

STOPPED THE OVATION.

Richard Wagner's Peculiar Experience in Vienna.

When Wagner was at the height of his popularity he visited Vienna. Baron von Beust, then chancellor of the empire, was informed that the Prussian party intended to give him an immense serenade—a serenade which would have the air of German protest against the tendency of the ministry to make the union of Hungary and Austria more intimate. The demonstration promised to arouse strong feeling.

"Your excellency is warned," said the chancellor's advisers. "It is impossible to stop this manifestation unless Wagner goes away, and he loves ovations too well. Nothing will induce him to depart."

"You think so," said Beust, with a smile.

An hour later Wagner was invited to dine with the chancellor. He was flattered by the invitation and accepted it. After dinner, at which Beust was delightfully affable and entertaining, the chancellor remarked: "Herr Wagner, are you interested in autographs? I have some very curious ones to show you." And he opened a portfolio where were letters of Palmerston, Bismarck, Napoleon III., Helme and others.

Suddenly turning to a paper, dated 1848, he said: "Ah, look at this. It is very curious. What would your friend his highness the king of Bavaria say if in this paper, which would be significant in connection with the political serenade which the Germans are going to give you, should be published tomorrow in the Vienna papers?"

The composer examined the paper and recognized, with surprise, an old proclamation of one Richard Wagner, who, an ardent revolutionist in 1848, had proposed to the youth of that time to set fire to the palace of the king of Saxony. He saw his autograph and that it might be the means of getting him into serious trouble.

"Very curious, is it not, Herr Wagner?" said the minister.

"Very curious, your excellency," replied his guest.

The next morning Richard Wagner left Vienna, recalled to Baireuth by urgent business.—Strand Magazine.

MAKING WAMPUM.

A Process That Requires Both Patience and Skill.

With certain tribes wampum is still highly prized and necklaces are worn by men, women and children when they are the fortunate possessors of them. To make wampum various kinds of shells are used, white and those having a lavender hue being most liked.

The thin shells are broken into little pieces and by aid of nippers are made as nearly round as possible. When each piece is drilled in the center, the old time fire kindling style of drill being used, the shells are then strung and rolled with the hand on a flat stone, which grinds them until they are smooth and even.

Comparatively few Indians among those who prize wampum beads most highly have the skill or patience to make them, even though they had the materials. The fact is there are but few wampum bead makers in the country, and it often happens that long pilgrimages must be made to secure the requisites for really fine beads, and, as with the white man's trinkets, that which is "far fetched and dear bought" is most sought after for ornamentation.

Around some of the ancient ruins in the southwest the little disks of wampum are often found in the sand, and it is probable that they were deposited in the grooves in very early times and washed out or exposed by the wind's action. These ruins are in the best state of preservation of any in the country. Absolutely nothing is known of their builders, and the origin of these ruins was as much a mystery when Coronado first saw them in 1540, when he made his famous invasion, as it is to the people of the present day.—Indian's Friend.

Oxygen and Mushrooms.

A singular way of removing oxygen from the air by the aid of a plant is as follows: Inside a glass bell jar, suspended over water, is placed a mushroom, and sunlight is allowed to fall upon the plant. The mushroom absorbs the oxygen from the air in the jar, and the carbonic acid formed during the process is absorbed by the water, which gradually rises in the jar to one-fifth of its height. The mushroom now dries up, but its animation is only suspended, as may be proved by introducing beside it a green plant, when it will recommence to vegetate, being nourished by the oxygen exhaled from the fresh plant.

Hope.

"Mr. Merchant," said the new clerk, preparing to ask for more money, "I think I understand the business pretty well now, and"—

"Yes!" interrupted his employer. "Well, keep at it four or five years. Perhaps you'll understand it then as well as you think you do now."—Philadelphia Press.

Taking Papa Down.

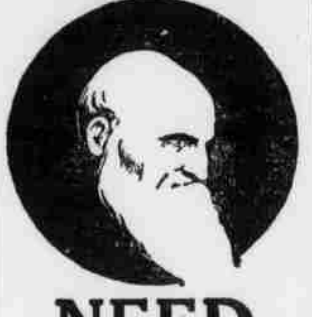
First Daughter—Oh, papa, dear, two young men we've met down here have asked us to marry them. Father—They'd better see me first. **Second Daughter—**Oh, they've seen you, papa, and they love us notwithstanding.

A Fashion Note.

Doctor Go female patients—You've got a slight touch of fever. Your tongue has a thick coat.—Patient (excitedly)—Oh, doctor, do tell me how it fits!

Reading is thinking with some one else's head instead of one's own.—Schopenhauer.

OLD PEOPLE



NEED VINOL

Because it contains the very elements needed to rebuild wasting tissues and replace feebleness with strength. We return money if it fails to benefit.

Sold by Standard Drug Co.

FASTIDIOUS WOMEN

consider Paxine Toilet Antiseptic a necessity in the hygienic care of the person and for local treatment of feminine ills. As a wash its cleansing, germicidal, deodorizing and healing qualities are extraordinary. For sale at Druggists. Sample free. Address The R. Paxton Co., Boston, Mass.

Why I am Proud of North Carolina.

Recently The American Boys, published at Detroit, Mich., offered prizes to North Carolina boys for the best essays on "Why I am Proud of my State." The first prize, \$3, was won by Jarrett M. Tyler, Whitakers; the second prize, \$1.50, by T. P. Byrum, Edenton; and the third prize, fifty cents, by Percy S. White, 132 Price street, Greensboro. Honorable mention is due D. Franklin Wallace, of Stateville, and Leslie C. Bullard, of Fayetteville. Among those who wrote satisfactory essays on the subject were Linwood C. Fink and Yates Clarkson, of Concord. The following is the prize essay:

"I am proud of my native state because of her glorious history and her rich endowment of climate and natural resources.

On Roanoke Island was planted the first English colony in the New World. Here was born the first white child and here celebrated the first baptism in America.

The fisheries of North Carolina are the greatest in the world, and her corn lands make her the Egypt of the South. In the production of tobacco she stands first in quality, though second in quantity. The annual crops of cotton, peanuts, rice, wheat, oats, rye Irish and sweet potatoes, are enormous.

Along the Atlantic coast are many fine truck farms, and the western part of the State are belts where frost is unknown. Here flourish all the fruit of the temperate zone. The grape vine grows in every section. Among the varieties are the Lincoln, Isabelle, Catawba and Scuppernon. The wines made are noted for their richness and flavor.

The forests of North Carolina are very valuable. The long-leaf pine furnishes immense quantities of lumber and naval stores. In the eastern section are found the live oak, the magnolia, and the palmetto. The gold medal for forestry was awarded to North Carolina at the World's Fair.

The hills and mountains of this state contain nearly two hundred useful minerals. Gold is found in twenty-nine counties.

The state possesses unsurpassed facilities for manufacturing and commerce. Her water power is unlimited.

North Carolina was one of the first of the Southern states to encourage education.

The climate of certain sections is very beneficial to those suffering from throat and lung troubles, and winter resorts are numerous. The mountain region contains some of the grandest scenery in the world. Here is Mount Mitchell, the highest peak east of the Rockies. No section presents greater attractions for sportsmen.

The sons of the "Old North State" have ever been ready to shed their blood at honor's bidding. On the "Blood-stained Field of Alamance" was made the first armed resistance to British tyranny. At King's Mountain, Moore's Creek, and Guilford Court House stubborn resistance was made to the British. In Mecklenburg county, called the "Hornet's Nest" by Cornwallis was drawn up the first Declaration of independence in the colonies. This was thirteen months before the Declaration of Independence was issued to the Continental Congress.

In the Civil War North Carolina was "First at Bethel, foremost

at Gettysburg, furthest at Chickamauga and last at Appomattox."

The first officer killed in the Spanish-American War was a "Tar Heel."

Is not this a glorious record? In the words of one her gifted sons I join:

North Carolina, great, glorious, and free. The joy of the children shall thou ever be; In stern and in sunshine around thee we'll stand, And may God bless thee with most bounteous hand."

Education In Business.

In the New Idea Woman's Magazine for January appears an interesting interview with a clever woman who has worked up a unique business for herself in the publishing world. This woman, Miss May Langston White, is conversant with the work of publishing from beginning to end, and finds sufficient occupation in giving assistance of various kinds to authors and publishers generally. Miss White predicates fact and education as the essentials to success in the publishing world, and indeed in any line of business. "I am inclined to think," she is quoted as saying, "that this question of education is very closely wrapped around the success of women in business. Possibly the ordinary type of business woman, is only a partial success. Possibly we do not know how many of us have been tried and found wanting in the qualities that help men to surpass us. But—the ordinary type of business woman is not well educated. I rather believe the ability to get an education usually carries with it the force of character necessary to success in business. The woman who has sense enough to acquire an education, many in the majority of cases be counted upon to use the same sense in learning how to earn her living. The highly educated are frequently said to be too impractical for every-day purposes. I think such cases are the exception.

Invest in brains. Every scholar adds something to the riches of a commonwealth.

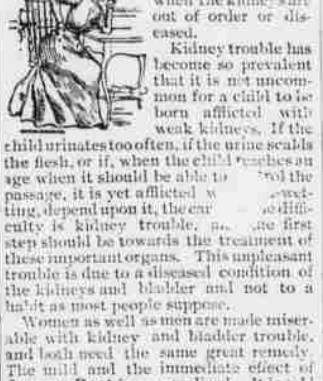
Extreme wealth, like extreme poverty, is an atmosphere laden with deadly poison.

Women as Well as Men Are Made Miserable by Kidney and Bladder Trouble.

Kidney trouble preys upon the mind, discourages and lessens ambition; beauty, vigor and cheerfulness soon disappear when the kidneys are out of order or diseased.

Kidney trouble has become so prevalent that it is not uncommon for a child to be born afflicted with weak kidneys. If the child urinates too often, if the urine scalds the flesh, or if, when the child reaches an age when it should be able to "void" the passage, it is yet afflicted with something depending on it, the early difficulty is kidney trouble, the first step should be towards the treatment of these important organs. This unpleasant trouble is due to a diseased condition of the kidneys and bladder and not to a habit as most people suppose.

Women as well as men are made miserable with kidney and bladder trouble, and both need the same great remedy. The mild and the immediate effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It is sold by druggists, in fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles. You may have a sample bottle by mail free, also a Home of Swamp-Root pamphlet telling all about Swamp-Root, including many of the thousands of testimonial letters received from sufferers cured. In writing Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure and mention this paper. Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.



The Publisher's Claims Sustained

UNITED STATES COURT OF CLAIMS

The Publishers of Webster's International Dictionary allege that it is, in fact, the popular Unabridged thoroughly revised in every detail, and vastly enriched in every part, with the purpose of adapting it to meet the larger and severer requirements of another generation.

We are of the opinion that this allegation most clearly and accurately describes the work that has been accomplished and the result that has been reached. The Dictionary, as it now stands, has been thoroughly re-edited in every detail, has been corrected in every part, and is admirably adapted to meet the larger and severer requirements of a generation which demands more of popular philological knowledge than any generation that the world has ever contained.

It is perhaps needless to add that we refer to the dictionary in our judicial work as of the highest authority in accuracy of definition; and that in the future as in the past it will be the source of constant reference.

CHARLES C. BOTT, Chief Justice.
LAWRENCE WELDON,
JOHN BAYTA,
STANLEY S. HEBBLE,
CHARLES L. DOWLEY,
Justices.

The above refers to WEBSTER'S INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY

THE GRAND PRIZE
(the highest award) was given to the International at the World's Fair, St. Louis.

GET THE LATEST AND BEST

You will be interested in our specimen pages, sent free.

G. & C. MERRIAM CO.,
PUBLISHERS,
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

5 BIG FACTORIES

The Styles of **Diamond Brand Shoes** are Exclusive

An officer of our company designs our styles and patterns—and does nothing else. This unusual attention to detail results not only in originality and correctness of style, but in truer patterns and better fit. This is one reason why Diamond Brand Shoes snug up under the arch and hold their shape so nicely.

Peters Shoe Co. "DIAMOND BRAND" SHOEMAKERS St. Louis
WE MAKE MORE FINE SHOES THAN ANY OTHER HOUSE IN THE WEST

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR DIAMOND BRAND SHOES

Sloan's Liniment

For Cough, Cold, Croup, Sore Throat, Stiff Neck, Rheumatism and Neuralgia

At all Dealers
Price 25c 50c & \$1.00

Sent Free
Sloan's Book on Horses, Cattle, Hogs & Poultry

Address Dr. J. C. Sloan
615 Albany Street, Boston, Mass.

HIGH POINT BUGGIES Are THE Best.

The assertion is backed by our sales for the past few months. Easy running, durable and comfortable. We also handle J. I. Nissen Wagons, Jahnston Harvesting Machinery, Mowers, Stoves, Ranges, Mill Supplies, Builders Hardware, Buggy and Wagon Harness, Stag Paint, Barb and Smooth Wire and everything in the Hardware line.

Lewis & Winslow Hardware Company.

HIGH POINT MACHINE WORKS.

Engineers, Founders, Machinists.

High-class repairing in all lines. Manufacturers of Steam Engines, Saw Mills, Lathe Mills and Pumping Machinery. None but expert mechanics employed. We make a specialty of repairing on heavy machinery and solicit correspondence.

IF YOU REQUIRE PROMPT SERVICE WRITE US.

We Sell the Earth!

If you are interested in the proposition, in or near Asheville, we think we can please you as to lot, prices and terms. Office in Bank Bld'g.

Armfield & Laughlin,
Real Estate Dealers.

and buy a **Save Money Farquhar** Engine and Boiler

and Sergeant Saw Mill between now and the first day of January, as on that date prices will be advanced.

McCrary-Redding Hardware Company

Send your orders for Printing to **The Courier.**