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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PROHIBITIONISTS IN NORTH CAROLINA.

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AGENTS.

Greensboro, N. C., March 18th, 1887.

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Groceries!!

Groceries!!!

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GREENSBORO, N. C.

DR. TALMAGE.

THE BROOKLYN DIVINE'S SUNDAY SERMON.

Subject: "Woman's Opportunity.'

TEXT: *"So God created man in His own image, the image of God created He him; male and female created He them."*—Genesis 1., 27.

In other words, God, who can make no mistake, made man and woman for a specific work, and to move in particular spheres—man to be regnant in his realm; woman to be dominant in hers. The boundary line between Italy and Switzerland, between England and Scotland, is not more thoroughly marked than this distinction between the empire masculine and the empire feminine. So entirely dissimilar are the fields to which God called them, that you can no more compare them than you can oxygen and hydrogen, water and grass, trees and stars. All this talk about the superiority of one sex to the other sex is an everlasting waste of ink and speech. A jeweler may have a scale so delicate that he can weigh the dust of diamonds; but where are the scales so delicate that he can weigh in them affection against affection, sentiment against sentiment, thought against thought, soul against soul, a man's world against a woman's world! You come out with your stereotyped remark, the man is superior to woman in intellect; and then I open on my desk the swarthy, iron-typed thunderbolted writings of Harriet Martineau and Elizabeth Browning and George Eliot. You come on with your stereotyped remark about woman's superiority to man in the item of affection; but I ask you where was there more capacity to love than in John the Disciple, and Robert McCheyne, the Scotchman, and John Summerfield the Methodist, and Henry Martin the missionary! The heart of those men was so large that after you had rolled into it two hemispheres there was room still left to marshal the hosts of heaven and set up the throne of the eternal Jehovah. I deny to man the throne intellectual. I deny to woman the throne affectional. No human phraseology will ever define the spheres while there is an intuition by which we know when a man is in his realm, and when a women is in her realm, and when either of them is out of it. No bungling legislature ought to attempt to make a definition, or to say: "This is the line and that is the line." My theory is that if a woman wants to vote she ought to vote, and that if a man wants to embroider and keep house, he ought to be allowed to embroider and keep house. There are masculine women and there are effeminate men. My theory is, that you have no right to interfere with any one's doing anything that is righteous. Albany and Washington might as well decree by legislation how high a brown-thrasher should fly, or how deep a trout should plunge, as to try to seek out the height or the depth of woman's duty. The question of capacity will settle finally the whole question, the whole subject. When woman is prepared to preach, she will preach, and neither Conference nor Presbytery can hinder her. When a woman is prepared to move in highest commercial spheres, she will have great influence on the Exchange, and no boards of trade can hinder her. I want woman to understand that heart and brain can overfly any barrier that politicians may set up, and that nothing can keep her back or keep her down but the question of incapacity.

There are women, I know, of most undesirable nature, who wander up and down the country—having no homes of their own, or forsaking their own homes—talking about their rights; and we know very well that they themselves are fit neither to vote nor fit to keep house. Their mission seems to be to humiliate the two sexes at the thought of what any one of us might become. No one would want to live under the laws that such women would enact, or to have cast upon society the children that such women would raise. But I shall show you this morning that the best rights that woman can own, she already has in her possession; that her position in this country at this time is not one of commiseration, but one of congratulation; that the grandeur and power of her realm have never yet been appreciated; that she sits to-day on a throne so high, that all the thrones of earth piled on top of each other would not make for her a footstool. Here is the platform on which she stands. Away down below it are the ballot-box and the Congressional assemblage and the Legislative hall. Woman always has voted and always will vote. Our great-grandfathers thought they were by their votes putting Washington into the presidential chair. No. His mother, by the principles she taught him, and by the habits she inculcated, made him President. It was a Christian mother's hand dropping the ballot when Lord Bacon wrote, and Newton philosophized, and Alfred the Great governed, and Jonathan Edwards thundered of judgment to come. How many men there have been in high political station who would have been insufficient to stand the test to which their moral principle was put had it not been for a wife's voice that encouraged them to do right, and a wife's prayer that sounded louder than the clamor of partisanship! Why, my friends, the right of suffrage, as we men exercise it, seems to be a feeble thing. You, a Christian man, come up to the ballot-box and you drop your vote. Right after you comes a libertine, or a sot—the offscouring of the street—and he drops his vote; and his vote counteracts yours. But if in the quiet of home life a daughter by her Christian demeanor, a wife by her industry, a mother by her faithfulness, casts a vote in the right direction, then nothing can resist it, and the influence of that vote will throb through the eternities.

My chief anxiety then is, not that woman have other rights accorded her; but that she, by the grace of God, rise up to the appreciation of the glorious rights she already possesses. This morning I shall only have time to speak of one grand and all-absorbing right that every woman has, and that is to make home happy. That realm no one has ever disputed with her. Men may come home at noon or at night, and they tarry a comparatively little while; but she, all day long, governs it, beautifies it, sanctifies it. It is within her power to make it the most attractive place on earth. It is the only calm harbor in this world. You know as well as I do, that this outside world and the business world, is a long scene of jostle and contention. The man who has a dollar struggles to keep it; the man who has it not struggles to get it. Prices up. Prices down. Losses. Gains. Misrepresentations. Gougings. Underselling. Buyers depreciating; salesmen exaggerating. Tenants seeking less rents; landlords demanding more. Gold fidgetty. Struggles about office. Men who are in trying to keep in; men out trying to get in. Slips. Tumbles. Defalcations. Panics. Catastrophes. O woman! thank God you have a home, and that you may be queen in it. Better be there than wear Victoria's coronet. Better be there than carry the purse of a Princess. Your abode may be humble, but you can, by your faith in God and your cheerfulness of demeanor, gild it with splendors such as an upholsterer's hand never yet kindled. There are abodes in the city—humble, two stories; four plain, unpapered rooms; undesirable neighborhood; and yet there is a man here this morning who would die on that threshold rather than surrender it. Why? It is home. Whenever he thinks of it, he sees angels of God hovering around it. The ladders of heaven are let down to that house. Over the child's rough crib there are the chantings of angels like those that broke over Bethlehem. It is home. These children may come up after a while, and they may win high position, and they may have an affluent residence; but they will not until their dying day forget that humble roof, under which their father rested, and their mother sang, and their sisters played. Oh, if you would gather up all tender memories, all the lights and shades of the heart, all banqueetings and reunions, all filial, fraternal, paternal, and conjugal affections, and you had only just four letters with which to spell out that height and depth, and length and breadth, and magnitude, and eternity of meaning, you would, with streaming eyes, and trembling voice, and agitated hand, write it out in those four living capital: H-O-M-E.

What right does woman want that is grander than to be queen in such a realm? Why, the eagles of heaven cannot fly across that dominion. Horses, panting and with lathered flanks, are not swift enough to run to the outposts of that realm. They say that the sun never sets upon the English empire; but I have to tell you that on this realm of woman's influence, eternity never marks any bound. Isabella fled from the Spanish throne, pursued by the nation's anathema; but she who is queen in a home will never lose her throne, and death itself will only be the annexation of heavenly principalities.

When you want to get your grandest idea of a queen, you do not think of Catharine of Russia, or of Anne of England, or Marie Theresa of Germany; but when you want to get your grandest idea of a queen, you think of the plain woman who sat opposite your father at the table, or walked with him arm-in-arm down life's pathway; sometimes to the thanksgiving banquet, sometimes to the grave, but always together—soothing your petty griefs, correcting your childish waywardness, joining in your infantile sports, listening to your evening prayers, toiling for you with needle or at the spinning wheel, and on cold nights wrapping you up snug and warm. And then at last on that day when she lay in the back room dying, and you saw her take those thin hands with which she toiled for you so long, and put them together in a dying prayer that commended you to the God whom she had taught you to trust. O, she was the queen! The chariots of God came down to fetch her; and as she went in, all heaven rose up. You cannot think of her now without a rush of tenderness that stirs the deep foundations of your soul, and you feel as much a child again as when you cried on her lap; and if you could bring her back again to speak just once more your name, as tenderly as she used to speak it, you would be willing to throw yourself on the ground and kiss the sod that covers her, crying: "Mother! Mother!" Ah! she was the queen—she was the queen. Now, can you tell me how many thousand miles a woman like that would have to travel down before she got to the ballot-box? Compared with this work of training kings and queens for God and eternity, how insignificant seems all this work of voting for aldermen and common councilmen, and sheriffs, and constables, and mayors, and presidents. To make one such grand woman as I have described how many thousands would you want of those people who go in the round of godlessness, and fashion, and dissipation, distorting their body until in their monstrosities they seem to outdo the dromedary and hippopotamus, going as far toward disgraceful apparel as they dare go, so as not to be arrested by the police—their behavior a sorrow to the good and a caricature of the vicious, and an insult to that God who made them women and not gorgons and tramping on, down through a frivolous and dissipated life, to temporal and eternal damnation!

O woman, with the lightning of your soul strike dead at your feet all these allurements to dissipation and to fashion. Your immortal soul cannot be fed upon such garbage. God calls you up to empire and dominion. Will you have it? O, give to God your heart: give to God your best energies; give to God all your culture; give to God all your refinement; give yourself to Him, for this world and the next. Soon all these bright eyes will be quenched, and these voices will be hushed. For the last time you will look upon this fair earth. Father's hand, mother's hand, sister's hand, child's hand will be no more in yours. It will be night, and there will come up a cold wind from the Jordan and you must start. Will it be a lone woman on a trackless moor? Ah, no! Jesus will come up in that hour and offer His hand, and He will say: "You stood by Me when you were well; now I will not desert you when you are sick." One wave of His hand and the storm will drop; and another wave of His hand, and midnight shall break into midnoon; and another wave of His hand, and the chamberlains of God will come down from the treasure-houses of heaven, with robes lustrous, blood-washed, and heaven-glinted, in which you will array yourself for the marriage supper of the Lamb. And then will Miriam, who struck the timbrel of the Red Sea; and with Deborah, who led the Lord's host into the fight; and with Hannah, who gave her Samuel to the Lord; and with Mary who rocked Jesus to sleep while there were angels singing in the air; and with Florence Nightingale, who bound up the battle-wounds of the Crimea, you will, from the chalice of God drink to the soul's eternal rescue.

One twilight, after I had been playing with the children for some time, I laid down upon the lounge to rest. The children said, play more. Children always want to play more. And, half asleep and half awake, I seemed to dream this dream: It seemed to me that I was in a far-distant land—not Persia, although more than Oriental luxuriance crowned the cities; nor the tropics—although more than tropical fruitfulness filled the gardens; nor Italy—although more than Italian softness filled the air. And I wandered around, looking for thorns and nettles, but I found none of them grew there. And I walked forth and I saw the sun rise, and I said:

"When will it set again?" and the sun sank not. And I saw all the people in holiday apparel, and I said: "When will they put on workingman's garb again, and delve in the mine, and swelter at the forge?" but neither the garments nor the robes did they put off. And I wandered in the suburbs, and I said: "Where do they bury the dead of this great city?" and I looked along by the hills where it would be most beautiful for the dead to sleep, and I saw castles, and towns, and battlements; but not a mausoleum, nor monument, nor white slab could I see. And I went into the great chapel of the town, and I said: "Where do the poor worship? where are the benches on which they sit?" and a voice answered: "We have no poor in this great city." And I wandered out, seeking to find the place where were the hovels of the destitute; and I found mansions of amber, and ivory, and gold but no tear nor sigh did I see or hear. I was bewildered; and I sat under the shadow of a great tree, and I said: "What am I, and whence comes all this?" And at that moment there came from among the leaves, skipping up the flowery paths and across the sparkling waters, a very bright and sparkling group; and when I saw their step I knew it, and when I heard their voices I thought I knew them; but their apparel was so different from anything I had ever seen I bowed, a stranger to strangers. But after awhile, when they clapped their hands, and shouted: "Welcome! welcome!" the mystery was solved, and I saw that time had passed, and that eternity had come, and that God had gathered us up into a higher home: and I said: "Are we all here?" and the voices of innumerable generations answered: "Here;" and while tears of gladness were raining down our cheeks, and the branches of the Lebanon cedars were clapping their hands, and the towers of the great city were chiming their welcome, we began to laugh, and sing, and leap, and shout: "Home! Home! Home!"

Then I felt a child's hand on my face, and it woke me. The children wanted to play more. Children always want to play more.

Wild West Abstainers.

"Buffalo Bill" (Colonel W. F. Cody), whose Wild West performances drew large crowds at the Madison Square Garden, in this city, and on Staten Island, and who has been greatly lionized in London, has been interrogated on the subject of temperance, and the Vice-President of the Wild West Show, writing to the *Young Man*, London, states that the Colonel is a total abstainer, and adds: "Our people are abstainers generally, their hazardous work requiring complete self-possession at all times. All the great marksmen of the world are abstainers—the use of stimulants being fatal to them professionally." All hail to the Wild Westerners as allies of the total abstinence reform!—*National Temperance Advocate.*

The London Grand Division of Sons of Temperance has ninety-two branches with over 4,000 members, and an accumulated fund of £24,000. Its benefits range from 5s. to £1 per week during sickness, and from £5 to £50 at death.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

Eastern and Middle States.

A NEW YORK pilot-boat lost three of her men during a heavy gale.

JUDGE POTTER, of the New York Supreme Court, has granted a stay of proceedings to Jacob Sharp. The condemned ex-President of the Broadway Horse-Car Company has been incarcerated in Ludlow street jail, New York, awaiting a decision. The stay was granted on the ground that part of the evidence on Sharp's trial was inadmissible. The case now goes to the New York Court of Appeals.

THE First National Bank, of Dansville, N. Y., has suspended.

THERE were 912 delegates in attendance at the New York State Prohibition Convention, held in Syracuse. A ticket was nominated, headed by D. W. C. Huntington for Secretary of State, and a platform adopted in conformity with the principles of the party. This makes the third ticket already in the field in New York.

SYLVANUS H. SWEET, nominated by the United Labor party at Syracuse for State Engineer and Surveyor of New York, has declined.

A BOILER explosion in a corn-canning establishment at Gorham, Me., killed John Hamlin and fatally injured Frederick Hamblen. A third man was severely hurt.

ALL branches of trade in Philadelphia are reporting greatly increased business.

AMONG the arrivals at New York on a steamer from England a few days ago was the Duke of Marlborough. He comes to America on a pleasure trip.

REV. DR. PARKER, the noted London preacher, who has been talked of as successor to the late Henry Ward Beecher in Plymouth Church, arrived in New York from England, a few days ago. He will deliver a eulogy on Mr. Beecher at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, October 4.

A WIDESPREAD epizootic disease is killing hundreds of horses in New Jersey.

South and West.

MRS. SARAH JACKSON, wife of Andrew Jackson, Jr., and mistress of the White House during President Jackson's second term, died at "The Hermitage," in Nashville, a few days ago, aged 81 years.

THE Iowa Republican State Convention at Des Moines renominated Governor Larrabee. The platform condemns the National Administration, favors a protective tariff and approves the Inter-State Commerce law.

THE Maryland Republican State Convention, held in Baltimore, nominated a full ticket, headed by Walter B. Brooks for Governor. John K. Cowan, leader of the Citizens' Reform League, made a speech promising the support of the Independents.

Two trains on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad collided not far from Wheeling, W. Va. An engineer and a fireman were killed, and fifteen emigrants were seriously hurt.

THE city stables adjoining the City Hall at Topeka, Kan., were burned, and Colonel G. O. Graves, a prominent German attorney, perished in the flames. The origin of the fire is attributed to the Anarchists.

JOHN MYRICK (colored) was hanged to a tree by people of his own race in Henry County, Ala., for assaulting a white lady.

TALTON DANCY (colored) was hanged at Camden, S. C., for the murder of Noel Perkins (also colored).

AXEY CHERRY, the twelve-year-old colored girl sentenced to death in South Carolina for murdering a two-year-old white child in her charge, has had her punishment commuted by the Governor to imprisonment for five years.

CHIEF COLOROW and his Ute Indians have had a fight with the Sheriff's posse near Rangley, Col. Deputy Sheriff Ward was killed and three other whites were wounded, one mortally. Eight Indians were reported killed.

Washington.

MRS. CLEVELAND has returned to the White House after a pleasant vacation in Massachusetts.

B. R. BROONER, a clerk in the Pension Office, and Colonel Allen Rutherford, a Claim agent, have been arrested on the charge of stealing Government records from the files

THE total amount of trade dollars redeemed so far is in round numbers 7,800,000.

INSPECTOR W. DIMOND, of the Washington Bureau of Animal Industry, says that pleuro-pneumonia is spread through adjacent counties from the New York City stock yards, and that the disease cannot be stamped out unless Congress appropriates a large sum of money for that purpose.

THE President has appointed Alexander McCue, of New York, the present Solicitor of the Treasury, to be Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries, to succeed the late Professor Baird. Recent Consuls appointed by the President are: Henry C. Borst, of Maine, at Pernambuco, and John C. Bridges, of New York, at Brockville, Canada.

A SPECIAL AGENT of the Interior Department has closed seven saw mills in Washington Territory that were cutting Government timber from unsurveyed lands.

Foreign.

WILLIAM O'BRIEN, the Irish editor and Home Rule leader, has been served with a summons under the Coercion bill, for making inflammatory speeches in Ireland.

WINKELMAYER, the giant, who was said to be the largest man in the world, has died in Austria.

THE English wheat crop is a good though not an extraordinary one. The potato crop is short.

GREAT destitution prevails in the region about Fort Chippewyan, Manitoba, and several cases of cannibalism are reported. One old woman at Little Red River admitted having killed and eaten her whole family. Starvation and cannibalism are also reported from Mackenzie River.

THE wholesale discharge of Custom House employes at Havana caused a riot, in which seven persons were badly wounded by the police and troops.

A FRESH attempt to kill the Czar is said to have been made recently by a Nihilist, who fired twice at the imperial carriage, containing the Russian ruler and his wife. The first shot missed the Czar, but the second perforated his coat.

CHINA'S new war ships, five in number, were reviewed in Portsmouth Harbor, England, by the Chinese Minister to Germany.

HAVANA, Cuba, is on the verge of a revolution, occasioned by the recent acts of Captain-General Marin in taking possession of the Custom House and placing the officials under arrest. The city is in charge of regular troops. Several fatal conflicts between citizens and soldiers have occurred.

INHUMANITY TO CONVICTS.

Prisoners Flogged for Giving Information to a Legislative Commitee.

For several days Gov. Gordon, of Georgia has been in receipt of private information that the convicts in camps Nos. 2 and 3, owned by James E. English and W. B. Low had been inhumanely flogged because they gave information to the legislative executive committee. The headquarters of these camps is the Chattahoochee Brick Company, near Atlanta. The principal keeper found that from the back of four of them stripes of flesh had been cut out with the lash When the fact was reported to Gov. Gordon, he signed an order requiring the lessees to show cause on September 1 why the lease should not be annulled. Another order dismissed whipping Boss Bingham and said that he should never more be employed in the State, and still another placed Principal Keeper Towers in charge of the camps in the name of the State.

FROM OTHER LANDS.

SOME MATTERS OF INTEREST IN OTHER COUNTRIES

A Great Demonstration Against the Proclaiming of the League.

A large meeting to denounce the Government's course was held in the Rotunda at Dublin on Tuesday evening. An immense crowd was present and great enthusiasm was manifested. The Lord Mayor presided. There were also two overflow meetings, at which Edmund Leamy and T. P. Gill, M. P., presided. There were present several English and Scotch members of Parliament, including Messrs. Jacob Bright, Cobb, Sutherland, Fenwick and Haldane. Professor Galbraith, a Protestant, moved a resolution denouncing the edict against the League, which was unanimously carried.

The English members of Parliment present advised Irishmen to be calm and to refrain from collision with the law. Mr. Dillon said that in spite of proclamations the League would continue to exercise what Mr. Balfour had called intimidation. Instead of advising tenants to be reasonable, they would advise them in future to double their demands. Mr. O'Brien said that no Irishman was worth a pinch of salt unless he trampled the proclamation under foot, but he advised calmness in the struggle for freedom.

The sensation of the evening was made, however, by the speech of Mr. Cobb, the English member of Parliament for Warwick. He said that the time for words had passed, and that it was now the time for acts. He offered himself for membership in the National League, to stand or fall with its fortunes. He also counseled steady rebellion to the enforcement of unjust laws.

Mr. Jacob Bright, M. P., the brother of John Bright, also made some remarks concerning the views of the English Liberals. He declared himself ready to sustain the League in its fight against the Government. He advised great patience and self-control, but at the same time a steady resistance to the proclamation. He said that the tide was turning in England. If the Irishmen only acted with patience he believed the hour of delivery was near at hand.

Before the proceedings closed the following strongly worded resolution was passed by a unanimous and most enthusiastic vote:

Resolved, That this meeting of the citizens of Dublin denounces in the face of the civilized world the proclamation of the Irish National League as an unscrupulous attempt to drive the Irish people from the path of a peaceful constitutional struggle for their rights, and to disarm them of an organization which has suppressed crime and outrage, and awakened English democracy to sympathy with the sufferings and aspirations of the Irish people, and that we hereby declare our determination never to submit to so gross an outrage upon our constitutional liberties."

Russian and Prussian Crops.

An official report says the prospects for the Russian wheat crop of both winter and summer wheats are favorable in most districts. In the Government of Taurida, however, they are unfavorable.

The Prussian Ministry of Agriculture anticipates the following yields: Wheat, 102 per cent.; rye, 100 per cent.; barley, 34 per cent.; oats, 85 per cent.; peas, 91 per cent.; rape seed, 89 per cent., as against the following yields last year: Wheat, 95 per cent.; rye, 87 per cent.; barley, 37 per cent.; oats, 101 per cent.; peas, 94 per cent.; rape seed, 98 per cent.

Ferdinand Arrives in Sofia.

Prince Ferdinand, the new ruler of Bulgaria, arrived in Sofia at 5 o'clock yesterday evening. On his arrival he received the usual offering of bread and salt, and was presented with an address of welcome in behalf of the municipal authorities. The route which he took through the city was crowded with people, who greeted the Prince enthusiastically. An artillery salute announced the Prince's arrival, and a military guard of honor escorted him to the palace. The city was brilliantly illuminated and there was a display of fireworks.

A Serious Riot at Ostend.

An affray arose between Belgian and English fishermen, at Ostend, Belgium, and gendarmes were summoned to quell the disturbance. The gendarmes charged upon the mob with bayonets and seriously wounded many. A recurrence of the trouble is feared. The Civic Guard is prepared for any emergency.

Floating Exhibition for South America.

A floating exhibition of Spanish products will shortly leave Valencia, Spain, for South America, and will visit all the principal South American seaports. The object is to open up new markets for Spanish goods.

Forest Fires in Corsica.

Forests at Barella and Zambuco have been destroyed by fire. Serious forest fires have also occurred in twelve other communes of Corsica. They are thought to have been the work of incendiaries

GAVE WAY TO HER TEMPER.

A Young Detroit Woman of Good Family Charged with a Serious Offence.

Alice Brown, aged 19, daughter of Thomas Brown, 307 Fifteenth street, Detroit, an accomplished woman but with a fiery temper, occupies a cell at the Trumbull Avenue Station, and may be accused of manslaughter in causing the death of Agnes Sexton, aged 10, daughter of Mrs. T. Sexton, 309 Fifteenth street. The Browns and Sextons are neighbors. There are several children in each family, and the Browns forbade their offspring from playing with the Sextons.

Last Thursday Mr. Brown's 6-year-old granddaughter was riding on a tricycle with Agnes Sexton when Miss Alice Brown went out and ordered them to stop and seperate. Little Agnes was saucy to Miss Brown, when the latter, it is alleged, caught hold of the tricycle and pulled her off throwing the child to the ground. There are witnesses who, it is said, will swear that Miss Brown then jumped upon the child and also kicked her. Agnes remained unconscious for over an hour, but rallied and on Friday afternoon was considerably improved. Saturday, however she became feverish and inflamation set in. Last night the child was so low that its life was despaired of and the authorities on complaint of Mrs. Sexton, arrested Miss Brown.

DYING BY HUNDREDS.

A Terrible Epidemic Attributed to the Low Water in Virginia.

In McDowell county, W. Va., and South eastern Virginia the drought has made the waters very low, and the peculiar disease which has several times previously followed this state of affairs, and which is supposed to be the result of minerals in the water, has broken out. In the Dead Horse Cave neighborhood there are more than one hundred cases and thirty deaths have occurred. Not a family has escaped. Crops are neglected and farmwork is at a standstill. The entire time of all well persons is required to care for the sick. It is estimated that 200 people have died in McDowell county alone in the past four weeks from the disease.

A GREAT FORTUNE.

Left to the Post Trader at the Boston Navy Yard.

A grand-aunt of Louis De Beck, the "post trader" at the Navy Yard in Boston, has left an immense property in Java, valued at 62,000,000 guilders, or about $23,250,000. This wealth, says a Boston dispatch to the New York *Sun*, is to be divided between seventeen cousins, and Louis De Beck is one of the fortunate seventeen. He is the only one who lives in this country. The others live in his native land, Belgium. De Beck has known for ten years past of the prize that was coming to him, and has waited patiently for the disbursement of the money. A short time ago he received the notice that calls him to Belgium to receive his share of the property. He will sail soon with his family, and will return in the winter and settle down to a life of luxury in Boston.

The beginning of this strange story dates back nearly a century. In about the year 1810 Marie Von Water was employed in the family of Lagassa, a merchant prince of Rotterdam, who owned vast coffee plantations in Java, and who had established an enormous trade between that port and Rotterdam. The cargoes for his ships consisted entirely of coffee from the Java plantations, which were prepared for the market by several hundred slaves. This merchant had only one son, and he became enamored of his father's pretty servant, and asked her to marry him. The father interposed no objections, and the young people were married. Soon after the marriage the father and the young couple sailed for Java, and spent the rest of their lives on the plantation. The father died in a few years, and the son succeeded to his vast estates and managed the property so shrewdly that it increased in value. He died in 1853, leaving one child, a son, and his widow. For several years the widow took a personal interest in managing the plantation for the benefit of her child, but in 1869 the boy died. The heart-broken woman lost all interest in her great wealth and left it to her overseers to care for. In 1875 she died, having lived to the ripe old age of ninety-four years. The plantations were in the Holland colony, and the Government took possession for the benefit of the heirs. The family on the husband's side was extinct, and as the Government did not know where to look for the other relatives, the plantation was then run in the interest of the Holland Government.

At the time of the Widow Lagassa's death she owned the vast plantation and more than four hundred slaves in Java, seventy-four ships, half a dozen barks and several smaller coasting vessels, together with extensive warehouses in Rotterdam. A captain of one of the ships was the first to give information that led to the discovery of the rightful heir. His mother knew that the Widow Lagassa's maiden name was Marie Von Water, and mentioned that fact to her son. The Captain knew a family named Von Waters in Rotterdam, and the next time he touched at that point, which was in 1877, he told these friends that it might be well for them to look up their family history and see if they were not entitled to some of the property in Java held by the Holland Government. Then it was that Mr. De Beck heard of his good fortune, and he thanked his lucky stars that his grand-aunt was Marie Von Water Lagassa. He and his wife were in Bruges, Belgium, having gone across the water on a visit to relatives. They were quietly chatting, when suddenly the bell was rung so violently that the rope was nearly broken. Before the door could be opened by the family it was burst in by several excited men who rushed up the stairs into the room where the astonished family were standing. A hasty glance showed them that their visitors were relatives. Everybody spoke at once. The men were crazy with excitement. Finally they became calmer, and told the story of the vast wealth awaiting them. They "counted noses," and found that seventeen cousins were entitled to equal shares in the property. They sent out for their friends and spent the night in merrymaking. They didn't then know the value of the property, but they knew that it would bring a good many thousand guilders to each of them. An eminent lawyer was engaged to investigate the case in their interests. They easily proved their relationship to the deceased owner of the Java plantations. Then the lawyer presented the case to the Belgian government, supported by all the necessary legal papers and proofs. After considerable official correspondence between the Belgian and the Holland Governments, the latter signified its willingness to pay a just sum for the property, with interest for the time it has been in its hands. The Belgian Government sent Mr. Henry M. Stanly, the American explorer, to appraise the property in Java. He fixed the valued at 62,000,000 guilders, equal to about $23,250,000 of our money. The Holland Government offers no objection to paying that sum, and a few months ago the necessary papers transferring the property was signed. Now all that remains for the interested parties is to affix their signatures to the papers, and receive their share of the money accrued. The principal with the interest will amount to nearly $2,000,000 for each person. Mr. De Beck is, of course, happy in the prospect of receiving so much money, but he has not yet given up his old work.

Mr. De Beck is about forty years old, a pleasant-faced, well-built man of medium height. He is of dark complexion, and has dark eyes, dark, curly hair and dark moustache. His face and speech shows that he is a foreigner, but he speaks the English language very well. His hands show that he has worked all his life, and he says he has had no time to devote to his education.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

THE Abyssinian army numbers 80,000 well drilled soldiers.

MINING is commencing to revive in every section of Arizona.

DANIEL EMMETT, the author of "Dixie," is still living in Chicago.

SAM CASON, of Dooley County, Georgia, is seven feet two inches high.

THE balloon for the Paris exhibition of 1889 will carry up 100 persons.

IN 1865 the debt of the Government was $78.25 per capita. Now it is less than $19.84

THE great tower of Babel, which is to distinguish the French Exhibition of 1889 is gradually rising.

THE eight pin factories in New England produce 5,720,000,000 pins a year. In England the production of pins is set at 4,695,000,000.

A DOG bitten by a rattlesnake in Nebraska, instead of dying developed hydrophobia, and bit fourteen head of cattle, all of which died.

THE largest orchard of fruit-bearing trees in this country is claimed by Leavenworth, Kan., which has one that contains 50,000 trees.

A MAN at Columbus, Ohio, stood on the track to see how near he dared let the engine come to him. He hasn't got any heel on one foot now.

A NEW amusement is provided at the London fairs known as "topsy turvey." Passengers are securely strapped in a barrel and rolled about.

THE amount annually expended for benevolent purposes in New York is estimated at about $7,500,000. There are 320 charitable societies and institutions.

EVERYBODY found smoking on the streets of Saugatuck, Mich., during the recent dry spell, was liable to be arrested under the orders of the village council.

Before a Norristown young man started out with his girl for a premenade the other evening, he drew from his pocket a New York paper and read an article entitled, "Nearly One Hundred Persons Made Sick by Eating Ice Cream."