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1870

BUSINESS

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THE COMMONWEALTH

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor. "EXCELSIOR" IS OUR MOTTO. VOL. XVIII. New Series--Vol. 5, SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1902. NC. 48



GETTYSBURG, THE THIRD DAY.

It was noon, and on the field of battle, the guns were silent, hushed, and still. Save now and then the muskets' rattle. From the picket lines, on ridge and hill, all through the night the lines reforming. Strong lines of cannon, and of men as well.

Now comes a lull, amid the storm of fire. And all the hosts the respite gladsly greet; When from the woods a mass in gray attire, Five thousand strong, come forth grim death to meet.

Our hearts rejoice at deeds of valor done By those who wore the blue, the gray, For as o'er the storied hills we roam, And live the scenes of war again, The flag, dear emblem of our home, Waves o'er the men of Georgia and of Maine.

LAST SHOT OF THE WAR. Fired by a Texan in a Hot Battle with Yankees on the Old Palo Alto Battlefield.

A Texan in Washington tells the Post that the last shot of the rebellion was fired by Capt. S. H. Barton, now a prosperous ranchman in western Texas. He says: "When a line of the confederate cavalry was slowly retiring from the field on the plains of Brazos Santiago, in Texas, where the blue and the gray had met in deadly encounter for the last time, a soldier turned in his saddle, and throwing his gun to his shoulder, fired. It proved to be the last shot of the last battle, and it was certainly the last shot of the long war. Barton was a captain in the confederate army and was held in high esteem by his superiors and loved by the brave Texans he led."



HE FIRED THE LAST SHOT.

most desirable small ranches in the state and considerable town property. Capt. Barton is sure that he fired the last shot at the close of the last battle of the civil war, and I believe him, for he is a perfectly truthful man and would not misrepresent a matter of that kind in the least, not even to have his fame spread over 40 pages of history. "The story of that last battle, which was fought on the 13th of May, 1865, after the war was ended and peace was declared, has escaped the attention that it merits, for it was an affair of no little importance. Gen. Egbert Brown, who recently died at West Plains, Mo., was in command of the federal troops in southern Texas, and he was doubtless well informed concerning the termination of hostilities. Gen. J. E. Slaughter, who commanded the confederate troops encamped at Brazos Santiago, had heard rumors of the surrender of the armies commanded by Lee,

Johnston and other generals, but he had received no official notice of these facts from the war department. Gen. Brown, under a flag of truce, informed the confederates of the state of affairs about Washington and Richmond, at the same time inviting them to come in and lay down their arms, as the war was certainly over. "Gen. Slaughter refused to act in the affair of this importance until he was better informed. Thereupon Col. Barrett, at the head of a considerable force, was dispatched to break up the enemy's camp. A hot battle ensued, and, curiously enough, most of the fighting was done on the old field of Palo Alto, where Gen. Taylor achieved his victory over the Mexicans nearly 20 years before. The French soldiers encamped on the southern shore of the Rio Grande were in sympathy with the southerners, and they kept Gen. Slaughter posted as to the movements of the federal troops. Several spirited encounters occurred, and the loss sustained by some of the colored regiments must have been severe.

While the battle raged the confederates were frequently informed by some bold cavaliers in blue that the war was over; one daring fellow shouted: "Lee surrendered a month ago; the war is ended; why don't you go home?" "When the engagement was hottest, Gen. Slaughter received a dispatch, and the French sent him a bundle of newspapers. Fully satisfied that the cause for which they were fighting was forever lost, he ordered the firing to cease. At that particular moment neither side could have claimed any advantage, but both armies began to retire from the field at the same time. "As Capt. S. H. Barton, in command of the rear guard, was slowly riding away a stray ball struck a young man by his side, and he fell from his saddle. That was certainly the last man killed in the long war. Capt. Barton has been unable to recall his name, and he thought that was hard luck, said the old soldier. "The young man had served four years and never got a scratch. The last bullet that came our way killed him. Prompted more by spite at fate than bitterness toward the enemy, I turned in my saddle and fired toward a dark blue line, which I hope was out of range. That was certainly the last shot of the great war."

ORIGIN OF "FIT MIT SIGEL." An Ex-Confederate Thinks the Well-Known Phrase Started in a Missouri Court Room.

"The poem of Grant P. Robinson, 'I Fights Mit Sigel,' reproduced in the Sun of August 22, in connection with the death of Gen. Franz Sigel, reminds me of the time when the name of Sigel was despised in Missouri," says an ex-confederate living in New York who was chased by the men who "fit mit Sigel" in that state, relates that paper. "It was the belief in old Missouri that Pap Price, as his soldiers called him, was invincible. When we heard that a Dutchman named Sigel was in the field on the union side we Johnny Rebs laughed until we were too sore to march. Any thing in camp that was no good was called Sigel. Whenever we got into a country where the people were wavering between the seceded and the union we brought the hesitators around by asking them how they liked a country that had to hire a Dutchman to fight its battles. This started the laugh and often won a recruit. "Finally we went up against it in the battle of Pea Ridge. It was the first square-toed fighting we had done, and, according to history, we were not in it. We didn't sit up in camp much after that singing and cracking jokes about Sigel. "But the saying: 'He fit mit Sigel,' originated, I think, in the court of a justice of the peace of Missouri who was a union man. An old soldier was arraigned before him on the charge of stealing hogs. The evidence was going against the prisoner pretty hot and the old J. P. was scratching his head and biting the ends of his whiskers until his beard looked like a hedge fence after a rabbit chase. The soldier who couldn't speak much, if any, English, was put on the stand, and muttered something the justice didn't understand. "What's your client trying to say?" asked the justice of the country lawyer. "The lawyer replied—of course the lawyer did not know—he says he fit mit Sigel. "Then he didn't steal the hog," said the justice. "Prisoner discharged."

Another Genus Discouraged. He glided into the office and quietly approached the editor's desk. "I have written a poem," he began. "Well!" exclaimed the editor, with a look and a tone intended to annihilate. But he calmly resumed. "I have written a poem on 'My Father's Barn,' an—" "Oh!" interrupted the editor with extraordinary gentleness, "you don't know how greatly I am relieved. A poem written on your father's barn?" "I was afraid it was written on paper, and that you wanted me to publish it. If I should ever happen to drive past your father's barn I'll stop and read the poem."—Stray Stories.

Only Indian Penitence. Armstrong Cornsilk, who has been granted a pension by the North Carolina pension board, is the only Indian thus provided for by that state. Cornsilk is a Cherokee. He served in the Sixty-ninth North Carolina regiment from April, 1862, to the close of the war—Indianapolis News.

Is Not Labeled. The opportunity of a lifetime seldom has a label on it.—Chicago Daily News. DeWitt's Hair Salve For Itch, Burns, Sores.

THE PRESIDENT'S FLAG.

Dispute Between the War and Navy Departments as to Proper Design Is Settled.

A dispute over the proper design for the president's flag, involving the war and navy departments, has been settled by the department of state, which acted as arbitrator. When it was decided during the McKinley administration that the president should have an ensign of his own, to be displayed on ships of war when the president was visiting them, the navy department was intrusted with the work of making a suitable design. The department decided on a blue flag, with the shield of the United States in the center and a star at each of the four corners. Not long ago the war department had a number of these flags made, in accordance with the navy department's design, and printed in colors in a book of flags of all nations which the navy department published officially. Col. T. A. Bingham, of the army, who is a sort of chamberlain to the president, recently discovered there was a difference between the president's flag used on ships of war and the design adopted by the war department. The flag in use by the navy shows a shield with seven red stripes and six white ones, while the flag printed in the book and used by the war department has seven white and six red stripes. Col. Bingham brought this discrepancy to the attention of the navy department, and it was decided to leave to the department of the state department, which designed the shield, whether there should be more white than red stripes or more red than white stripes. The state department produced the original design of the shield, which showed seven white and six red. And there was no getting around the evidence of the original design, the navy department will have to recall its first edition of the president's ensign and manufacture new flags showing seven white stripes and six red ones.

DIPLOMAS FOR SERVANTS.

Association at Chicago Plans to Have "Graduate" Cooks and Laundresses.

According to plans made by the Chicago Housewives' association serving maids may hereafter be obliged to hold diplomas issued by the association in order to secure positions in the homes of members of the organization. This plan, announced by the women at their meeting, is the latest suggestion for the solution of the servant girl problem. The rules regulating the granting of the diplomas are to be definite. The formal testimonials will be granted to a maid only after she has been in one family for a year and has performed her duties with a certain degree of proficiency. Real parchment will be used and the holders will be described as "satisfactory," "good," or "remarkably efficient." Graduate "cooks," "waiting maids," "ladies maids" and "laundresses" will be the classes of household women servants. The association is enthusiastic over its new project. "We have graduate nurses to look after us when we are sick," said one of the members. "Why shouldn't we have graduate maids to look after us in that condition?" A reform in the social nomenclature denoting employer and employe was also introduced, and in the future "mistresses," "domestics," "servants" and "girls" may be dropped from the vocabulary of families of the members. "Matron" and "maid" the association insists, are the proper terms to use.

FROGS AS BIG AS OXEN.

Fossil Bones Discovered in Oklahoma by Scientist of Field Columbian Museum.

H. W. Menke, of the Field Columbian museum, Chicago, is in Oklahoma collecting fossils. A few years ago many fossil bones were found near Orlando. They were small backbones, leg bones, and a few skulls and teeth. Most of these specimens were sent to Dr. S. W. Williston, of Kansas university, now of the Field Columbian museum. He sent Mr. Menke to Oklahoma, where he has collected a number of these great bones. Speaking of the animals to which the bones belonged, Mr. Menke said they probably were members of the class known as amphibians, now represented by frogs, toads, and salamanders. If one can imagine a frog as big as an ox he will have some idea of the appearance of the prehistoric monsters to which these bones belonged.

The Task Was Impossible. The plan to erect eight granite monoliths in the channel of the cathedral of St. John the Divine in Manhattan has been given up at last. The contractor has for years been trying to turn out these columns entire, 60 feet long, but no machinery exists by which they could be turned without breaking by their own weight. So the contract has been modified to allow the columns to be in two sections, 36 and 18 feet long, respectively, the bases, plinths and capitals to be added. Three of these will soon be erected. Each one will cost \$16,000, will be the gift of some individual and named after eminent men of the church.

Humiliating. A New York lady who sued for \$25,000 for breach of promise has been awarded damages in the sum of six cents. That, says the Chicago Record-Herald, ought to take the conceit out of the fellow. Curo Cold in Head. Kermott's Chocolate Laxative Compound, 25c. per box and quick to cure cold in head and eyes.

RIVER PURIFICATION

New Facts in Regard to the Sanitary Condition of Streams.

Old View That Running Water Purified Itself Every Twenty Miles is Proved Fallacious—Sluggish Streams Purify Fastest. "During recent years there has been a change of opinion as to the self-purification of river waters," says a report of the geological survey. "The most rapid purification is found to take place in still water, and not in deep, as formerly held. The issue between Chicago and St. Louis, occasioned by the opening of the Chicago drainage canal, through which the sewage of Chicago is conducted to the Mississippi river via Desplains and Illinois rivers, is based upon the condition in the minds of the people of St. Louis that there will arise effects detrimental to the water of the Mississippi river at that city. The whole dispute centers, therefore, about the old moot question as to how long a distance is necessary for a river to flow in order to purify itself. "We know from chemical analysis and physical examination that a varying degree of purification takes place in a river. In early days this was thought to be due to aeration, and the tumbling of water down mountain sides became the basis for poetic typification of purity. The experiments of the Massachusetts state board of health have shown that aeration has little or no effect upon the condition of organic matter in water—that is, the organic matter is not assisted in its oxidation by agitation in the air. It was also found that the highest degree of activity in oxidation processes is to be found in quiescent or stagnant waters. It then became clear that self-purification in a sluggish stream is far more effective than in a swift current, and that dams and other impediments have a beneficial effect upon the condition of water in river channels. "Promulgation of the facts relating to the self-purification of waters," says Prof. Leighton, who is the author of the report, "led to an entire change in the ideas concerning the distance necessary for stream purification, and it is now understood that no hard and fast rules can be set for guidance in determining the purifying power of any water course. A royal commission, appointed to inquire into the conditions of England's rivers, reported to the English parliament in the early seventies, held that no stream in the United Kingdom was sufficiently long to effect its own purification. The familiar and oft-quoted principle is that a stream purifies itself in 20 miles, but how this distance was determined and who was responsible for it is a matter of doubt; certain it is that the statement is entirely wrong in the majority of cases. Pettenkofer, Nering, Stearns and others have given formulae which are undoubtedly true for the rivers upon which these men worked, but which can in no wise be accepted for rivers in general, and it remains for the investigator to determine by actual experiment the purifying power of each stream with which he has to deal. "The work of examination of the surface waters of the United States recently inaugurated by the geological survey in cooperation with the various college laboratories throughout the country, will be useful in the determination of the self-purifying powers of many of the interstate rivers. These results will be highly beneficial in determining the purifying power of the lakes and corporations which may be looking toward the establishment of sewerage systems, and purification works.

PRIZE-FIGHTING IN ARMY.

War Department Refuses to Say Whether Enlisted Men May Engage in Fistic Encounters.

The war department is reluctant to commit itself upon the subject of prize fighting in the army. Some time ago the commanding general of the department of Missouri requested a decision of the department upon the question of the right of an enlisted man in the army to participate as a principal in an athletic boxing contest. In reply, he was informed that "there are some subjects as to which it is impossible for the war department to prescribe a uniform rule, and that this is one of them. But apart from the strict law in the case, it is a matter of common information that local sentiment is divided in respect to contests of the kind described, and this adds to the difficulty of framing a rule, were there no legal obstacles in the way of its preparation. "There being no legal power in the department to establish a rule on the subject, the acting secretary of war decides that the question presented be left to the regulation of the post commander. If you are sick and seeking advisers, Take DeWitt's Little Early Risers. Take DeWitt's to bed. You will find on the morrow, You are rid of your sorrow—That's all; just enough said. These famous pills do not grip, but move the bowels gently and easily, cleansing the liver. Their tonic effect gives strength to the glands, preventing a return of the disorder.—E. T. Whitehead & Co.

Inclement Weather Brings Coughs, Colds and Catarrh.

Inclement weather begins when autumn ends. The great objection to our climate is that it alternates between the heat of the tropics and the rigors of the Arctic. The system becomes relaxed by the effects of the heat, and the first cold snap of winter sows the seed of thousands of cases of chronic catarrh which in a large per cent. of cases will end fatally.



President Wm. Ubelaker Uses Peruna as a Safeguard against Inclement Weather.

Wm. Ubelaker, President of the Lake View Lodge of Foresters, writes from 327 North Clark St., Chicago, Ill., the following letter: The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O.: Gentlemen—For years past when I have been exposed to wet or inclement weather, my chest would hurt me and I would have serious indigestion, and I would be laid up for a day or two, causing inconvenience and pain. One of my lodge friends advised me to try Peruna, as it had helped him, and I found that a bottle cured me. If I feel badly now I at once take two or three doses, and I find it keeps me in fine health. Peruna is worthy of every one's confidence.—WM. UBELAKER. It is only just ordinary good, common sense to provide against inclement weather. If you have the slightest cold, cough, sneezing, or any other indication that you are "under the weather," a few doses of Peruna will put you right.

Congressman Horace G. Snover, of Port Austin, Mich., writes from House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., as follows: "I have found Peruna a very efficient and speedy remedy for a persistent and annoying cough resulting from catarrhal trouble."—Horace G. Snover.



Mrs. Lavina E. Walker, who holds the highest state office of the Ladies of the Illinois G. A. R., which is Department Chaplain, writes the following letter:

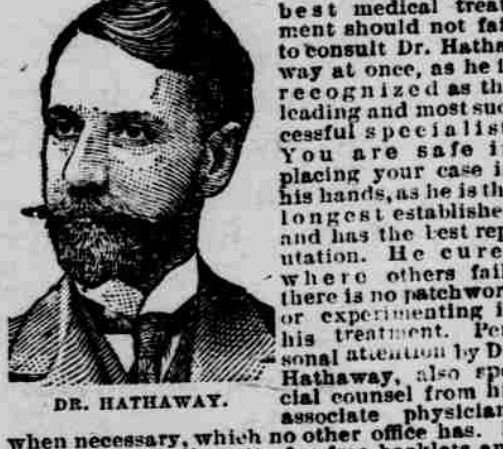
WESTERN SPIRITUS, ILL. The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O.: Gentlemen—You have my sincere gratitude for placing before suffering women a medicine which has proved such a blessing as Peruna has. "I have used it myself when much worn out, and found most gratifying results, and a number of the women of our Order suffering with weakness peculiar to women, have been wonderfully helped and cured by Peruna."—Lavina E. Walker. Address The Peruna Medicine Co., of Columbus, O., for a free copy of Dr. Hartman's latest book on catarrh.

POES DEVOUR THEIR YOUNG. This is shown to be a fact by an instance in Bronx Park (N. Y.) Zoo. In the New York Zoological society's collection in the Bronx park there were until recently two young red foxes which had been born in the cage. When I saw them they were about two weeks old, and rather timid; in looks they were very much like bushy-tailed and red-eared rats, though quite prepossessing. The mother had hallowed under the asphalt of the den, where it was nice and cold and damp (this was in the early spring), and there she kept her cubs. It was not an ideal home for them, but she preferred it to her man-made kennel, relates a writer in Woman's Home Companion. In order to be photographed the cubs were removed from their dens by a keeper, and subsequently handled by others. Then they were put into the actual, which was warm and comfortable. For this that very night they paid forfeit with their lives; the next morning naught but their masks remained. The parents had killed and eaten them. For this reason it is next to impossible to rear young foxes in captivity; sooner or later it will become imperative that they be handled or moved, and then they die.

PERSONAL AND LITERARY.

It is reported that E. Berpoint Morgan has brought manuscripts of Ruskin's "Seven Years of Architecture" for \$25,000. It has been said that Laurence Housman, a literary man of London, is the author of "An Englishwoman's Love Letters." Tooting hall, the house in which De Foe is said to have written "Robinson Crusoe," has come under the auctioneer's hammer. Samuel T. Pickard, Whittier's literary executive and biographer, will sell a great many of his manuscripts and books for the benefit of a fund for the restoration and care of the poet's birthplace at Haverhill and his home at Amesbury. A German author, Friedrich Venz, wrote a letter to another author named Carl Hartmann, in which he used expressions reflecting on the German emperor. Hartmann made the contents known and Venz has been condemned to two months' imprisonment. Mr. Baring-Gould, the author of more books than any other living Englishman, is as upright at 70 years as he was 30 years ago. He attributes this erectness to his invariable custom of writing at a desk in a standing position. Mr. Gould always writes with a quill pen. Great is the industry and fertile is the imagination of Guy Boothby, the English novelist. In less than eight years he has published some 26 books, the majority of which have achieved more than ordinary success. Mr. Boothby is a south Australian by birth and is 35 years of age. In a pleasant magazine sketch of Gladstone's home life we are told that when they were first married Gladstone put two alternatives to his wife, either to know nothing and thus be free of all responsibility or to know everything and be bound to secrecy. His own remark 30 years later, "My wife has known every political secret I ever had," points to the choice she made and also illustrates her discretion. Jeremiah Curtin, best known as the translator of Steniewicz and other Polish authors, is also a tireless traveler. A year ago he returned from a journey around the world and he is now exploring the northwest. He is said to know 60 languages and to be a human encyclopaedia when it comes to the habits of strange people in out of the way corners of the world. Three or four years ago he wrote a book on the religion of the North American Indians, which contained the best collection of Indian folk-lore yet published. For sick headache try Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets; they will ward off the attack if taken in time. For sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co. Leggett's Drug Store, Hollog.

Men and Women



DR. HATHAWAY.

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who are in need of the best medical treatment should not fail to consult Dr. Hathaway at once, as he is leading and most successful specialist. You are safe in placing your case in his hands, as he is the longest established and has the best reputation. He cures where others fail; there is no patchwork or experimenting in his treatment. Personal attention by Dr. Hathaway, also special counsel from his associate physicians, you can not call, write for free booklets and question blanks. Mention your trouble. Everything strictly confidential. J. Newton Hathaway, M. D.