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PREPARE FOR A CROWD.

From all indications there will be a great ingathering of Masons here on tomorrow.

The occasion will be a public installation of officers of all the visiting lodges together with those of the two local lodges.

Preparations are being made to entertain a big crowd of visitors. At least 300 Pitt county Masons are to be with us and we expect large numbers from other counties adjoining us.

The occasion will no doubt be one of an intellectual as well as a material feast, judging from the long list of distinguished officials who are to be present.

Meanwhile let all of our citizens assist the Masons in entertaining the visitors. Let every one who can make up a basket and send it to the Farmers' warehouse for a big spread.

NARROWING DOWN.

It seems that well informed men are narrowing down the list of eligibles for the Democratic presidential nomination. And it would appear that either Senator German or Judge Parker would be the most suitable national leader that could be chosen.

Either of these gentlemen would undoubtedly prove a strong candidate. But as we have had occasion to say before, Judge Parker is the man who would make the ideal candidate for the presidency next year.

There are some phases of Senator German's political record that might prove a trifle puzzling when explanations and condonations have to be made. Nobody doubts his shrewdness, and his magnificent ability as a leader, but then most people will not give their confidence to him as they can to Judge Parker.

We now have a man in the white house who tries to blow hot and cold, who swears allegiance one day to a certain policy, and repents himself the next.

We don't know what Roosevelt is going to do. We want a president upon whom we can count—one of just such a well balanced character as the chief justice possesses.

THE RICHMOND STRIKE.

The street car strike in Richmond has assumed serious proportions. Rioting has been often and repeated. Much property has been damaged and the mayor has found himself unable to cope with the situation and enforce law and order.

Not since the fall of Richmond in April 1865 has the capital city of the Old Dominion experienced such scenes, or have the authorities felt so powerless in view of them.

Mayor Taylor appealed to the governor for assistance, and his appeal caused the governor to order out the seventeenth regiment to preserve order. The local military has assembled at their respective armories ready for emergencies. There are 1,500 troops under arms to stop the rioting and enforce order.

It is to be regretted that matters have come to such a pass in the Virginia capital and a neighboring city too.

Industrial warfare may be looked for, but such disorder almost at our very doors is peculiarly grating upon the nerves. There should be and is a way out of all this difficulty without resorting to methods so expensive to society as strikes and rioting.

It seems that the citizens of Richmond are divided as to the merits of the contest. It is said that the more conservative people are siding with the company, while the unions and laboring people stand with the strikers.

So far, it seems, the strikers themselves have had no direct hand in the lawlessness perpetrated. But their sympathizers have wrought havoc.

It is always the case that the hang-on and camp followers are more lawless than the men who are real parties to the contest. A great many people are always ready to take sides and fight out an issue although they are only remotely, if at all interested, financially or otherwise.

They like a scrap because it furnishes some diversion.

It does seem rather hard to make a railroad pay for the rotten-egg devilry of a lot of rowdies. Still the railroads belong to the octopus type, they are supposed to have the money, and the opinion is prevalent that they ought to pay the freight whether or no.

Chamberlain's Pain Balm is an antiseptic liniment, and when applied to cuts, bruises and burns, causes them to heal without inflammation and much more quickly than by the use of treatment. For sale at J. E. Hooper drug store.

FOR THE CHILDREN

American Boys in Paris.

I remember some years ago that an American woman settled in one of the neighboring streets with her three boys, who were of an age not to conveniently stand being caged within the narrow walls of a Parisian apartment, and they went out to play in the street as they had been accustomed in America. To keep themselves in trim they fought with each other after they had vainly challenged boys of the neighborhood, and the stones they threw oftentimes took the wrong direction and damaged doors and panes of glass. The ringing of door bells, too, became so obnoxious that the people of the street went to the commissaire de police of their quarters and complained.

The mother, who was politely asked to keep her boys indoors, laughed at the interference of her neighbors and said that her nerves forbade her doing any such thing and declared that as the street was a public thoroughfare she would send out her boys to play whenever their noise disturbed her. The boys, of course, laughed in the face of the Parisian urban regulations and continued their pranks. But the French police signified to the woman on governmental paper that within a certain time she must leave the house or be locked up. She, indignant at the want of freedom in European cities, went back with her boys to America.—Paris Cor. Brooklyn Eagle.

A Regular Boarder.

That a frog should travel a mile in order to return to its accustomed home shows more intelligence than frogs are generally credited with.

Four years ago a farmer named Anderson found a large frog in front of the spring house, and when the milkmaid opened the door to put her pail of milk in the spring the frog hopped in behind her.

"Goodness," said the maid, "but you're a big fellow!"

It was a big fellow. From his nose to the ends of his extended legs the frog measured fifteen inches. It hopped out of reach of the girl's hand and partially buried itself in a bed of clay in the darkest corner of the spring house, where, in a stupor, neither eating nor drinking, it remained until the spring. Then it departed.

Each autumn since then the frog has appeared at the first sign of frost and made his winter bed in the spring house. Last year he came as usual, but the farmer desired to make an experiment on him. He was awakened, lifted from his warm clay nest, placed in a wagon and carried to a place a mile down the road. There he was left.

Before evening he was back again. The milkmaid found him at sunset seated before the spring house door, waiting patiently to be let in.—Youth's Companion.

Table of the Two Rats.

A rat seeking a place in which to live chose a palace, saying he preferred high life, while his companion chose a hut, saying he was content with less, says a writer in St. Nicholas. But the palace was found to be a poor place for a rat. The walls and floors were so well built that no holes could be made in them, and the pantry was so well kept that nothing was left exposed to marauders. Moreover, there were so many pet cats and dogs that a rat had no liberty. As a result the rat got nothing to eat and finally starved to death, all from trying to live in too much "style."

The other rat found the hut just what he wanted. There were plenty of holes, the provisions were poorly protected and the barn was near by. The cottage rat accordingly lived in plenty and enjoyed what was really high life for a rat, "for," he said, "a palace has fewer opportunities for a rat than a hovel, and they who aspire should consider what the advantages for them are in the places which they seek."

Birthday Party Games.

Begin by having some music. Among your guests some will be able to sing or play. After that ask one of the boys to do a few tricks which have been prepared before the party.

Then have one of the girls as a fortune teller and have every one's fortune told, either by cards or by the palm or by saucers, as at Halloween. These must be prepared also and may be made very amusing.

Follow by a guessing match, each one guessing the number of beans in a bottle, the number of cards in a pack, the number of pins in a cushion and other things which suggest themselves to you.

By this time have the birthday cake cut and refreshments and then have a peanut race. Play postman, fire and any other games you know. Then blindfold each other and see how many pins they can stick in a cushion in three minutes.

Her Name.

"I'm losted! Couldn't you find me, please?"
"Poor little frightened baby! The wind has tossed her golden fleece; The wind has scratched her dimpled knees!"
I stooped and lifted her with ease
And softly whispered, "Maybe"

"Tell me your name, my little maid; I can't find you without it."
"My name is Shiny Eyes," she said,
"Yes, but your last." She shook her head,
"Up to my house 'ey never said
A single thing about it."

"But, dear," I said, "what is your name?"
"Why, didn't you hear me told you?
Dust Shiny Eyes." A bright thought came.
"Yes, when you're good, but when they blame
You, little one, it's just the same
When mamma has to scold you?"

"My mamma never scolds," she moans,
A little bluish snoring,
"Cept when I've been a-frowny stomas,
And then she says," the outspit ovens,
"Mighty little Shiny Eyes!"
What has you been a-doin'—
—Waters School Journal.

FIGHTING THE FEUDS.

General Howard's Remedy For Kentucky's Murderous Vendettas.

General Oliver Otis Howard, U. S. A., retired, one of the most picturesque characters of the civil war, who recently undertook to put a stop to the feuds of Kentucky by making a trip on horseback through the feud counties, is a firm friend of the mountain people.

He made possible Lincoln Memorial university at Cumberland Gap, Tenn., and his wisdom has been proved by scores of young men and women who have been educated and gone out from the university to lives of usefulness. General Howard believes that education will stamp out feuds, but such advancement is slow in reaching the cabins of the mountains, and he made his trip as a sort of advance agent of education.

With the exception of Lieutenant General Schofield, General Howard is



GENERAL O. O. HOWARD.

the only commander of an independent army in the civil war now living. Besides being an able and efficient officer who had the friendship and confidence of Lincoln, Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, he was known far and wide as the religious general, the officer who, although a warrior, was still a consistent Christian.

He came of a family of hardy, plucky Maine farmers, his father having had a large farm at Leeds. After being graduated with high honors at Bowdoin college he entered West Point. When the first gun of the civil war was fired he was a professor at that institution. He asked for leave of absence, but this was refused. "Well, then, here is my resignation. My country needs me," said Howard. He returned to Maine, and the governor of the state appointed him a colonel in the Third Maine volunteers.

By September, 1863, he had risen to the command of an army corps. During this time he had been in all the battles of the Army of the Potomac and had lost an arm at Fair Oaks. At Gettysburg Howard's troops held the cemetery, the key to the position.

General Howard is still in excellent health and despite his seventy-three years looks younger than many a man of fifty. He became a major general in 1886 and was retired in 1894.

Localizing Her Emotions.

Our minister during a call sang one of those touching, simple melodies which Edith is so fond of hearing. She was very attentive, gazing on his face with her bright, wondering eyes. As the song continued tears began to glisten beneath the lids and glide down her dimpled cheeks. After a few minutes' silence he asked:

"Edith, how do you like it?"
"Oh, very much, Mr. Webb; but it hurts my eyes."—Little Chronicle.

Her Troubles.

Single Man (to himself)—I am sure that darling little angel loves me. She takes me into her confidence and tells me all her troubles.

Same Man (some years later)—Confound it all! From morning till night and night till morning when I'm at home I hear nothing but tales about the servants, the butcher, the butter, the baker, the candlestick maker and the rest of 'em.

Inventing.

The "business of inventing" pays an average smaller profit than any other in the United States.

Chinese Census Making.

In China the inhabitants are counted every year in a curious manner. The oldest master of every ten houses has to count the families and make a list, which is sent to the imperial tax house.

EARLY MORNING AIR.

Its Invigorating Effects Largely Due, It is Said, to Dew.

Most people at some time in their lives probably have risen early enough to experience the bracing effect given by filling the lungs while dew is still on the grass. So far as analysis goes the composition of early morning air is not different from that of air at any other time. It is well to remember, however, that during the passing of night to day and of day to night several physical changes take place.

There is a fall of temperature at sunset and a rise again at dawn, and consequently moisture is alternately being thrown out and taken up again, and it is well known that change of state is accompanied by electrical phenomena and certain chemical manifestations also. The formation of dew has probably therefore far more profound effects than merely the moistening of objects with water.

Dew is vitalizing not entirely because it is water, but because it possesses an invigorating action due partly, at any rate, to the fact that it is saturated with oxygen, and it has been stated that during its formation peroxide of hydrogen and some ozone are developed. It is not improbable that the peculiarly attractive and refreshing quality which marks the early morning air has its origin in this way.

Certain it is that the bracing property of the early morning air wears off as the day advances, and it is easy to conceive that this loss of freshness is due to the oxygen, ozone or peroxide of hydrogen, whichever it may be, being used up.

The difficulty of inducing grass to flourish under a tree in full leaf is well known and is generally explained by saying that the tree absorbs the nourishing constituents of the soil or that it keeps the sunlight away from the grass and protects it from rain. It is doubtful whether any of these explanations is true, the real reason most probably being that the vitalizing dew cannot form upon the grass under a tree, whereas, as a rule, both rain and light can reach it.

Dew is probably essential to the well being of both plants and animals to a greater extent than is known.—New York American.

PICKINGS FROM FICTION.

A witty woman is a treasure; a witty beauty is a power.—"Dianna of the Crossways" (George Meredith).

Speaking to, or crying over, a husband never did any good yet.—"Plain Tales from the Hills" (Rudyard Kipling).

Too many words be worse than not enough, for they'll often leave a man's meaning foggy.—"The River" (Eden Philpotts).

There's a saying that a man who can live quite happily alone must be one of two things—an angel or a demon.—"Songs of the Morning" (Eden Philpotts).

What can one say of the highest music except that, like death, it is the great leveler; it gathers us all to its tender keeping—and we rest.—"In Varying Moods" (Beatrice Harraden).

The genius of hospitality is not so much in making people meet, but in helping them to part—on good terms. Remember that!—"The Gods, Some Mortals and Lord Wickenham" (John Oliver Hobbes).

He Could Wield an Ax.

Queer and racy are the tales told of the skill of the Maine shipbuilders in the use of the ax and broadax. One old time yarn is of a carpenter who applied very drunk at a shipyard for employment. In order to have a little fun with him the foreman set him to give a proof of his skill by hewing out a wooden bolt with no chopping block but a stone. The carpenter accomplished his difficult task without marring the keen edge of the broadax and showed the foreman a neatly made bolt. Then he brought the ax down with a terrific blow that shattered its edge upon the stone. "I can hew faster on your chopping block," he hiccupped, "but I'll be blamed if I can make the ax stick in it when I git through." The story runs that the foreman lost no time in employing such a workman.

How the Patent Office Was Saved.

When in the war of 1812 the British who had taken Washington, trained their guns upon the patent office, Dr. Thornton, throwing himself directly before the guns, cried:
"Are you Englishmen or Gotta and Vandals? This is the patent office—a depository of the ingenuity and inventions of the American nation, in which the whole civilized world is interested. Would you destroy it? Then let the charge pass through my body."
And the building was spared. Twenty-four years afterward, however, it was destroyed by fire, together with everything in it.

Chronic Sores Eating Ulcers, A Constant Drain Upon the System.

Nothing is a source of so much trouble as an old sore or ulcer, particularly when located upon the lower extremities where the circulation is weak and sluggish. A gangrenous eating ulcer upon the leg is a frightful sight, and as the poison burrows deeper and deeper into the tissue beneath and the sore continues to spread, one can almost see the flesh melting away and feel the strength going out with the sickening discharges. Great running sores and deep offensive ulcers often develop from a simple boil, swollen gland, bruise or pimple, and are a threatening danger always, because, while all such sores are not cancerous, a great many are, and this should make you suspicious of all chronic, slow-healing ulcers and sores, particularly if cancer runs in your family. Face sores are common and cause the greatest annoyance because they are so persistent and unsightly and detract so much from one's personal appearance.

Middle aged and old people and those whose blood is contaminated and tainted with the germs and poison of malaria or some previous sickness, are the chief sufferers from chronic sores and ulcers. While the blood remains in an unhealthy, polluted condition healing is impossible, and the sore will continue to grow and spread in spite of washes and salves or any superficial or surface treatment, for the sore is but the outward sign of some constitutional disorder, a bad condition of the blood and system which local remedies cannot cure. A blood purifier and tonic is what you need. Something to cleanse the blood, restore its lost properties, quicken the circulation and invigorate the constitution, and S. S. S. is just such a remedy.

S. S. S. reaches these old chronic sores through the blood. It goes to the very root of the trouble and counteracts and removes from the blood all the impurities and poisons, and gradually builds up the entire system and strengthens the sluggish circulation, and when the blood has been purified and the system purged of all morbid, unhealthy matter the healing process begins, and the ulcer or sore is soon entirely gone.

S. S. S. contains no mineral or poisonous drugs of any description, but is guaranteed a purely vegetable remedy, a blood purifier and tonic combined and a safe and permanent cure for chronic sores and ulcers. If you have a slow-healing sore of any kind, external or internal, write us about it, and our physicians will advise you without charge. Book on "The Blood and Its Diseases" free.

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Grand Lodge B. P. O. Elks

Baltimore, Md., July 21 to 23, 1903

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Via Norfolk, Va., and steamer, single fare for round trip \$8.70. For parties of 25 or more \$7.70.

Tickets reading via all-rail routes will be good returning, leaving Baltimore not later than July 25th, and only when executed by Joint Agent in Baltimore immediately on arrival and fee of 25 cents paid at time of deposit.

Tickets reading via Norfolk and steamer will be good returning, leaving Baltimore not later than July 25th, and only when executed at Baltimore by Agent of the steamship line via which they read. Deposit of ticket at Baltimore and fee of 25 cents will not be required.

Extension of limit to leave Baltimore not later than July 31st, on tickets reading via all-rail routes or via Norfolk and steamer by payment of \$1 additional to joint agent for tickets reading all rail or to the agent of the steamer line over which the tickets read.

These rates are open to all who desire to take advantage of this opportunity to visit large eastern cities.

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