NEWS OF THE WEEK.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 22.—J. Baker Steward has been nominated for Congress by the Prohibitionists of the Fifth District.

LONDON, Sept. 22.—King Charles of Portugal has suffered several sudden attacks of illness lately, and it is feared that he cannot permanently rally.

HARTFORD, Conn., Sept. 18.—Dissatisfied stockholders of the Illinois Central Railroad, living in this vicinity, will hold a public meeting here this afternoon.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 18.—Manager Sharsig left for Louisville last night with the remnants of the Athletic Club where he will make an attempt to play out the schedule. Curt Welch signed with Pelzinore.

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 18.—The State Liquor Dealers' Association met here and adopted resolutions stating their position on high license, prohibition, Sunday closing and other matters affecting their trade.

VIENNA, Sept. 20.—The body of a woman named Gorda was exhumed at Szegedin to-day for the purpose of an autopsy. When the coffin was opened it was found that the woman had been buried alive and that she had given birth to a child in the coffin.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 21.—F. H. Brunell, secretary of the Players' League, has completed negotiations for the purchase of a half interest in the Cincinnati Baseball Club. He will to-morrow meet the owner of the other half interest and probably purchase.

SUSQUEHANNA, Pa., Sept. 18.—The veteran soldiers of six counties of Pennsylvania and of Broome County, N. Y., held their annual meeting here. Three thousand soldiers were led by the citizens in the Erie shops. There was a parade, followed by a mass meeting in the opera house, addressed by District Attorney Painter of Binghamton.

NEWBURGH, N. Y., Sept. 18.—In the county court Judge Beattie sentenced George Sarvis, the notorious captain of the "bridge bandits," to nine years and four months in State prison, and John Purcell, another of the gang who pleaded guilty to burglary in the third degree, to five years. Ernest V. Utter, the bigamist, was sent up for four years.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., Sept. 20.—Lizzie Lee was arrested last night charged with being drunk. She was put in a cell in the Grove street station and attempted to commit suicide by choking herself to death by tying a belt around her neck. Death would have resulted in a short time had she not been discovered. She was sent to Snake Hill for thirty days.

WAVERLY, N. J., Sept. 22.—The New Jersey State Agricultural Fair opened here to-day and will continue for five days. The exhibits are much larger than usual in every department, and the trotting and running events every afternoon will be interesting features. It is expected that on Thursday, "Governor's Day," every politician in the State will be present.

TRENTON, N. J., Sept. 20.—Richard W. Goodchild, of Bayonne, a patient in the State Lunatic Asylum, committed suicide. An attendant had seven mild patients out walking. Goodchild being one of the number, and in the rear of the line. A hay wagon passing at the moment, he threw himself under the wheels and his neck was broken. He died instantly. Goodchild was a wealthy real estate broker, and had been in the institution eight months.

TOPEKA, Kan., Sept. 22.—The Sovereign Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., concluded its business and adjourned to meet in St. Louis next September. Before adjourning, the new officers of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, both elective and appointive, were installed. Allen Jencks, of Rhode Island, was appointed assistant grand secretary, and A. C. Cable, of Ohio, grand marshall, J. W. Venable, of Kentucky, grand chieftain, E. A. Kelly, of Washington, grand messenger.

HARTFORD, Conn., Sept. 22.—A stabbing affray occurred on Charles street, this city, last night, in which Dominick Boscari was stabbed in the heart and instantly killed. Antonio Fagio was stabbed under the left armpit, and another Italian, whose name cannot be learned, was cut in the groin so that his bowels protruded. Joseph Newell was also cut in the neck, and has been arrested on suspicion of killing Roscari. Four other participants in the affray have been arrested.

HARTFORD, Conn., Sept. 22.—The body of Miss Ella Beecher, of Ballston, Saratoga County, N. Y., was found in the Farmington River last evening. Miss Beecher, who, with her mother and nurse have been spending the summer at Farmington, disappeared from her boarding house at noon on Friday, and it is presumed that she committed suicide through despondency, she having been in poor health. She was a member of one of the most prominent families in Ballston.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—Jack Dempsey is out with a statement that he will fight Fitzsimmons with skin gloves at either the Puritan Athletic Club of Long Island City or the Olympic Athletic Club of New Orleans, whichever offers the largest purse, or in a first class barn in a finish on neutral ground for $10,000 a side and whatever purse is made up. At present the Puritan purse, $11,000, is the largest one offered, but it is probable that the fight will be at the Olympic Club's house, as Fitzsimmons is under promise to fight nowhere except at the California Athletic Club or the Olympic.

READING, Pa., Sept. 18.—The Reading Railroad has purchased the entire Union Canal property. The canal has been abandoned for the past 10 years. It cost a million dollars to build it 75 years ago. It is not known what the railroad will do with the property.

TOLEDO, O., Sept. 18.—The twenty-first annual reunion of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland is on. Decorations have been put up all over the city upon private and public buildings, and flags can be seen fluttering in the breeze at almost every turn.

NEW YORK, Sept. 18.—In this city for the twenty-four hours preceding 8 a. m., the rainfall was 2.31 inches. The streets in the lower parts of the city along the river front were flooded with water and the cellars in the neighborhood had to be pumped out.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Sept. 23.—William D. Gilbert, nephew and heir apparent of P. D. Gilbert, the millionaire, and a wealthy man himself, committed suicide yesterday by putting a bullet through his head. Ill health is thought to have unbalanced his mind. He leaves a wife and three children.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., Sept. 18.—The Fleming Building here, which is occupied by the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company, was struck by lightning and set on fire during the morning. Before the flames could be subdued $20,000 damage was done and all telephone communication with that city and New York cut off. The employes all escaped in safety.

BOSTON, Sept. 22.—At an adjourned conference of Trade Unionists, Nationalists, Knights of Labor, Socialists and Single Tax advocates a report favoring the concentration of these interests to secure success in matters needing reform was adopted and ordered sent to the various reform organizations of the State inviting cooperation. The report concludes: "This is no mere partisan political movement, but seeks to unite all these heretofore divided forces on several measures to the end that they be made laws.

BALTIMORE, Md., Sept. 22.—Timothy Corbett rushed into a butcher shop and grasping two large knives he plunged one into his body and with the other hacked at his throat until he severed the jugular vein. He then sank to the sidewalk dead. Corbett belonged to good family and a cause for his act is not known. He was chatting pleasantly with his mother when he suddenly picked up a knife and jabbed it into his throat. The knife being dull and ineffective he dashed down the street into the butcher's store where he completed his self-destruction.

$2,000,000 FAILURE.

A Prominent Firm in Boston Forced to Make an Assignment.

BOSTON, Mass., Sept. 18.—S. Gardner Chase & Co., bankers and brokers, No. 146 Devonshire street, have failed, and an assignment for the benefit of the firm's creditors has been made to James T. Phelps, general agent of the National Life Insurance Company, No. 159 Devonshire street.

The firm is one of the most prominent in that line of business in Boston, and the failure is a surprise. No exact figures of the liabilities can as yet be given, but the assignee states that they will amount to $2,000,000. The members of the firm are G. Gardner Chase and Charles E. Legg. The business was started by Papendick, Chase & Co. Mr. Papendick died in 1869 and Mr. Chase conducted the business alone until 1880, when Mr. Legg was admitted as partner.

A statement of liabilities and assets will be prepared as soon as possible and a meeting of creditors called.

The failure is generally regarded as the result of a misfortune that could not be averted, and the kindliest expressions are heard on all sides for the crippled house. The impression is strong, also, that the trouble will not be far-reaching, and that its effects on the market will be only temporary.

ARTHUR COMMENDED.

The Brotherhood Praise Their Chief for His Action During the Central Strike.

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—The grand union meeting of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, which is in the nature of a national convention, was held at Lyric Hall, in this city, yesterday.

Two sessions were held, both of which were addressed by Grand Chief Engineer Arthur. At the morning session 1,000 were present, and in the afternoon 1,350, and divisions were represented from Maine to California and Canada to Panama. Chief Arthur was received enthusiastically.

The following resolution was passed: "That it is the sentiment of this union that we approve the instruction given by our Grand Chief Engineer to the engineers during the late trouble and we have full confidence in his integrity. We also honor the engineers on the New York Central Railroad in following the instruction given by our Grand Chief and in keeping so close to the laws and rules of our Brotherhood."

LAST DAYS AT CRESSON.

The President May Return to Washington on Wednesday.

CRESSON SPRINGS, Sept. 22.—Cresson is decidedly lonesome. President Harrison and members of his family were the only persons in the dining room at about the extensive grounds surrounding the Mountain House.

Mr. J. R. McKee, the President's son-in-law, has decided to take his family to Indianapolis to-morrow night. The party at the Park cottage will then consist of but four persons, the President and Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Dimmick and little Mamie. The Presidents do not expect to remain here but a few days longer, and may return to Washington on Wednesday morning.

KILLED IN A WRECK

A Chicago Excursion Train Run Down by an Express.

TEN DEAD AND MANY INJURED.

Men, Women and Children Pinned Beneath Seats and Window Sashes.

A Mother and Daughter Horribly Mangled—The Engineer and Fireman Arrested—Removing the Injured in the Reading Wreck to Their Homes—Wreck on the Baltimore & Ohio.

CHICAGO, Sept. 22.—Shortly before 8 o'clock last evening a Burlington switch engine crashed into an Illinois Central excursion train at La Vergne, ten miles out of Chicago, both roads coming from that point into this city as far as Sixteenth street on the same track.

The police first stated that forty people had been killed, while the railroad officials insisted that there were but three fatalities. In half an hour after the wreckers reached the scene of the collision seven mangled bodies had been dragged from the heap of broken timbers and twisted iron in which the heavy switch engine was imbedded. Three other people were seriously injured and six slightly.

The excursion train was returning filled with passengers who had been spending the day in the country.

The Burlington trainmen assert that they passed Millard avenue, a short distance from the scene of the smashup, under a clear signal, and that the red lights on the rear of the passenger train were burning with extreme dimness.

The train in the collision consisted of fifteen cars, the three rear cars being telescoped by the force of the engine of the Downers' Grove express, which was running to make up ten minutes lost time before reaching the city limits.

List of the Killed.

Three of the killed were young men who have not been identified. The others are:

Otto Schloept, Lottie Dinnan, Martha Dinnan, Miss Pilgrim, Mrs. Brennan and daughter, and Mr. Nehman.

The wreck presented a fearful sight, the engine being piled on top of the rear coach, and men, women and children were seen to make their way from the windows and other means of escape, while others were pinned beneath seats and window sashes.

The number of injured is now estimated at fifteen, all of whom were taken to the hospital. It is believed that six of this number will die.

Engineer Dickinson, together with his fireman, who manned the Downer's Grove express, were arrested and locked up in the Central Police Station.

THE READING HORROR.

All But Six of the Injured Removed to Their Homes.

READING, Pa., Sept. 22.—The persons injured in the wreck at Shoemakerville on the Reading Railroad who were transferred to the Reading hospital are being taken to their homes as rapidly as their condition will permit, and to-day there are only six remaining in the hospital. The damage to the tracks has been repaired and trains are running as usual. Those whose curiosity prompted them to visit the spot yesterday were rewarded by seeing the locomotive moved from its resting place in the river to a point near the bank, while the debris of the broken cars which had been dragged out of the water is still lying along the bank.

This afternoon the coroner will begin his inquest. It is not probable that anything new will be elicited. The disaster is regarded here as having been purely accidental.

The name of David Amgstadt, a barber of Mahanoy City, should be added to the list of the dead. This brings the number of victims up to 22.

Killed in a Freight Wreck.

CONNELLSVILLE, Pa., Sept. 22.—One of the biggest freight wrecks in the history of the Pittsburg division of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad happened about 2 a. m. at Benning's Station, twelve miles west of here. Engineer James Shields was killed and Fireman Harry Cyphers probably fatally injured. Three other train men were injured.

Carnegie's Liverpool Speech.

LONDON, Sept. 22.—Mr. Andrew Carnegie the Scotch-American iron-king, has partially made amends for his recent Dundee speech in which he offended the English people by denouncing their aristocracy. In an address at a banquet in Liverpool he took occasion to ridicule the notion that Great Britain was in danger of declining in wealth or power. He declared it a fallacy to suppose that if the United States adopted free trade they could sweep English trade from the face of the earth, as had been claimed by some recent writers. Great Britain's trade with America was bound to continue, and no hostile Government could lessen it.

The Bodies Cremated.

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—The bodies of the young German actress, Emilie Rossi, and her young artist lover, Gustave Kosh, who committed suicide in a sensational manner on Thursday last, were cremated at Fresh Pond, L. I., yesterday afternoon. A number of friends of each of the dead accompanied the remains from their late residence in this city to the crematory, where short addresses were delivered by Manager Amberg and Mr. C. A. Frisse. No religious exercises were held.

THE BELL BOY'S PLOT.

Cassin's Partner Turns State's Evidence and Tells About the Robbery.

NEW YORK, Sept. 22.—A striking story of cool criminal logic was told at the Jefferson Market Police Court during the examination of Henry Cassin and Oscar Matthews, the two bell boys of the Hotel Vendome arrested for stealing the $12,800 contained in the strong box of the bookmakers Carlin and Saunders.

Matthews turned State's evidence, and told how Cassin secured possession of the money. He said Cassin approached him several times with a plan to take the box from the safe. Cassin said he would be willing to serve ten years to have the money, which he could hide and use when his term expired, as the sum was more than he would be able to earn in that time. Cassin said he could easily get the box, as he knew the combination of the safe, but Matthews declares he refused to have anything to do with the scheme.

Cassin was held in $10,000 bail, and Matthews was sent to the House of Detention.

CONVICTS ON A SPREE.

They Find a Cask of Whiskey and Get Intoxicated.

SING SING, N. Y., Sept. 20.—A number of convicts in the prison were employed in unloading a carload of rags in the prison yard yesterday afternoon, and while they were taking the rags out they discovered a small cask filled with whiskey.

They kept the matter quiet and placed the keg at one side of the car. The prisoners one after another paid frequent visits to the interior of the car, and suddenly, to the surprise of the guards, the men became hilarious.

The guard investigated the matter, and entering the car found that the keg of whiskey had been opened and almost drained of its contents. The men were having a glorious spree.

They were immediately brought into line and despatched to their cells.

Michael Brown, a 10-year convict for burglary, was helplessly drunk and had to be carried to his cell. The remainder of the whiskey was poured into the Hudson River.

BELL BOYS CONFESS.

How the Bookmaker's Money Box was Spirited Away.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—Nearly all the money taken from the box at the Vendome Hotel has been recovered. The bell boys, Oscar Matthews and Henry Cassen, have confessed. During the excitement caused by the loss of Helen Dauvray's dog the clerk placed the box on the counter. One of the bell boys took it, handed it over to the other and together they broke it open with a chisel and threw the empty box away.

The accused boys were brought to the Jefferson Market Police Court, where they were remanded back to police headquarters at the request of Inspector Byrnes, and who will probably make public the full confession of the boys. Just how much of the money or bonds have been recovered is known only to the police.

BASE BALL RECORD.

Sept. 22, 1890.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

	Won	Lost	Pct.		Won	Lost	Pct.
Brookl'n	79	42	.653	Chicago	57	50	.606
Boston	74	47	.611	New York	56	61	.467
Philadel.	73	48	.603	Clevl'nd	37	82	.331
Cincin'ti	71	51	.582	Pittsb'rg	31	104	.168

PLAYERS' LEAGUE.

	Won	Lost	Pct.		Won	Lost	Pct.
Boston	75	43	.635	Philadel.	64	57	.528
N. York	69	51	.575	Pittsb'rg	53	64	.453
Brookl'n	75	50	.560	Clev'land	48	71	.403
Chicago	69	59	.539	Buffalo	33	88	.272

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.

	Won	Lost	Pct.		Won	Lost	Pct.
Lout'v'le	73	40	.646	Roch'st'r	56	52	.519
St. Louis	67	48	.583	Athletic	55	57	.490
Col'mb's	63	50	.563	Syracuse	43	65	.398
Toledo	57	53	.518	Baltim'e	31	82	.274

ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION.

	Won	Lost	Pct.		Won	Lost	Pct.
N. Hav'n	78	31	.716	Harrisb'g	46	68	.403
Lebanon	55	47	.539	Wilm'n	32	62	.300
Newark	56	56	.500				

Died in the Pulpit.

ALBION, N. Y., Sept. 22.—G. T. Cain, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of this place, went into the pulpit yesterday in his usual health and had proceeded through about half of his sermon when he paused and without warning fell to the floor. He never regained consciousness and expired in about ten minutes. Heart disease was given as the cause. He successively held charges at Erie, Pa., Philadelphia, Williamsport, Pa., and Mansfield, Ohio.

Death of Editor Woodbury.

BOSTON, Mass., Sept. 22.—John Hubbard Woodbury, assistant editor of the Youth's Companion, died during the morning at the residence of his son-in-law, William E. Wilson, in Cambridge. Mr. Woodbury was 64 years of age, was born in Barre, Mass., came to Boston thirty years ago, and has been connected with the Youth's Companion for sixteen years. His death was caused by cancer.

Stabbed by a Jealous Boarder.

BOSTON, Mass., Sept. 22.—George W. Ogilvie fatally stabbed James Doherty at a house in Somerset street last night. Both were boarders in the house and it is believed that Ogilvie was jealous because Mrs. Westland, the keeper of the house, was going to marry Doherty. Ogilvie started a dispute with Doherty and without any apparent cause plunged a knife into his abdomen. Ogilvie was arrested.

Lay It to American Lobsters.

BERLIN, Sept. 22.—Forty delegates of the Beekeepers' Congress now being held at Fulda have been stricken with typhoid fever and four of them are already dead. The doctors allege that the disease is to be traced to their eating canned American lobsters.

TERRIBLE DISASTER

A Reading Express Train Plunges Into the River.

MANY PEOPLE WERE KILLED.

A Scene Never to be Forgotten by Those who Survived.

Two Carloads of Injured—Ghastly Search for the Dead and Wounded—Bodies Still in the Schuylkill—Workmen Hunting for Victims—Partial List of the Killed and Injured.

READING, Pa., Sept. 20.—The Williamsport express train left the main Philadelphia and Reading station in this city at 5:55 o'clock last evening, ten minutes late, with two baggage cars, one Pullman parlor car, four day coaches and one sleeper attached to the engine in the order named. The train was packed with people, every car being crowded.

The train was running at a high speed, thirty-eight or forty miles per hour, when, without a moment's warning, it dashed around a sharp curve into the rear of a coal train that had been wrecked but a few minutes before.

There was an awful crash, the passenger engine leaped high in the air and then toppled over and rolled fifty feet down the steep embankment into the Schuylkill River, dragging with it four cars.

The collision of the trains was instantaneous. The engine was plunged beneath the surface of the rushing waters, and the engineer, John Waite, of Pottsville, Pa., and John Templin, his fireman, of the same place, were pinned beneath the frightful wreck. The cars turned over three times and two were submerged at the first crash.

Heartrending Shrieks.

The air was immediately filled with heartrending shrieks and pathetic cries, then in a moment all was silence. Not a passenger escaped from the first Pullman car.

The cars were crushed into splinters and do not bear a semblance of their original shape.

Very few, if any, of the ill-fated passengers escaped without some injury—the wreck was complete.

The doctors on duty at the wreck estimate that at least forty dead bodies are still under the wrecked cars in the river and that it will be impossible to get them out before this afternoon.

The Killed and Injured.

The following is a list of the dead that have been identified:

William D. Shomo, Reading; John White, engineer, Pottsville; James Templin, fireman, Pottsville; Harry Logan, conductor, Pottsville; David Augstadt, Mahanoy City, died after being taken from the wreck; E. W. Logan, baggage master, Shenandoah.

The injured are: Harrison Rimand, Philadelphia, leg broken and internally injured; Joseph Southwood, Centralia, badly cut and injured; James F. Merkel, Bethlehem, badly cut about head and internally injured; John Thornton, Shenandoah, cut about head and left shoulder broken; Frank B. Holl, manager of Frank Mayo's dramatic company, cut about head and body and bruised; about arms and legs; John Carroll, St. Clair, back hurt and internally injured; Joseph Ashfield, Mahanoy City, bruised about body and legs; William Glassmayer, Port Clinton, badly cut about breast; Thomas Cooney, Philadelphia, head and legs injured; Robert Cotton, Pottstown, injured internally; Samuel Shellengerger, Hamburg, legs injured; B. W. Cithler, Girardville, foot and leg mashed; John Coolick, Mt. Carmel, hurt internally and hand smashed; W. W. Johnston, Shenandoah, head badly cut and leg broken; George Sanders, Reading, badly hurt about back and neck; Benjamin Franklin Beecher, Shenandoah, left hip badly cut and leg hurt; James Berkhart, Shenandoah, left hip crushed and legs hurt; John Hess, Mahanoy City, legs badly hurt; David G. Young, Mahanoy City, head badly cut and leg sprained; Lyman Dick, Hamburg, both legs broken; Dr. B. F. Salade, New Ringgold, right arm badly hurt; Jacob Clemmer, Pottsville, both legs broken; Samuel Coomb, Mahanoy City, badly hurt about body and leg broken; William Simmers, Ashland.

Robbing the Dead.

Two Italian laborers working on a contract near by were detected in robbing the dead and dying, and they were arrested by Detective Lynch of the city.

The scene was one of great horror and can be better imagined than described. The cries of the imprisoned passengers were heartrending. It was a scene never to be forgotten by those who participated and survived. Some of the passengers managed to crawl out of their prison and sought the neighborhood.

Caring for the Injured.

The injured had their wounds dressed on the bank, and those who live out were taken to their homes and those who reside in this section were brought to the Reading hospitals. The company put about 200 men at work in getting out the dead and dying.

Mr. Shomo, who was killed, was worth over half a million dollars, being largely owner of real estate and one of the directors of the Citizen's Bank and one of the owners of the Academy of Music.

Engineer White took Engineer Lynch Heller's run, the latter having been killed at the Tuckerton wreck a few months ago.

Assembly Nomination.

MEDINA, N. Y., Sept. 22.—Henry Tanner, of Ridgway, was nominated by the Democrats for the Assembly in Orleans County.

LASSOING A BIG SNAKE.

Cowboys Come to the Rescue of a Mexican Plantation.

Returning from a short visit to Chihuahua, writes a Paso del Norte (Mexico) correspondent of the New York Sun, I met a Mexican peon, an old acquaintance, named Leon Carrizo, who had just arrived from the coffee plantations of the southwest.

"Anything worth seeing down in your country?" I asked.

"Nothing specially interesting," he answered, "except that at this season it is the worst country on the face of the earth for spiders and snakes. Why, the roads down in Pachucha and Orizaba are bigger than your hat. You may be sitting under your vine some fine afternoon reading a paper when all at once a big, ugly, gray thing as large as a chair cushion will flop out from the weeds and approach you with the utmost familiarity. We never disturb them, for they are sure death to poisonous insects and perfectly harmless to us. Down in the lower country we do not mind such things so much as we do the deadly snakes.

"There is a sort of hoopsnake in the Vera Cruz country called 'coralito,' a slender, but exceedingly active fellow, crimson in color, which has a vicious bite which is almost as deadly as that of our terrible rattler.

"About three weeks ago I was passing through the coffee plantation of my friend Sandoval, near Pachucha, when in the hot broiling sun I was astonished to see the natives drop their work and rush off as if they were mad. Pretty soon an intelligent peon shouted for me to go fast as I could from the spot.

"'The serpent!' he cried. 'He is coming. Run for your life.' For a moment I was dazed, but taking to my heels, I followed the others, and soon arrived at the 'hacienda.' All was excitement there. Two of the most expert cowboys in all Mexico happened to be at the hacienda. They gathered their Mexican riatas or grass ropes securely, and spurring their mustangs slowly forward, followed by the shouting rabble, cautiously approached the ploughed field where the snake was said to be."

"Is this a yarn," I asked, "or is it a fact?"

"Fact, I assure you," answered my friend.

"The cowboys and the crowd moved slowly down to the field, and there in the middle, with neck elevated and head wagging from side to side, was the biggest reptile I ever saw in my life. Two bulls had one cow which he had bitten lay dead on the ground near by. His body was as big as a man's leg, and his flat, ugly head looked as large as a dishpan. The reptile saw us coming, and making no immediate coil he waited for our approach. Slowly the cowboys rode up to him, their mustangs snorting and prancing, and when within a safe distance they began to ride around the snake in a circle, swinging their lariats at the same time and going at a tremendous pace.

"Round and round they went at a fast speed, the snake attempting to follow them with his head, but it was very confusing, and soon mixed him up badly. The mustangs galloped faster and faster, and just at the right moment, a cowboy each side of him, two magic circles flung quivering out into the air, and as fatal nooses settled down over the head of the big writhing creature. The cowboys knew their business and the mustangs knew theirs. First tightening the nooses with several quick little jerks, the riders let their ropes have all the slack they could, and then, keeping about yards apart they started off in the same direction, as fast as they could. The consequence was that the snake had his feet pulled from under him, so to speak, and was dragged for nearly a mile by those fiery young mustangs over the rough road they could pick out."

"Well, that is a whopper," I at length found words to say.

"No whopper about it," answered the Mexican, "but straight facts. He measured twenty-five feet after the boys had thrown with him, for he was very tiger and soft after the rough handling he gave him and his hide had been worn on the sharp rocks. We left the carcass on the field that night, but before morning a band of peccaries, or wild hogs, came sneaking out of the timber, and devoured every scrap except the bones and thorny tail. There is another one down there, the female, and be one of the one we killed. The boys after her, and I should not be surprised if within another week she would be treated and served even worse than her partner."

Portugal's Female Bull Fighter.

A German girl, Fraulein Johanna Bierstick, is just now the heroine of the town at Lisbon. She was born near Berlin, but when a child went with her parents to Portugal. When she was seventeen an impresario struck with her size and beauty, offered to train her as a female bull-fighter. The agent sent his boy, who is not yet twenty, to complete the show of female beauty, which took place last spring at Lisbon, where he closed off the first prize. The audience proved an excellent one, for since the impresario has been bombarded with letters from persons of all ranks wishing to know when the beautiful Johanna is to make her debut. She has not yet appeared in the arena, but when she came out in a trial fight at Oporto a huge crowd collected to see the novel sight. The young woman had had two bulls in the sand and they bellowed to bands of music, amid a thunder of applause. Crowds of people collected before the windows of the house at which the torera was staying, and far into the night she was obliged to appear on the balcony in response to their calls for her.

—The Bishop of Bangor, presiding recently at a meeting to promote intermediate education in Wales, said he would never consent to any system which would supersede the historic grammar schools.

THEY DON'T KISS THE BRIDE.

Most St. Louis Justices Have Given Up the Practice.

It was in Justice Sheehan's office, says the St. Louis *Chronicle*.

He was from the country and looked like a red-headed bean-pole. His bloody necktie was crawling over the speckled apology for a collar, and his butternut pantaloons smiled at the knees and disdained his shoe tops.

She was also from the country. Peaches and cream were nowhere when set beside her cheeks, her eyes were way out of a poet's reach and her lips drew tears from Fred Gereke.

"Now, don't you be so wicked," she pleaded of her partner; "the Judge'll only do it once, and I've got plumb heaps of 'em left!"

"Don't care. He'd just better watch out. Let him try it!" and the lover doubled up his hammer like fist, drew back his sleeve and glowered at the good-looking Judge.

During the ordeal the man seemed on pins. He looked at the lady and then at his Honor, and then with a scowl at his feet. His fingers twitched nervously and he almost forgot to make the answer.

"I now pronounce you, John Jenkins, and you, Mary Bounce, husband and wife," concluded Judge Sheehan. Reluctantly John dropped his wife's hand and nerved himself to bear a shock.

Mary glanced with a smile at the splendid judicial whiskers, and with an almost imperceptible upward movement of her chin puckered her lips. The dearest kind of little dimples wear near the corners of her mouth and a stone would have kissed her.

But the Judge just held out his hand in a friendly way.

Mary's eyes snapped. The pucker disappeared and the dimples fled. She just touched the Judge's fingers and turned coldly away.

John, however, was in glee. A smile like a barndoor lit up his face and played way round to the lobes of his ears. He grabbed the outstretched hand and almost crushed it.

"Don't you ever kiss the bride, Judge?"

"I haven't kissed one for seventeen years. The last kiss bride I kissed was my own. You see, it generally rifles the groom to try it on. He believes he is the only one that has a right to the bride's lips and I don't blame him.

"Fred, though, thinks that the brides ought to be kissed. A few days ago I married a couple, and after the ceremony I moved away from the place where I was standing. Fred walked up. He is a little near-sighted, but generally knows what's good. The bride had stepped across the room and one of the maids was where she had been. Imitating my voice, the scamp said, 'Madam, my prorogative,' and leaned over. A smack startled us all and Fred went back to his desk with a satisfied smile. It wasn't till four days afterward that Fred found out that he saluted the maid instead of the matron. He doesn't talk so much as he did. I've got the drop on him, you see."

"Yes, sir," said Justice Patrick Kane; "I kiss every good-looking bride."

"No I don't—not nowadays," said Justice Jim Spaulding. "But I give you a hint that I'd like to do it. I'm too bashful. Eddie, though, generally kisses the girl. That boy Eddie is a daisy. If the bride has a heart she can't refuse him."

"I'm a married man," said Jerry Ryan, "and as I couldn't get my wife's consent to do such a thing, I don't. John kisses them once in a while when they 'are extra good looking."

"The last justice that made a regular business of smacking all the brides was Henry Buennaman, who had his place upon North Market street. He used to have some fusses with the infuriated husbands, and could tell more than one good story on himself. One day a woman came over to him from the cane brakes in Illinois. The woman was doing all the business in the case, and the man kept in the back. She was tall and lean and didn't have a tooth. Her face was a hatchet and her breath was like the breath of a pestilence. As the Judge—God rest his ashes—wound up his 'Whom God has joined together let no man put asunder,' the lady with a wild grab flung her arms round Henry's neck and pecked him square in the mouth. 'I was bound to go you first, Judge dear,' she cried. Buennaman nearly fainted."

Judge James McCaffery does not kiss. "I'm a married man," he said, "and my wife would kick. You see the husband has the first right to his wife's kisses, and if he's got any spunk always let's you know it."

—General Booth, of the Salvation Army, has undertaken to settle, in a book he is about to publish, most of the great social questions that have perplexed philosophers, theologians and political economists for ages. The title of the book is, "Darkest England and How to Get Out."

—The Borough of Rutherford, N. J., has had a notable growth during the past three years in all church work. The Presbyterians have erected a large stone edifice, costing $80,000. The Episcopalians are rebuilding their house of worship, making it more than double the size of their old one. The Methodists are engaged in seeking new quarters for a much larger building than they now occupy. The Baptists, who formerly worshipped in a small room known as the Masonic Hall, now occupy their new edifice, which has a seating capacity of three hundred, with an active membership of sixty-five.

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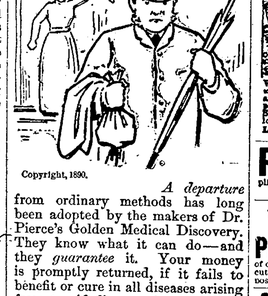
Host—Yes, and I've good reason for it. You know the old ruin on the hill back of the hotel is haunted, and lots of tourists put up here at this hotel just to see the ghost. Now, what does the blankety blank specter do but strike me for an increase of wages—the low-lived whelp—and I'm already giving more than he could earn anywhere else.



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