

READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS



Our buyer is just back from the northern markets where he purchased a large and complete line of goods for the holiday trade.



Thomson Co. The People's Store

will show you that there is one priest to every 400 people and if you will include the 50,932 monks and nuns, which is a very low estimate, you will find that there is only one teacher for every 200, while there is only one teacher for every 400 of the population and a school house for every 2,200.

MORE SPENT ON BULL RINGS THAN SCHOOLS.

School houses are very scarce in Spain. More money is paid to support bull rings than the schools. It is estimated that more than \$5,000,000 is expended on bull fights during each year, while in 1901 only \$1,617,314 was expended for public education.

The act of July 1902, requires a school for every 500 population

SLANG PRAISED BY HARVARD MAN.

Frederick Manley Hands Out the Real Goods to Essex, N. J., Teachers Institute.

Slang was handed out yesterday good and proper to the Essex County, N. J., Teachers Institute. Frederick Manley, of Harvard University, who was carded for a spiel on "Language, Literature and Life," let go of some wise, straight, talk that made the bunch of intellectuals sit up and get next.

For the first time in its history the institute had a divided annual session. The High and Grammar sections met in the First Presbyterian Church at Newark, while the primary and kindergarten sections met in the Newark High School.

Mr. Manley addressed the High and Grammar School teachers in the church and the way he whirled out hot facts about slang would sure make George Ade happy. He urged his hearers to get wise to the fact that he wasn't rooting for the slang factory, nor yet carrying around slang samples in a neat weather-proof case; nevertheless there

An Overworked Woman.

I stopped to get a glass of milk the other day at a Jersey farm house, said the consumer, and the female head of the establishment, who had six children playing around, was inclined to repine at her hard luck in having so much work to do.

"I run this whole farm," she remarked, in a tone which indicated that she was ready to resign.

"How many acres have you?" I inquired.

"A hundred and forty."

"Got any stock?"

"Ten head of cattle, two cows, six hogs and work horses for the place."

"And you run the whole business?" I asked.

"Indeed I do; every hide an' hair of it," she sighed.

"Don't you hire some help?"

"Of course, but 'tain't hired help that takes the load off one's body." There was some philosophy in that and I paused a minute.

"Haven't you got a husband?" I then asked sympathetically.

"Yes," she said sternly, "but you see I have to run him, too."

Canadian Empire.

Richmond News-Leader.

The disposition in this country to minimize the outlook for a great empire to the north of us is largely the result of ignorance or thoughtlessness. The more prevalent conception of Canada takes in only the provinces of Quebec, Ontario and New Brunswick and a few more or less important islands, with their comparatively limited area and a population less than that of the State of Pennsylvania.

Several years ago the Dominion government instituted under a scientific commission a systematic survey and exploration of Northwest Canada, and the reports of the commission, which are given in great detail, show that within that territory there is a vast area of unparalleled richness, with a climate little, if any more severe than the climate of the States on the northern border of this country.

With the spread of this information the region has begun to fill up rapidly, and there has been steady development. For the fiscal year ending June 30 last nearly 42,000 natives of the British Isles settled there and 38,000 foreign-speaking immigrants, from every European country except Turkey and Spain helped to swell their ranks.

In addition, 45,000 farmers from the Western States of the United States emigrated to the "new land of promise," many of these were old, moving their flocks and herds, their agricultural implements and all their possessions with them, while others bought their outfits on arrival. During the year the Dominion government granted free 31,343 homesteads, of 160 acres each to settlers and other incomers bought 2,690,519 acres from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company; 1,100,000 from a speculative land organization from the United States, and large areas from smaller corporations and from the government.

In the meantime railroads are building into the region and others are projected. This story of northwest development is interesting not only in its bearing on the matter of dispelling widespread misapprehension but as demonstrating the wisdom of basing all efforts to secure immigration on absolutely reliable and intelligent statements as to conditions and prospects.

THE LAWYER'S ADVICE



STEWART EDWARD WHITE Author of "The Blazed Trail."

While returning to his home in Grand Rapids recently, Stewart Edward White, the author, fell into conversation with an elderly man in the smoking room of the parlor car. The man, as he afterward found out, is one of the most prominent lawyers in Ohio. The talk turned on the timber interests of the North, and several other men took part. Mr. White has lived half his life in lumber camps, and showed a familiarity with the subject that greatly interested the Ohio lawyer, who presently turned to him and said:

"Young man, do you know of a book called 'The Blazed Trail'?"

"Yes, I know of it," said White; "in fact—"

"If you haven't read that story," broke in the man, "you ought to get out at the next station and get it. I've recommended it to every man of my acquaintance, particularly the young men. But you particularly ought to read it, for you're interested in lumber—I suppose you are in the business—and, as a picture of forest and lumber camp life, it's wonderful. I tell you, young man—"

"Excuse me," interrupted White, in some confusion; "but the fact is I wrote 'The Blazed Trail!'"

The older man looked at him hard, and then his eyes twinkled. "I'll send you a bill later for the work I have done in booming it," he said.

THE BLAZED TRAIL

BY STEWART EDWARD WHITE

WILL BE OUR NEXT SERIAL STORY

You can avail yourself of legal advice without paying for it.

Commences in The Gazette Dec. 29th.

SPANIARDS DESPISE TRADE AND LABOR.

Have an Idea That It is Degrading—All Want Government Positions—Millions are Idle—About \$5,000,000 Annually Expended on Bull Fights, But Schools are Scarce.

William E. Curtis, writing for the Washington Star from Granada, Spain, Nov. 30 says:

It may seem a very simple thing, but it is nevertheless a matter of great importance that a Spanish workman rolls a cigarette every few minutes, and thus wastes a great deal of valuable time. Over in Gibraltar, where ten or twelve thousand Spaniards are employed by the British government, no holidays and no cigarettes are allowed, and any one who cares to study the question can find a most extraordinary difference in the men, in the results of their labor and in their character, their condition and their earnings. They "get a white man's wages, but are required a white man's work," as the English boss put it to me, "and no dago nonsense is allowed." The success of this policy indicates what might happen in Spain if some practices were introduced, throughout the kingdom, but Spaniards will tell you that a revolution would follow if such a thing were attempted.

Another important point, which also may seem absurd, is the amount of time wasted in formalities, such as I told you about a day or two ago. No gentleman will introduce business at his first call, but will come back the next day; nor is it considered good form for a Spaniard to decide a question at the first interview. It will not do for him to agree to anything promptly. There must be an overture in every opera. That is the etiquette of the country and wastes no end of valuable time.

TRADE AND LABOR DESPISED.

Then the old fashioned idea still prevails that it is degrading for a man to have anything to do with labor or with trade. Tradesmen have no social position. The farmer who raises wheat is engaged in an honorable occupation, but the miller who grinds it and the merchant who sells it are not. They are not gentlemen and cannot be as long as they live. They must be born

again before they can be admitted to good society.

For this and other reasons young men will not go into business or engage in manufacturing. It is more honorable to be a sponge or a loafer and spend their time gambling at the club. In Spanish families to-day the eldest son looks after the estate; and of the older sons, if there are so many, one gets a position under the government, another becomes a lawyer, another a soldier, another a priest, or they become chronic loafers. Service in the army is more popular than it used to be, because there are no colonies to keep in subjection and the army is not sent out of Spain. But the regulation that military officers may not marry without a certain income, in order that their widows and orphans shall not be a burden to the state, prevents many a young man from entering upon a military career.

The most desirable employment is in a government office, no matter how humble or how unprofitable the position. Hence about one in every 195 has his name on the public payroll, drawing from \$10 a month up in the way of salary. No matter how small the pay, the occupation is honorable, although there is no chance of advancement, and a young woman of wealth and social position will marry a man who holds a sinecure in a government office with earning half the small salary he receives, while she would reject with scorn an offer from a prosperous merchant or manufacturer, who is earning an honest living, accumulating wealth and doing something toward the improvement of his country.

MILLIONS OF IDLERS.

Nearly one-half of the 19,000,000 population of Spain, or to be exact, 8,727,519 persons, according to the last census, declare that they have no occupation, and they are proud of the fact. Probably many of them lied about it, and claimed to be idlers while they are actually working for wages. That is enough to explain the poverty of the country, and why the streets are filled with idle young men, who receive small allowances from their fathers and spend their time in dissipation and vice. According to the same census there are 97,257 persons in the employ of the government, 64,002 retired military and naval officers, 91,900 lawyers, 68,916 doctors, 43,258 priests and only 41,654 school teachers. A little calculation

A Good Old Age.

New York Press.

United States Senator Pettus, aged eighty-three, attributes his health and long life to an avoidance of gravy on his meats. Perhaps if he had eaten gravy he might now be 125 years young, instead of eighty-three years old, which reminds me of a story: Uncle Jeff—"Look a-heap, yo' Hen'y Clay White! How many times has Ah tol' yo' dat smokin' 'll shoten yo' laife mo'n haf?" Young Henry Clay White—"Wal Unker Jeff, yo's been smokin' mos' all yo' laife, en yo's er putty ole man." "Dat's all raight, yo' fool nigger. Ah's eighty-four, en ef Ah hadn't er smoked when Ah was er boy Ah maight e-been mo'n er 100 years ole by dis time."

were times when slang was the goods—the real thing, from soda to hock.

"For example," said Mr. Manley, the "marble heart, and the 'glad hand,' are expressions which had been used in the Bible, would now be referred to by professors of literature as simple and beautiful. I remember a small boy at a prosy lecture who exclaimed: 'Geel! if I don't get out o' here, I'll have bats in me belfry!' What could be more severely critical and definite?"

"I remember hearing a boy enthusiastically describe a girl as 'a peach with the dew on it.' She was a lovely creature with the bloom of May on her cheeks. Was not the boy's description of her beautiful?"

Shipping North Carolina Cotton Seed to Texas.

Monroe Enquirer.

Many thousands of bushels of cotton seed for planting will be shipped from North Carolina to Texas this season. There is a buyer on the market in Charlotte buying every bushel of King's improved cotton seed he can get. This variety, being early, is in great demand by Texas planters, as it matures before the dreaded boll weevil does so much damage.

THREE DAYS MORE!

Scarcely three days remain in which to do your holiday shopping. Almost takes one's breath as the few remaining days before Christmas go flying past. It is so easy to put things off. Don't do it. Come to us right now and let us help you get answers to your Christmas questions.

J. F. YEAGER

THE PRUDENT SANTA CLAUS



will deposit here at least part of the amount ordinarily spent for presents, secure a bank book and one of our little home banks, and drop them into the stocking. Instead of something of temporary value. The Gastonia Savings Bank will open an account upon a deposit of \$1 or over. You not only give your child the dollar, but you may give him a habit of saving, worth more than money.

GASTONIA SAVINGS BANK, L. L. JENKINS, Pres. L. L. HARDIN, Cashier.

Gastonia Banking Co.

Gastonia, N. C.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS, \$75,000.00

State Bank Incorporated May 13, 1903

STATE AND COUNTY DEPOSITORY

OFFICERS

JNO. P. LOVE, President R. C. G. LOVE, Vice Pres. JAS. A. PAGE, Cashier

DIRECTORS

R. C. G. LOVE JNO. P. LOVE EDGAR LOVE ROBT. J. LOVE

THE PROBLEM

One of the most perplexing questions of the year is what to buy as a Christmas gift. What is more useful for a Christmas present than something in Clothing or Men's Furnishings? If you want something that will please your husband, your son, or your sweetheart nothing will more fully meet this requirement than a silk muffer.

Silk Muffer.

Neck Tie, a pair of Silk Suspenders, Gloves, Handkerchiefs, and a thousand other things to be had at the

W. A. SLATER COMPANY

Up-to-date 4444 Cor. Main & South Streets Clothiers and Furnishers Tenthon Building

THE OLD RELIABLE



Absolutely Pure THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE