(Continued From First Page.)

cratic party. In 1896 when a large number of rich men were refusing to support the ticket, Florida's new Senator spoke out strongly for Bryan and the Chicago plaform. There is more tendency here, I believe, to call business men to positions of public trust than in the older States. It is chiefly the business mea who have developed the resources of Florida, and they exert great influence in its political as well as material concerns.

The most unique attraction in this city is its Ostrich Farm, as they call it. It is an ostrich farm, of course, but it The farm, is also an ostrich show. which is situate in a bend in the river, enclosed like a base ball park or a fair ground. If you desire to see the wonderful show you pay an admission fee, and in the store adjoining the farm you can buy ostrich plumes, boas, capes and collarettes at all sorts of prices and colors, a boa costing from \$2 to \$12.50. The most popular boas are one and a half yards long and sell for from \$10 to \$12. In its advertisement the concern urges the readers of Florida papers to "Patronize Home Industry," and therefore by inference not to give support to the pauper labor of the ostriches of foreign countries. In the winter great throngs visit the ostrich farm and the admission fees rival those of a modern circus. The preachers can take their children without compunction to see the animals, the scientists go to study animal life, the curious go to see something novel, and the young folks go because it gives them a diversion. Anyhow everybody goes. It is off-season now for visitors, but the gates are open so that no admission fee may be lost.

In this farm are more than one hundred ostriches, standing seven feet high, weighing two hundred and fifty to four hundred pounds each. I also saw ostriches two weeks old, about the size or a hen. For the benefit of any who may desire to know more about the ostrich farm, I append the following "Souvenir of the from a little book Florida Ostrich Farm:"

At the Florida Ostrich Farm the best feathered birds are paired off for breeding purposes in separate corrals, with a passage way of six feet in width between each corral to prevent the males fighting. During the laying season the males become very fierce, and can dangerously wound a man with one blow of the foot; they kick forward, with a their one sharp claw is sometimes fatal. Should anyone be so unfortunate as to find himself near a savage bird, a certain amount of safety can be secured by lying flat on the ground, as the ostrich can kick dangerously only at a height of about three feet; this is probably the reason that these birds are so frightened at a dog; although they will charge a man on horseback, yet a little fox terrier will send them running to the farthest corner of the field.

Each pair of breeding birds are kept in a small corral 50x150 feet-so small that a South African ostrich farmer would assert that they could not thrive in such a small space—and are fed clover hay, corn, oats, barley, etc. Experience, however, has shown that they thrive fa mously in their corrals; that they grow as large, and that their feathers are as good in quality and as large in size as closures, and a group of birds running tame, but care is exercised by the mer alarmed at with their wing some unusual sight, is a most beautiful

Each and every bird is named. Following are the names of some of the pairs of breeding birds: President Mc-Kinley and Queen Victoria, Mark Hanna and wife, Joe Wheeler and Alabama, Beau Brummell and Violet Cameron, Admiral Schley and Little Cuba, Bob Fitzsimmons and wife, Bendigo and Little Egypt (African birds 30 years old). Prince of Wales and Lilian Langtry. Teddy Roosevelt and wife, General Fitzhugh Lee and Virginia, Grover Cleveland and Frances, Sagasta and the Queen Regent, Napoleon and Josephine, Admiral Dewey and Miss Manila.

An average bird weighs from 250 to 400 pounds, and stands 7 to 10 feet high; it is omniverous, carniverous to some extent, and voracious; it will eat stones leather, oranges, and has been known to swallow gimlets, lighted pipes, and even a newspaper properly rolled for consump The hard substances are used to grind the food in its stomach: gravel has to be supplied them freely for this pur-pose, just as fishbones to canaries.

Shortly after pairing off, a pair will be gin to build a nest, or rather, to dig one out of the ground. The male bird rests his breastbone on the ground and kicks the sand behind; when one side is sufficinetly deep, he turns around and operates in a like manner, until a round hole about four feet in diameter and one foot deep is the result of his exertions; oc casionally he intimates to the female that help is required, and they take turns The hen forthwith begins to lay an egg every other day, until twelve or fifteen are located side by side in this hole in the ground; they scatter a little sand over the tops of the eggs to protect then from the fierce rays of the sun; this habit has doubtless led to the supposition, printed in many ancient natura histories, that the eggs of the ostrich are hatched by the sun, unaided by the bird As soon as the full number of eggs are laid the couple share the labor of hatch ing; the male bird sitting on the eggs from 4 o'clock in the afternoon until ? o'clock the following morning; and it may be understood with what skill this performed when it is remembered that 250 to 400 pounds of ostrich is bear ing down upon fourteen eggs; at 9 o'clock the hen takes his place, sitting the day 'Ine male ostrich, however, with remark able intelligence, relieves the female for an hour in the middle of the day, whilst she goes in search of necessary nourish A pair will follow this regime with the greatest regularity for forty days, when the chicks can be heard tele phoning, as it were—in the shells. Fre quently the chicks break the shells themselves, but often the hen can be seen pressing on the shell with her breast bone to assist the youngster in making his debut into the glorious climate of Florida; sometimes she can be seen tak ing it by its little head and shaking the shell from its body. In the wild state this ends the annual process; but the ostrich farmer-not unlike the ordinary chicken raiser-industriously removes th chicks to a covered shed, attends to their support himself, leaving the pair of older birds to proceed with another sitting, which they do with unwearied regulari-

METROPOLIS OF FLORIDA ty; the consequence is, that instead of 14 eggs annually from one pair of birds, "ostriculturist"-if we may term him -often produces eighty, many of which are fertile and hatch. The scripture alleges that the ostrich knoweth not her young; this may happen in a wild state but a tame ostrich has a proper respec for and pride in her offspring, if left with her. They brood them only at night time, keeping them running about all day with them in ceaseless motion from daylight to dark. When the chicks are taken away they are kept warm at night in well covered boxes; on the third day after their appearance they will be gin devouring small stones and broken bone; on the fourth or fifth they begin to eat oran, cabbage, grass, etc., which is the ideal food for the bird in its younger state. With this its mortality is small and growth remarkably fast; up to the age of six months it grows at the rate of one foot a month. An ostrich egg weighs about three and one-half pounds, and is equal to thirty hen eggs; an omelette of ostrich eggs is nearly the same flavor and appearance as an omlette of ordinary The unfertile eggs are blown and find a ready sale, decorated and plain, as souvenirs of the Florida Ostrich Farm. They are sold at the farm for \$1.00 each.

The feather of the ostrich are of various shades and several colors, according to the age and sex of the bird; those of the young are a mixture of white and yellow; at eighteen months of age they turn to dark drab on the female, and black and white on the male. The most valuable feathers are those of the male adults; those of the female and of the young are of inferior quality. The winged feathers are the largest and most flexible, and many are more or white; those of the tail are inferior both in quality and color. The white feathers, so called, being in most cases the color of ivory, are the most valuable and beau

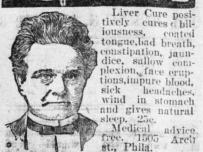
Every nine months the birds are examined and the ripe feathers plucked. This requires a certain amount of experience and skill; careless plucking will injure the growth of future feathers; a feather root injured, injury is done that can never be remedied; for when a "socket" is pulled out a feather can never grow again. The short feathers are pulled out without any apparent pain to the creature, as they are ripe and would fall off in the course of nature, if not extracted by the skilled operator; the heavy wing feathers are cut off with short scissors, the stumps being left in the skin: these are ripe for extraction about three months after a plucking takes place. The Society for the Suppression of Cruelty to Birds, of which downward, scratching movement, and the Princess of Wales is president, expressly excepted the ostrich from its list of unfortunates. As has been said, the extraction of feathers from the ostrich, by skilled operators, is without pain to the bird. Three corps of feathers are vielded at the ostrich farm in two years, though of course, plucking takes place more frequently. Each bird is worth from \$30 to \$60 per annum in feathers, and most of them live, in Africa, to the good old age of seventy years. value varies from \$100 a pair for chicks to \$500 a pair for full-grown breeding birds, three years old and upwards.

The plucking of the birds is one of the occasional sights at the Florida Ostrich Farm in Jacksonville. A few of the birds are driven into a small corral, when one by one they are introduced to a small angular inclosure, a long narrow bag placed over the head, with a hole in the end for it to breathe, one man holdthose of the Cape. The younger birds— ing the Bird while the operator skillfully those not kept in corrals for breeding clips and pulls all the feathers that are purposes-roam in troops in larger en- ripe; being thus blinded he becomes very kicks that necessarily are included by the creature in this performance. narrowest part of the angle-shaped inclosure contains a small door, which, after the plucking has taken place, is opened ,the bag taken off, and the bird runs away with wings extended, quite reliev-

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The various kinds of feathers are put nto separate bags, male and female separate, also tail feathers, wing feathers, white, black, gray, etc., and these are all graded afterwards according to their different sizes. Before these feathers are useful for the purposes of trade they have to undergo numerous operations; first graded, then tie them on strings about four feet long, singly, or in bunches of two or three, according to their size, then they are scoured, cleaned in soapsuds, and rinsed frequently, when they are ready for the dyer. The natural black ostrich feather is dyed black; this is not only on account of its natural shade, but also because of its character, having a fine silk-like down; this is the glossy black of commerce, so

much valued by connoisseurs; and thes black feathers are more valuable than drab. After dyeing, more rinsing in clear water containing starch; then they are beaten on a smooth board until they are free from all particles of starch. After this they go to the work-room, where skilled operators "finish" them; again they are graded, and this grading s even more important than the first years of practice and observation are re quired to fit the competent operator for his task. Then they go to the sewing department. The fashion of the single feather disappeared long ago; now each feather used in the trade consists of sev eral whole feathers placed on top of each other and sewn skillfully together, three, four or five feathers, according to the value and thickness desired. After sew ing, the feathers are steamed, in order to allow the fibers to assume their nat ural position, which is the beautiful one, and taken charge of by the curler, who gives them that graceful shape, both to fibres and stem, so much desred. From

the curler they pass to the buncher, who

combs them and gives them that fashion

demanded at the time, for sale in the

The North Carolina troops in camp here last year left a good impression behind them. I drove out to the old camp, now deserted, and a friend pointed out the positions of the various regiments, and particularly the spot between the camps where a North Carolina soldier "downed" an F. F. V., who re-flected upon the Tar Heel. "When they got here some of the North Carolina soldiers had no shoes and no decent clothes. and that put them at a discount, but it was not long before they displayed such qualities of the soldier and the citizen as to win the respect of the whole city. They made friends and there were many inquiries made of me about Capt. This and Private That. Some of them were quite popular among the belies of this city, and "they say" that more than one wedding will result next year from the encampment of North Carolina boys this city of beautiful women.

The encampment was a big thing for Jacksonville in a business way as wel as in a social way. There were as many men in camp here as there are men, wo men and children in the city. They all spent money, some of them freely, and it made Jacksonville the liveliest town on the Continent while it lasted, Jack sonville hated to see the boy's leave, both because of the social pleasures as well as the financial considerations. If some of the boys painted the town red, it did not shock Jacksonville. It is a cosmopolitan town and is not easily shocked.

The city has a fine population of old-Southerners, who retain the old traditions, and a great influx of wide-awake, progressive Northern men and The combination makes a fine oopulation, possessing all that is best of the two civilizations—the Puritan and the Cavalier. Which predominates? In the summer, the Cavalier. In the winter, the Puritan. But the visitor from both sections "rules the roost" in the gay winter season, the Jacksonville people giving them the "go."

Fish being rich in phosphorous and phosphorus being the essential thing in making matches, it therefore stands to reason that girls should be partial to

"AN EMPTY SACK CANNOT STAND UPRIGHT." .

Neither can poor, weak, thin blood nourish and sustain the physical For strength of nerves and muscles there must be pure, rich, vigorous blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the standard preparation for the blood and its many remarkable cures and the fact that it does everybody good who takes it prove it is just what you need if you re weak and languid.

Hood's Pills do not gripe. All drug-

Love levels all ranks-except in Ken-There a man is either a major or a colonel just as long as he pays his liquor bills.

RED HOT FROM THE GUN.

Was the ball that hit G. B. Steadman of Newark, Mich., in the Civil War. I caused horrible Ulcers that no treatment helped for 20 years. Then Bucklen's Ar-nica Salve cured him. Cures Cuts, Bruises, Burns, Boils, Felons, Corns, Skin Eruptions. Best Pile Cure or earth. 25 cts. a box. Cure guaranteed. Sold by all druggists.

An Irishman says that love sets the heart aching so deliciously there is no getting a wink of sleep for the pleasure of the pain.

The soothing and healing properties of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, its pleasant taste and prompt and permanent cures, have made it a great favorite with the people everywhere. For sale every-where. Bobbitt-Wynne Drug Co., and H. T. Hicks, Druggists, Raleigh.

WHO KNOWS?

The birth of a grass-blade-the life of a And who, in this life that is drifting

All that we know in this region below Is that May makes the roses and winter the snew.

The meaning-the mystery of them shall

Who knows

away,

The thought of the river that evermore To the sea that is tossing its waves on

the shore And heeds not the rocks or the wrecks in its roar?

All that we know in this region below Is that May makes the roses and winter the snow.

III. Who knows

The tide where life's tending-this goal where it goes? In the Night is there light?—will a morning dawn bright When sighs shall be silenced and souls

shall be white? All that we know in this region below Is that May makes the roses and winter

Yet we trust That sometime a flower will blossom from dust; That the songs that we sing and the prayers that we pray

Will not die in the darkness that knows not the day. Yet all that we know in this region be-Is that May makes the roses and winter

Such is life. With its joy and its sorrow—its strength and its strife.

the snow.

The Bloom and the gloom, and the dark and the bright, And God gave Good morning, and God give Goodnight!

But all that we know in this region be

Is that May makes the roses and winter

F. L. STANTON.

LADIES CAN WEAR SHOES

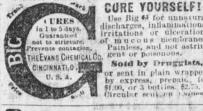
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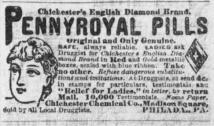


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