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by
J. L. RAMSEY, Editor and Prop.,
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At first it was 3,000,000 starving people in Japan. Now it is 300,000. Did 2,700,000 starve?

A man may have made a failure. But if he is willing to try again the failure is not a failure.

The man who kills his mother-in-law ought to, at least, be required to make some sort of excuse.

Andy Carnegie was Hobsonized in Atlanta the other day. He believes that poverty and obscurity go hand in hand.

The Secretary of State chartered a whiskey factory and an organ factory on Monday. Yet there be people who claim that the people are becoming better morally.

We do not expect to shed any tears for people who do not know any better than to build a city at the base of a volcanic mountain.

A Baltimore girl started out to buy her Easter hat with \$14,365 in her purse, and lost it. Down this way girls seldom carry more than three or four thousand plunks when they go shopping.

Pay your poll tax before May 1st or else you will not have the privilege of putting a little scrap of paper, with a list of names printed on it, in a little box this fall. But you can't be hurt much if you miss the little box.

A Durham man killed his wife recently. When arrested he admitted that he did it and said that he was glad he killed her. Now he has changed his mind and will make a fight for his life. We are curious to know whether the plea will be self-defense, an alibi, or simply blame it on the railroads.

Edwin C. Swift, the pork packer, who died a few days ago, was worth \$22,000,000, but had never been able to get in "society," much to his regret. If we had \$22,000,000 and cared to get into society, and couldn't we'd spend at least \$2,000,000 paying fines for kicking society folks whenever we felt like it. And that would be a whole lot funnier than getting into society.

FOR THE RAILROAD OFFICES.

Messrs. Joseph G. Brown, President of the Chamber of Commerce, and R. M. Phillips, the Secretary, have shown that they are the right men in the right place. They are willing to do all in their power to bring the Seaboard Air Line offices to Raleigh, and we feel sure that most of the business and professional men will second any efforts they may make.

Possibly we are mistaken, but it seems that a delegation of business men, headed by Messrs. Brown and Phillips, ought to visit or get closely in touch with the new President of the company and other officials at the proper time. A mass-meeting might be held also.

The removal of the offices to Raleigh would increase our population nearly or quite one thousand. Bring the offices here and the shops burned a few years ago would almost certainly be rebuilt and that would mean much.

Now of all times is the time to show appreciation and enthusiasm. If the company needs more land here or anything else, then we ought to try to give it to them.

Remember that it is now or never. If the offices go elsewhere at this time, there is no probability that Raleigh will ever have even a fighting chance for them in the future.

Raleigh is the logical place for the offices. Nothing would be gained by the removal of the offices to either Richmond or Atlanta. Hamlet is the only competitor Raleigh has in the way of location, and we do not believe that the officers or employes would be willing to go into exile in that community.

Let's get the offices here. We believe that prompt, well-directed and persistent work will get them.

MOUNT VESUVIUS.

For some days Mount Vesuvius, one of the best known volcanos in the world, has been in active operation.

This mountain is situated near Naples, Italy. In time, it has destroyed many thousands of lives, probably a larger total than ever fell in any great war.

Strange to say the people rebuild cities and towns near the base of the mountain only to be damaged or destroyed again, and many lives are destroyed.

The Baltimore Sun gives the following additional, interesting facts about Vesuvius:

"Mount Vesuvius has been in eruption since August 30, 1905, but the present activity really began on September 1, 1904. On the 23rd of that month the crust around the crater gave way and a spectacular eruption followed. Enormous streams of lava were discharged. There were several smaller eruptions from that time until June, 1905, when an alarming increase in the discharges from the crater caused the Prefect to order persons living near the mountain to prepare to move.

"Vesuvius, which is on the east shore of the Bay of Naples, in southern Italy, has been known as an active and destructive volcano for 1,800 years. There is no record of any eruption of Vesuvius previous to that

of A. D. 79, by which Pompeii and Herculaneum were destroyed. In this eruption only scoriae and ashes were ejected, and there is no well-authenticated record of a flow of lava from the mountain before 1036, although eruptions had taken place in 203, 472, 512, 685, and 993. Other eruptions occurred in 1049, 1138 or 1139, and 1306. During the last of these terrific earthquakes shook the surrounding country and destroyed Isernea and Brindisi and many thousands of lives.

The eruption of 1631 began in December of that year, and lasted until February, 1662. It was accompanied with many streams of lava and torrents of boiling water, which overflowed the town at the base and destroyed thousands of lives.

The activity of Vesuvius has been concurrent with that of other volcanos in the Eastern and Western Hemispheres. During the eruptions in the West Indies in 1902, when thousands of lives were destroyed by fire and gases from Mounts Pelee and Souffriere, Vesuvius showed marked activity.

Your Uncle Mark Twain struck Vassar College the other day. One of the girls asked for his autograph for a kiss. The latest news is that he is still writing autographs and kissing girls. Mark passed seventy years some time ago, but he always carries a few extra pen points when he goes to a female college.

Out in Kansas an accommodating evangelist, knowing that many people can't sing, told them they might whistle during the meeting, when singing was going on. It is said that more than a thousand persons were converted during the meeting. But we have never been able to tell the difference between the converted and the unconverted in Kansas.

Give the Lawyers a Rest—They Are Overworked.

It will soon be time to elect another crowd to go down to Raleigh, meet in the capital and call themselves the Legislature. Right in the beginning of this campaign Our Home wants to make one simple suggestion, and that is to raise its voice in behalf of the over-worked lawyers of this country. This thing of dragging them away from their legal practice and forcing them to go to Raleigh every two years to make laws ought to stop. It's worse than cruelty to animals to require them to make so many sacrifices to run our Legislatures all by themselves, and it's time for some other class to come and relieve them. The next time you see a crowd of heartless voters pulling at a first-class lawyer to run for the Legislature it will be a humane act for you to pick up a few rocks and chuck 'em away and make 'em let these apostles of the law alone. Being a very conscientious class of people the temptation to pass such laws as will give lawyers more business ought not to be thrown around them.

We ought to elect a lot of plain, old-fashion, common-sense folks to go to the Legislature and with one "omnibus bill" repeal about ninety per cent of the laws, and make the other ten per cent so plain and simple that any magistrate can understand them, then give the magistrates more jurisdiction and then adjourn with prayer. What we need now is legislators that know how to repeal laws instead of make laws—men who know how simplify instead of complicate laws. If we can get a Legislature of this kind it would deserve a monument to its memory.—Marshville Home.

OPINIONS IN A NUTSHELL.

If the Sugar Trust were easily dissolved, the water would have accomplished the task long ago.—Detroit Free Press.

Odell is giving the New York State Republicans to understand that he is still their boss.—Buffalo Evening Times.

Germany is to have six more big warships. This will cause the British tax-payers to groan again.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Uncle Joe Cannon is still standing pat, but he seems a little dubious as to what he will catch on the next deal.—Philadelphia North American.

In the spring a young girl's fancy lightly turns to Easter togs—and a Paris dress-maker announces a dividend of 15 per cent.—New York Herald.

Senator Depew says he wishes the public would forget him. His resignation would help mightily to that end.—Atlanta Constitution.

There is no conference or talk of arbitration when the coal operators contemplate revising the scale of prices to the public.—Washington Star.

Congress, now in session, should take the duty off soft coal at once, without waiting to see how serious the trouble is next winter.—Boston Globe.

Mark Twain hopes there may be no czars or grand dukes in heaven. Evidently Mark expects to go there himself some day.—Chicago Record-Herald.

If the coal strike continues, the family coal bin will be giving itself airs next winter as the home of the haut ton.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Will ex-Governor Johnson, of Alabama, kindly acquit himself of the crime of being a young man before proceeding further? — Charleston News and Courier.

That Moroccan war cloud may impress them mightily in England, but to us it looks too much like our old friend that used to hang over the Balkans.—Chicago News.

With Tillman and Vardaman and Governor Jeff Davis, of Arkansas, all in the United States Senate, our old friend, Billy Mason, won't be so seriously missed.—Boston Globe.

Professor Garner announces that he has now completely mastered the monkey language. He expects hereafter to be able to move freely in fashionable society.—New York Mail.

The Wilmington man who killed his mother-in-law claimed to be insane, and as he submitted to murder in the second degree, there is perhaps no doubt of it.—Durham Herald.

We have wrestled with the dog tax up this way and the result has usually been a "dog-fall." A revenue can be collected as a license, but not as a direct tax. The State does not consider a dog property, and a town or city cannot. That is our experience.—Winston Republican.

The fact that Senator Spooner and Senator La Follette have agreed on something is deemed of sufficient interest and importance to be telegraphed from Washington. It serves to emphasize the popular impression that the relations of the two Wisconsin Senators are still somewhat strained.—Boston Herald.