.

THE sharper understands other people pretty well, but he often has to give himself up.—Binghamton Republican.

"I GET your views," said the Sheriff as he proceeded to seize the photographic stock in trade.—Buffalo Enquirer.

A CARPENTER may be a first-class boarder and yet be very far from finding favor in the eyes of his landlady.—Lowell Mail.

WHOM the gods love die young. The rest become big preachers or organize into young men's political clubs.—Detroit Free Press.

THERE is compensation for "heat head" in the thought that swelling the internal revenue is a patriotic act.—Indianapolis Journal.

IN the United States is ever again compelled to let loose the dogs of war, but it can be sure of having on hand a fine pack of West Pointers.—Baltimore American.

WHY is it that a man will wait for one cent in change from a newsboy and then turn around and give a cafe waiter cents for handing him a toothpick?—Philadelphia Times.

A woman with a gun ain't much count. The best protection a woman in a house alone can have is a little, nasty whiffet of a dog—one o' them nasty busters that yell at everything and bark at everything with a will. I have seen him 500 times. He barks at everything. Then a baby! I'd rather meet a dozen men than run against a little baby. The kid always cries.

## WORDS OF THE WISE.

TEARS are sometimes equal in weight words.—Ovid.

THINGS ill acquired are as badly expended.—Plautus.

I PREFER silent prudence to loquacious folly.—Cicero.

HYPOCRISY is the homage which vice renders to virtue.—Boehme.

LABOR rids of three great evils—insomnias, vice and poverty.—Voltaire.

THE man who is most slow in promising is the most sure to keep his word.—Idem.

REVENGE is always the pleasure of little, weak, and narrow minds.—Juvenal.

HE avoids many inconveniences who does not appear to notice them.—Seneca.

WHERE pleasure is eagerly pursued, the greatest virtues will lose their power.

CONSOLATION, when improperly administered, does but irritate the affliction.—Rousseau.

AN evil at its birth is easily crushed, but it grows and strengthens by endurance.—Cicero.

A wise man thinks before he speaks, but a fool speaks and then thinks of what he has been saying.—French proverb.

AN evil sayer differs from an evil doer only in the want of opportunity; or the difference is but slight between a calumniator and an assassin.—Quintillian.

THE reputation of a man is like his shadow; it sometimes follows and sometimes precedes him; it is sometimes longer and sometimes shorter than his natural size.—French proverb.

CAUGHT ON THE FLY.

In Denmark the lighthouses are supplied with oil to still the waves in a storm.

THE Czar of Russia is reported to have presented the Stanford University, in California, with a complete collection of Russian and Siberian minerals.

A WELL down 165 feet deep at Spencer, Iowa, has a current of cold water rushing from it with great force. It will raise a man sitting on a board placed over the mouth of the pipe.

A WELL-known suffragist in Kansas began to sing at an early age upon having their rights. An Atchison 3-year-old girl recently cried herself into spasms because her brother had more pockets than she had.

AN Atchison woman has joined four different churches in town, and is a member of forty-nine clubs, and is reported to be a great speaker.

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AN Atchison girl is in great demand for assisting at serving refreshments at this time of the year. She knows of forty-nine ways to serve oranges.

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