

Extra Billy Smith, of Warrenton, Va., twice Governor of the old Dominion, now ninety years of age, has been paralyzed in his right arm for many years and writes with his left hand. When he dies the papers of that State will have a story to tell of that great man.

The Danville Register says: "After all, a woman should have as much right to vote as a dude. The one knows nothing about politics for want of inclination, the other for want of capacity." The editor deceives himself in believing the above. The women of our country, if they would pay attention to politics, would make as intelligent statesmen (forgiving us the Irishism), as adroit partisans as the men ever dared to be. If not, why not? When the editor attended school with the opposite sex was he not led in his studies by a sister or a cousin, or some other girl? If he can candidly answer no, he can say what the writer never could, for he was educated with girls and attended various schools in at least three States. An experienced teacher said to us in 1875 that he never attended school nor taught school except the very best scholars were on the female side of the house. These statements being facts which we believe hold good in almost every school in the land, what nonsense for a man—and a chivalrous man at that—to make such an unjust statement, not to designate it by any harsher term. All the American girls and women ask of the sterner sex is opportunity, and they will show themselves our equals in educational capacities, the use of language, and even in eloquence. We vote for the women, every time.

The Dispatch puts in a good word for the old South. The Dispatch is right. The new South is like a bright and enterprising man who takes hold of the business which his father has established and pushes it ahead. But, all the same, he would have had a hard time of it if he had set up for himself without the old man's credit and influence for a sure foundation.

As on the woman question, you are wrong again, Mr. Danville (Va.) Register. Look abroad over our whole land, and you will find that the men who have lead communities, States, and the Nation with a big N, have been the poor boys. Washington may be an exception, and possibly Jefferson. But the next biggest man ever born on Virginia soil was Henry Clay. He was indeed a poor boy. So was Patrick Henry. Who of our Presidents except Washington was born to fortune? We cannot now recall Calhoun's early condition, but Daniel Webster was born in a log cabin, in New Hampshire, the smoke of whose chimney curled in the very confines of the forest inhabited by savages. Neither Lewis Cass, Levi Woodbury, Vice President Henry Wilson, all New Hampshire born, Benjamin Franklin nor Count Rumford—a man equally distinguished in the world as a statesman, scholar, philanthropist and vastly Franklin's superior as a soldier—were born to fortune, yet they were great men. And we can point to the leaders in their lines to Horace Greeley, George Peabody, the Boston Lawrences, and hundreds of others who were humbly born, but who were leaders in their day. We do not believe that Jefferson Davis' father was a wealthy man, yet he achieved greatness.

And look at such men as Morse,

Edison, Ericson, McCormick, and a host of other inventors, they were born poor and became leaders of men.

And so in every other department or calling in life, the poor boys have climbed to the top and remained there. Indeed, if you want to spoil the material for a good man and leader, give him money, when a boy, and you will, nine times in ten, spoil him in spite of fate.

Horrors of a Moorish Prison.

A dispatch dated April 13th, at Tangier, says: The American expedition which left here on April 4th, for the purpose of arresting the usurers complained of in the Perdicaris case and releasing the prisoners detained in the Alchzar Laraiche, has returned here. All the Moors imprisoned in the Alchzar Laraiche under American claims, except three who had died, were released. The officers of the expedition report that the prison was the fullest they ever saw. The inmates were half starved and completely covered with vermin. No opportunity was given them to bathe or change their clothing. Some of the unfortunates wore heavy chains on their ankles and wrists, the keepers thinking by this treatment to extort money from them. A noted usurer named Gergeman, who had caused the imprisonment of the majority of the prisoners, was arrested and will be placed on trial at Tangier on the charge of falsely asserting that he was an American protege.

How President Washington Lived.

The style of living of President Washington's family would not be tolerated in a President of these Democratic days, writes Frank G. Carpenter, in a letter from the National Capitol. "His servants were all in livery, and this livery was white, trimmed with scarlet. The General kept a chariot and four horses exclusively for Mrs. Washington, and for this he had black postillions in livery. He rode himself in a cream-colored, six-horse coach, he appeared at his receptions with a sword at his side. He did not shake hands at his receptions. The guests were arranged in a ring, and he walked around and spoke to them with dignity. Only those that had the proper introduction, or the proper social standing, came to his levees, and it was necessary to appear in full dress.

Peanuts and Sumac.

In a talk the other day with ex-Governor Cameron, of Virginia, he referred to two industries of his State by saying that Virginia raises more peanuts than wheat and that sumac gathering has assumed a leading position as an industry. The sumac grows wild and is gathered by the colored people at the time of the year when they have nothing else to do. They pick the blossoms in great bags, which they carry to the cities, where the sumac is dried and pulverized for chemical and medicinal uses. At Petersburg, Va., which is the center of sumac growth, the production amounts to \$1,000,000 a year.—New York Tribune.

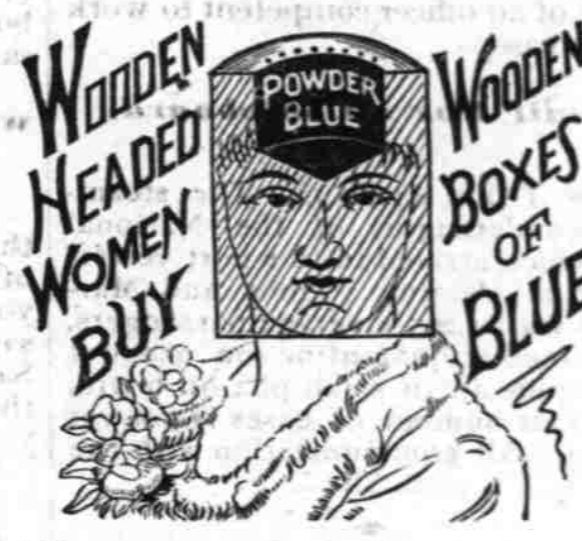
An ingenious improvement in the manufacture of tin cans for preserving food is being introduced, the plan consisting in so forming the lid that it is merely pressed on and the can is hermetically sealed, so that no internal pressure can remove the lid. Water boiled in a tin thus closed has failed to force it off, although the steam pressure has burst the can itself. A penny piece, however, used as a lever by being placed under a rim formed around the top of the cover, with the shoulder of the can as a fulcrum raises the lid with a remarkably small expenditure of power. The principle involved in the device is that of the wedge and lever. The neck of the tin on which the lid fits is formed at a very slight angle from the vertical, and the rim of the lid is made at a corresponding angle, no solder being used to form the joint. By means of this arrangement, therefore, the opening of cans is rendered remarkably clean, quick, and simple operation, contrasting greatly in these respects with the inconvenient method of opening now in vogue.

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