THE JOURNAL

W. R. HEARST.

162 NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK.

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1896.

Entered in the Post Office in New York as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month.....40
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year.....$4.50
DAILY, Without Sunday, Per Month.....30
DAILY, Without Sunday, Per Year.....$3.00
SUNDAY Alone, Per Year.....$1.50

Three times the above rates in all foreign countries, except Mexico and Canada.

All money remitted at risk of sender.

In order to secure attention, subscribers wishing their addresses changed must give their old as well as new address.

IN ENGLAND The Journal can be purchased at the office of the International Publishing Company, Trafalgar Buildings, No. 1 Northumberland avenue, London, S. W. Also from Smith, Ainslie & Co., Ormonde House, 28 Newcastle street, Strand, London, W. C.

Journal readers will confer a favor upon the publisher if they will send information to this office of any news stand, railway train or passenger steamboat where a New York paper should be on sale and the Journal is not offered.

THE WEATHER.

Official forecasts for to-day indicate that it probably will be fair and warmer.

"What will become of the bicycle scorcher in the great hereafter?" inquires an exchange. He will doubtless continue to scorch.

The next time Mr. Money and Mr. Hall indulge in a writing fluid duel they should first take the precaution to blotter pad their exposed points.

A number of our public men who are not sure as to the direction in which the financial cat will finally jump are hiding out behind some very commonplace platitudes.

Hon. Bob Smalls, one of the South Carolina delegates to the St. Louis Convention, has flown from Mr. Hanna's coop, and there are other Southern delegates who are resting uneasily on their perches.

Mr. Harrison may not be a candidate, but at the same time his Indiana friends are preparing to make a hard fight against instructing the delegates from that State for McKinley. It is barely possible that the ex-President may be induced to change his mind.

In order to add to the hilarity of the situation, Governor Bushnell has snipped off the heads of a few more of McKinley's office-holding friends. Governor Bushnell doubtless does this in order that the country may be convinced of Foraker's loyalty to the Ohio candidate.

One section of the new by-laws of the American Theosophical Society prescribes that no one shall have a right to state publicly any belief of the society. This is a wise and salutary rule, enabling Theosophists to believe what they please unvexed by the arguments of the worldly. Would that a similar plank might be inserted in the next Populist platform.

The impending death of Mr. Theodore Roosevelt's little bill is regarded by astute politicians as an indication that the head of the Police Commission is not as firmly rooted politically as the community was being led to believe. Roosevelt's strong and somewhat unique personality, together with his evident preference for hot water as a medium in which to live, say the politicians, has given a false idea of his political strength. Recent developments have shown that Mayor Strong is not altogether in love with his appointee, and Platt declines to take him into camp until he has sat a little longer on the anxious seat or indulged more freely in the "knee drill" of repentance.

A MENACE TO THE MILITIA.

In its ideal form service in the National Guard of a State ought to be something more than mere practice in the goose step and the evolutions of military science. Those who engage in it should learn something beyond the manual of arms. They should be taught that the volunteer service is in fact the highest type of military service, involving as it does a free gift of personal devotion to the State. The national guardsman makes of himself a part of the executive machinery of the commonwealth, pledged to enforce its laws and maintain its integrity. This he does not as the regular army officer adopting a profession which shall be to him a lifelong means of livelihood. He does it because he believes in the State, in the orderly organization of society, and is willing to give freely of his time, and, if need be, his life in its defence.

It may be urged that many militiamen have joined their commands more for purely social reasons than because of any such grave devotion to the State. Doubtless this is true. Yet the fact of the service to society is seldom wholly forgotten by them, and should, so far as possible, be impressed on their minds.

Essential to faithful service is the conviction of the national guardsman that the State he defends is just and equitable—not tyrannical and oppressive. If he become convinced to the contrary he will be but a half-hearted soldier, or will even—not inexcusably—desert the ranks. For this reason the multiplying instances of heavy fines and cruel punishments inflicted on New York national guardsmen for trivial violations of military discipline injure rather than protect the efficiency of the militia force. Henry H. Lazaurs, for example, a member of the Ninth Regiment, was fined $7 for missing three drills of his company. Though he explained that his absence was due to the serious illness of his wife, he received no consideration, but was thrown into jail, the amount of the fine and accrued costs being beyond his power of payment. He was released through the action of the Journal in paying his fine, but is scarcely likely to be a very enthusiastic soldier of the State which cast him into jail, leaving his wife and child penniless and without food. Other men than he, and wives other than Mrs. Lazaurs, are likely to join her in the opinion that "a married man has no right to be a soldier."

The authorities of the National Guard should not be slow to understand how quickly instances of oppression such as this will undermine and destroy the usefulness of the militia.

A CHAMPION FOR HUNTINGTON.

The New York Times, in an article which seems intended to open a defence of the proposition to allow C. P. Huntington, his pals and confederates to loot the National Treasury of some $200,000,000, lays much stress upon the fact, or at least the assertion, that "in the case of the Union Pacific Company the repayments (to date) will exceed by $5,000,000 the entire amount of these bonds."

Suppose this were true, what of it? Has the Times gone over to Populism? Is it so far removed from trustworthy sources of financial instruction as to be unaware that a debtor may pay in a score or more of years more than the face value of his debt in interest without releasing himself from the obligation? The argument that when the total interest payments have equalled the principal the debt should be considered extinguished has indeed found some favor on the prairies of Kansas, but it is rather novel in New York.

This assertion of the Times derives added inportance from the fact that in the same article it goes on to commend the proposed plan for funding the debts of the Central and Union Pacific roads—debts, respectively, of about $57,000,000 and $54,000,000. This bill may be described in a phrase as a proposition to give the railroad corporations—i. e., Huntington and his millionaire associates—fifty years extension of time on their debt now overdue, and then release them on payment of less, by about $200,000,000, than the actual payments which will then have been made by the United States on their account. "The restoration of solvency among railroad companies," quoth the Times, speaking ex cathedra, "means the restoring of healthful conditions in traffic matters, and healthful conditions in traffic matters aid prosperity in general business."

We can discern how opportunity to supplement the swindling operations by which he has already made himself a multi-millionaire by a new raid on the United States Treasury for $200,000,000 more may aid the prosperity of Collis P. Huntington, but how it is to profit the despoiled taxpayer is a thing not dreamed of in our philosophy.

COY AND BLUSHING MAN.

A great many conservative people have for some time been sore afraid that the new woman was overloading the stock of masculinity in the world, and at first sight it really looked as if she would disturb the natural balance of male and female qualities by abandoning what were distinctively her own. She has certainly hardened her muscles and her sensibilities. She no longer screams at the burglar under the bed, but resolutely holds him by the leg until her husband performs his toilet and calls an officer. She no longer blushes at the life school or at the dissecting table, and she writes gynecological romances without turning a hair. In cane rushes and cock fighting, it is true, she has not yet shown anything like a competitive ferocity, but in this larger sphere we must give her time. In the divorce court and on the forum there are indications of her ultimate superiority in the prize ring and the rat pit. These indices of corporeal progress might well give rise to grave apprehensions as to the disturbance of the balance of sex powers if it were not for one remarkable fact that seems to be strangely overlooked—and it is this: that as woman abandons her effeminacy, man picks it up, and thus by a beautiful compensating arrangement restores the equilibrium of forces. It is only a half century ago that Darwin announced that a female infant not yet arrived at consciousness blushed when it was offered an indignity. A French savant has now declared, after repeated experiments, that it is only the male infant that blushes. And this automatic reversion has been effected in less than forty years. Similarly we are told that it is the male students who blush in the mixed classes of anatomy, just as it is the male novelists who pull their veils down and write the nice, soft, gentle romances.

Buffalo has recently furnished an illustrative incident. There was a fashionable wedding there in one of its swell churches, and just as the ceremony reached its beautiful crisis the bridegroom fainted and was supported in the arms of his bride. There was some little surprise, of course, as there always is at anything like sudden progress. But this will pass away when the grooms accustom themselves to veils, and can thus hide both their blushes and their deathly pallor.

It is an accepted axiom of science that an energy cannot be dissipated, and it is therefore palpable folly to lament the destruction of feminine weaknesses of heart and mind. They are only being transferred to men.

PORTRAIT OF A CANDIDATE.

Mr. Lou Payn, one of the heralds of the State Republican machine, has in his paper let the Platt cat out of the bag, and furnished the marks of identification on the coming Republican candidate for Governor. He is to be a man who will reward his friends, and don't you forget it, and no civil service slouch who will reward some other man's friends because they happen to be better qualified. He will be a man who isn't ashamed of being identified with the Platt ring, and he will not waste any tomfoolery with men like Mayor Strong and Mayor Wurster. In short, he will be a man of the ring, by the ring and for the ring all the time.

It is very doubtful that this candor will meet with the approbation of Mr. Platt, who is not in the habit of showing his hand in this manner. That it is the lively intention of the Boss of New York to "jam through" a Governor of his own brand there is no doubt whatever, but he isn't announcing it on ten-sheet posters, and Mr. Lou Payn has unquestionably received a note before this marked "private," and informing him that he is "too fresh," and just a trifle "previous."

A CROWN FOR A WIFE.

Young King Alexander of Servia appears to have served notice on Europe that he is about to go round the world in search of a wife. This announcement created no surprise in the courts of Europe, where wives are generally understood to be a condition precedent to a succession. But there is, it is said, considerable prejudice among the possible wives who are in waiting upon effete monarchies against this Carpathian sovereign on account of his father. Even court wives object to an establishment burdened with an expensive and ornamental old roue, whose mistresses are always in the way and whose ineradicable tendency is to spout the family crown whenever he takes a fancy to some fresh Parisian cocotte.

These are objections which, on a continent where crowns are cheap, have great weight, but it cannot be said that they will be urged in America, where crowns are not to be picked up at the pawnbroker's. The young King of Servia may be induced to extend his matrimonial researches as far as the United States, in which case we can promise him a clear field and no prejudices—at least among the marketable daughters of America who have imperially frugal minds, and who would rather live in Belgrade than in Boston.

Specifications as to the exact weight and pattern of the Servian crown have not yet been furnished by the young King's advance agents, but we take it for granted that the utensil is of the constitutional kind and is not washed. And as for the old man, fancy any such trifle as that giving Zella Nicolaus a pause! There are some stalwart daughters of America who are professional matrimonialists, and not even a blase father will "phase" them, provided always the crown passes muster at Tiffany's and Sherry's.

When Weyler's twenty days of grace expires he can be depended upon to grant an extension of time.

In no State of the Union has the quarrel between the McKinleyites and their antagonists been more fiercely fought than in Illinois, and for this reason: the convention of Republicans in that State, to be held to-morrow, is of more than local interest. It was the purpose of the Republican ring which controls the State, with headquarters in Chicago, to deliver the full delegation to anybody who could beat McKinley, and to this end Senator Cullom was put forth as a stalking horse. But though the "machine" boasted loudly of its ability to control every Congressional district in the State, it was beaten in almost its first contest. Ten McKinley delegates have already been chosen. To-morrow's convention will select four delegates-at-large, and if these should be instructed for McKinley, it will be irrefutable proof that the sentiment in his favor among the Republican masses is too positive for even the most violently hostile politicians to defy.

It is extremely doubtful if the retirement at the present juncture of Lord Salisbury on account of ill health would tend in any way to clear the atmosphere of complications as between England and America. Lord Salisbury is an exceptionally able man, despite his ultra-Britishism, which, after all, is his form of patriotism. As a younger son, without fortune, he made an honest living for himself as a newspaper writer, and notwithstanding the good fortune that has attended him of late years, he has attained his honorable position by hard work—a quality which causes Americans to respect him while dissenting from his policy. With the Duke of Devonshire as Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and Joseph Chamberlain as Government leader in the House of Commons, there would not be much prospect for betterment in our relations with England should Mr. Arthur Balfour succeed Salisbury, as seems probable. While the latter is at times stiff-necked and arbitrary in dealing with foreign affairs, it is by no means certain that his successor will be an improvement from an American point of view.

Senate Bill No. 502. Robbery! $2,469,659.17.

Washington, April 27.—This is a story of pillage and plunder; a tale common enough in the annals of Washington. In sort, it is a drama, wherein the good Smithson casts his bread on the far away waters of sixty years ago; Arkansas performs as the bunco sharp, and the Government as the gulleless up-countryman. This is the story, in plain simplicity.

James Smithson, Briton, F. R. S., died in Genoa, June 27, 1829. He was a son by the left hand of the first Duke of Northumberland, and wore the arms of that high house with the bar sinister added. He was a man of refined, even elegant elevation, educated to a feather edge and reputed the first chemist of Europe. He was not married, and with the black of illegitimacy upon his brow he lived an English Ishmael, claiming neither kith nor kin. Incidentally he was worth $500,000, a fat fortune of that day, and dying, Smithson left it to the United States, a land he had never visited, and where, so far as is known, no friend of Smithson moved or had his being. The bequest read as follows:

I bequeath the whole of my property to the United States of America, to found at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men.

Andrew Jackson, President, brought notice of the gift to Congress. There was much bicker over it. Some there were who deemed it beneath the nation's dignity to accept. Others were not so delicate. November, 1836, a bill was filed in the name of the President of the United States, in the English Court of Chancery, wherein it was prayed that the bequest be carried out and the gold be delivered over. A decree was made granting the prayer, the British judges advancing the case on the docket so as to bring an end at once. The money was paid over in golden sovereigns, and, packed in eleven boxes, arrived in New York City July 17, 1838, to the care of the Treasurer of this country.

Smithson's money—$500,000—was now here. What disposition should be made of it? First and last, the investment of this money involved a list of national celebrities. John Quincy Adams was much disturbed. He wrote in his diary at that time:

My mind is filled with anxiety and apprehension lest the fund (Smithson's bequest) should be squandered upon cormorants or wasted upon electioneering bribery.

It would seem that J. Q. A., albeit no seventh son of a seventh son, in these apprehensions was dashed a bit with the power of prophecy.

It was proposed to invest the $500,000 in good State bonds and devote the interest to the Smithson purpose. There was a debate of many days. Such as John Quincy Adams, Allen Thurman, Jefferson Davis, Andrew Johnson, Rufus Choate, Robert J. Walker, John J. Crittenden, Hannibal Hamlin, Stephen A. Douglas, Alexander H. Stephens, John C. Calhoun, Tom Benton and Daniel Webster took part.

It was decided to buy bonds. Advertisement was made and many bids put in. Corcoran, the philanthropist, a Washington banker, and founder of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, representing the State of Arkansas, made an offer for the whole money and got it. The Government took a bundle of Arkansas bonds and turned over the entire $500,000 to that Hungry Joe of a State. The Government took the bonds; Arkansas took the Smithson bequest. To-day, as this is read, the bonds, every one of them, with never a coupon cut or disturbed, lie in the Treasury building at Washington. Arkansas has never paid a dollar, principal or interest. Nor does she intend to. The whole amount which Arkansas owes the Smithsonian comes now to be over two millions of dollars. And it is through Senate bill No. 502, which measure has already passed the Senate and is now on the road to a vote in the House, that Arkansas aims to cheat herself free of this claim. Now about Senate bill No. 502:

Congress was persuaded in 1850 to pass a swamp land act, in which all the States having swamp and overflowed lands were granted the same that they might reclaim them. As years rolled by and enterprising thieves began to appreciate the situation, it was discovered by these same sharp folk that the United States had disposed of great areas of swamp lands to pioneers. A cash indemnity act was rushed through Congress, and harpies began looting the Treasury.

Millions of these claims were allowed and paid, and paid over again; and they continue to be paid and repaid till this day, though five and forty years have passed since the swamp land grant was made.

Yet millions have been rejected and are still being rejected, and prominent among them are the claims from the State of Arkansas.

The credit of the State of Arkansas is not so good as it was, and its statemen have concluded it needs mending. In fact, unless something is done it will altogether disappear.

Besides the default on the Smithson fund it has refused to pay the Chickasaw Indian orphan fund and the Chickasaw national fund borrowed from the Government in 1874, and still refuses to pay them or a dollar of interest, and the United States owe nearly $600,000 in consequence.

August 4, 1894, an Arkansas statesman persuaded Congress to pass an act to authorize a compromise between Arkansas and the United States. Arkansas wanted to offset her fake swamp land claims against the unpaid Smithson bonds. This act arranged for a commission composed of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Interior and the Governor of Arkansas. They were to enter into an agreement of settlement subject to the approval of Congress.

Arkansas pulled herself together, started out her swamp land sleuths, and in less than six months had gathered enough "claims" to aggregate within $572 of the total Southern and Chickasaw funds, interest and all, though she coolly refused to compute any interest after the maturity of the bonds on the plea that it could not be collected at law, and therefore she should not be charged with it.

In the case of the Smithson fund she attempted to chop off a cool million of interest, and smiled at the innocence of the Government in charging it.

Thus it is to-day. Arkansas offsets in bill 502 a list of fake and fraudulent swamp claims against the smithson bonds, lying dust-eaten in the Treasury. It is a steal, as the term goes; a steal without redeeming flounce or confusing frill. Not a "statesman" in Washington can defend it. The bill consummating the crime, Senate bill No. 502, has already passed the musty body that originated it, mainly because of Senate ignorance. It will pass the House, sans doubt, mainly through Huse ignorance. It will then be ignorantly signed at the White House, and the swindle be complete. Great indeed is legislation.

In the stark days of Jackson, with fourteen million of people, it cost fewer than $20,000,000 annually to run the Government. We had an army as large as the army of to-day, and a navy that was the terror of the seas. To-day, with 70,000,000 people, not five times as many as in Jackson's day, it costs over $600,000,000.

The per cent of increase is easily arrived at. It is due to waste and pillage—this increase—part is stolen, part of it thrown away. As a matter of fact, this Government can be run as well as it is to-day and every debt paid for $150,000,000 a year, and any half wise, half honest business man could conduct it for that. The other $450,000,000, which go to make up the annual $600,000,000, is the merest loot and waste. The Smithson story and Arkansas pouching of the Smithson bequest, coupled with her present proposed "settlements," will give a bird's-eye view of how the public money is flanked and conquered by the brigands who assail it. This Smithson story is but a specimen brick. There are many of similar sort.

"But," one says, "there is a Smithsonian Institution built years ago, and to-day maintained. How came that if the Smithson legacy was filched by the State of Arkansas?"

In reply, it might be said that the general Government, in a spirit of shame, after having allowed Arkansas to carry off the Smithson gift, reached into its own pocket and built the Smithsonian Institute, and now, by a yearly appropriation of $30,000, keeps it up. But the Smithson bequest, which should have erected the institute, went every dollar to the pocket of Arkansas, is there to-day, and likely to remain.

A. H. L.

AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

ABBEY'S	John Hare
AMERICAN	Myles Arson
BROADWAY	El Capitan
BIJOU	The Widow Jones
BOWERY	Variety
CASINO	The Lady Slavey
COLUMBUS	The War of Wealth
DORIS'S	Continuous Vaudeville
EDEN MUSEE	Wax Works and Concerts
EMPIRE	Rohemia
EIGHTH AVENUE	Variety
FIFTH AVENUE	The Speculator
FOURTEENTH STREET	The Village Postmaster
GARDEN	His Absent Boy
GRAND OPERA HOUSE	Rob Roy
GARRICK	Thoroughbred
HARLEM OPERA	The Chief aln
HERALD SQUARE	The Heart of Maryland
HOYT'S	A Black Sheep
IRVING PLACE	Die Weber
ICE PALACE	Skating
IMPERIAL MUSIC HALL	Vaudeville
KEITH'S	Continuous Vaudeville
KOSTER & BIAL'S	Chevalier and Variety
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE	Tristan and Isolde
OLYMPIA THEATRE	Santanelli
OLYMPIA MUSIC HALL	Marguerite
PEOPLE'S	The White Slave
PROCTOR'S THEATRE	Vaudeville
PROCTOR'S PALACE	Vaudeville
STAR	The Law of the Land
SANFORD'S	The Land of the Living
STANDARD	Chimnie Fa..den
TONY PASTOR'S	Continuous Vaudeville
TROCADERO	Vaudeville

HERRMANN.

There is no sensation more agreeably titillant than that of being artistically gulled. Deceit is odious only when it is clumsy and obvious. It has an exquisite morality of its own that robs life of a good deal of its baldness and banality. That is why I am so fond of Prof. Herrmann. That is why I made a bee-line for Palmer's Theatre last night, and thanked my stars that there was nothing more legitimately dramatic in town. A six-act melodrama at the People's Theatre would have done for me. I should have rushed for the Bowery, irate and discontented. As it was, however, Herrmann had no rival attraction. He was there to gull, and mystify, and deceive, and surprise, and cause loud outbursts of juvenile "Oh's!" and "Ah's!"

Herrmann's art is not that of the puerile and vulgar conjuror, who appeals merely to the weak-minded and unsteady. He is not the sort of "entertainer" to invite to a cheap tea fight, with muffins, and squealing children and perspiring mommers. Herrmann is an artist who takes you into his confidence, puts you on the very best of terms with yourself, allows you to infer that you could do his tricks just as well as he does, if you only knew how, and then proceeds to puzzle and disturb you.

He is so easy, so unaffected, so non-laboriously humorous, so quaint and so courteous and refined about it all, that he is not merely a facile necromancer, but an admirable actor. There are a dozen conjurors who do their "turn of legerdemain" at the variety halls, but they never succeed in being anything but conjurors—men with a specialty to offer, sandwiched in between Tottie Coughdrops and educated dogs. Herrmann's art is the very refinement of deception, the poetry of humbug. He robs charlatanism of all its horrors, and makes a luxury of it.

As soon as Herrmann made his appearance I allowed the agony of positive opinions to slide gracefully away. I sat still while Herrmann gulled me. There is no shame in my confession. If he had been a hypnotist, an occultist, a Theosophist, or any other ist, I should have felt compelled to be on the qui vive for the immorality of deception. With Herrmann, however, one looks for nothing but its dulcet morality. So I watched his tricks with the keenest interest, and found them as entrancing and as bracing as of yore. The hilarity of cheerful childhood soon made me happy, and before I left Palmer's Theatre all my old illusions had returned. I could have gone to the theatres, inspected the chestnuts of fifteen years ago, and voted them great. I believe that I could have raved over "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and "The Two Orphans." I could have appreciated Mrs. Potter as Juliet and Nat Goodwin as David Garrick. I should have had the greatest pleasure in the world in swearing that two and two made five.

When a fellow is in that condition, he feels tolerably comfortable. The very instant that you fail to wax indignant when you are told that two and two make five, you know that the gay insouciance of your beter self it with you. Herrmann shows you the infinite superiority of picturesque uncertainty to base and niggardly certainty. He is far more suited to the requirements of adults than to those of children, for it is to the intelligence that he appeals perpetually.

The best part of Herrmann's programme, to my mind, was that unostentatiously announced as "thirty minutes with the inimitable Herrmann." It was then that you saw the man himself without the gew-gaws, spectacular arrangements, scenic accessories, and pictorial devices, and other theatrical aids. Those thirty minutes were felicitous ones. The good old card tricks, watch manoeuvres, hat illusions and handkerchief mysteries bobbed up once again in novel garb. You laughed at Herrmann's quiet and unexaggerated witticisms; you felt the spell of his magnetism, and when the curtain fell you wanted more. Skeptics in the audience hinted at confederates.

A rude person near me insisted that the chubby boy who was apparently lured reluctantly to the stage, and the rubicund gentleman who was seemingly unwillingly dragged there, "travelled with the show." Just as though it mattered whether they did or whether they didn't. Suppose they were trained actors, what of it? It wouldn't be the first time that we have paid out our money to see trained actors doing the ingenuous. The question of confederates didn't worry me in the least. If Herrmann finds it easier to gull us with confederates, so be it.

A new "hypnotic wonder," delightfully devoid of any suggestion of hypnotism, but reeking with Herrmannism, was introduced after the "thirty minutes." It was called "Trilby," "by kind permission of A. M. Palmer and Paul M. Potter" (I felt sorry to see that the Harpers were neglected). Herrmann did the Svengali act to the Trilby of Mrs. Herrmann, and the band played "Ben Bolt." The lady was placed on a board across two chairs, the chairs were removed, and you saw her suspended between ceiling and floor, very comfortable and quite at her ease.

The "Asiatic trunk mystery" was a puzzler with a vengeance. A small lady was fastened in a bag, then locked in a trunk, which was placed in a bigger one. Presto! Prestissimo! She greeted you, free and unfettered, with a smile on her face, while the locks and keys and bag and trunks had been transferred to a larger associate. Then came "The Artist's Dream," a pride tiresome perhaps, but decidedly pictorial, in which Herrmann appeared as Edouard de Reszke, alias Mephisto, and Mrs. Herrmann wore the brown velveteen continuations popularly supposed to belong to artists. She dreamed that her picture came to life, and you felt quite pleased that it was only a dream, as Annetta turned out to be so exceedingly ugly and graceless.

The entertainment also included some exceedingly tinted dances by Mrs. Herrmann, whose evolutions were described as "l'Etoile de Nuit," "La Danse de Vesuvius" and "Le Rayon de Soleil." The audience appreciated the gallantry that prompted Herrmann to give his wife a chance, and the lady certainly made the most of it.

This delightful evening had one flaw only—and that flaw was contributed by a villainously ineffective orchestra. This should be remedied. The interlusions are numerous, and necessary, and the music should be of a better quality and less suggestive of a concert in a country barn. Perhaps Herrmann will hypnotize the orchestra leader, as he succeeded so well with Trilby. At any rate, it will be worth his while to try.

ALAN DALE.

Warfare Between Naval "Line" and "Staff."

Washington, D. C., April 27.—The conflict between the "line" and the "staff" of the navy is progressing with a degree of violence greater than has existed during the forty years of the struggle. It has been a source of annoyance to every successive Secretary of the Navy during that period. About twelve years ago an order was issued by the then Secretary requiring naval officers while in Washington to wear full uniform. The object was to render these officers so conspicuous that they might easily be identified in connection with lobbying work for or against any measure pending in Congress relating to the personnel of the navy. The pressure brought to bear against this order was so strong that it was revoked.

Public attention was first called to the pending contest inside naval circles by the fight in the Naval Committee room between Congressmen Money and Hall. That encounter shows how the poison engendered by this long, protracted conflict has extended to the national lawmakers. The opposing elements have their respective friends and supporters in both houses of Congress, and men prominent in public life maintain that before another dollar is appropriated for the navy this internecine strife should be finally settled. The ward room of a vessel of war is a very small battlefield, and yet contentions are going on in those small spaces which are destroying the efficiency of the service, and which tend to demoralize the crews. The navy, like the army, is composed of various corps, but there are two grand divisions—the line and the staff. The line includes every officer who is in the line of succession to the command of the vessel, and therefore takes in the commanding officer and the lieutenants who have charge of the upper deck. The staff embraces all the other officers, such as the engineers, paymasters, surgeons, naval constructors, chaplains, and even the marines are part of the staff of the navy, although they have a line in their own organization.

The distinction between these two divisions is so marked that each division occupies the state rooms on a particular side of the vessel—the line having assigned to them the starboard state rooms, while the staff officers must be content to occupy the state rooms on the larboard or port side of the vessel. All this may seem trivial to the landlubber, but it is made of great consequence in the navy. The starboard gangway is reserved for all notables and officers, while the port ladder is used by the crew and the workmen from shore. This is a distinction of which the staff bitterly complains.

In the days when this line and staff question began every ship was a sailing vessel, and carried a very large number of fighting men. The sailors did the drudgery, conveyed the military men from harbor to harbor, and practically performed all the work, while the military men secured the emoluments and the honors. It was not long before the worker of the ship found that it was an easier matter to learn how to handle a gun than it was for the soldier to acquire the art of seamanship. In those times the sailor was the staff and the soldier was the line. Friction, of course, resulted from these two elements being on board the small craft of those early days, and history does not tell how the sailor got rid of the soldier, but it is fair to presume that more than one of the military dragoons found a watery grave with the assistance of the sailors. About two hundred years ago there were warships which carried a thousand men, and the sailor had then managed to increase his force to about one-third of the total contingent. The military authorities of the European nations soon found that their most efficient ships were those in which the men in charge of the motive force were in the majority, and therefore it was useless to carry on a vessel a man who could fight and do nothing else.

The invention of the steam engine not only created a revolution in industrial manufactures on shore, but it resulted in a change at sea. The arrival of the engineer was regarded as a blow to old time methods and historic precedents, but some consolation was found by the jolly tars in the fact that the steam engine was very expensive, and that it could only be used as an auxiliary appliance. With the increase in boiler power the war vessel became correspondingly more potent and effective. She was able to move faster, manoeuvre more quickly and have a wider field of action. It was not long before the commanders themselves desired more steam appliances for their own particular vessels, while at the same time lamenting the fact that the sails and spars were disappearing. The steam winch, the steering engine and other auxiliaries were gradually introduced until the modern battleship has become a mass of complicated and crowding machines.

The officers of the line contend that those of the staff not entitled to any command, who are not properly "fighting men" of the navy, should not be permitted to rank with the military element. The staff maintain that they do not desire to attain command of ships, nor to exercise authority over any persons save those in their respective departments of the service. They ask distinctive grades with strictly military titles, indicative of length of service and rank. They also ask positive rank with the line, according to date of commission, as in the army and marine corps. They also insist upon the honors, immunities and privileges of their de facto rank, and equally with the line officers in every particular, save the right to quarters in the cabin and military command in the line. Further, they demand exclusive control of their respective departments; that the Chief Engineer, for instance, shall have command of the subordinate engineers. The line officers not only oppose, but resent their demands, as tending to elevate a lower order of persons connected with the navy to the high position that belongs exclusively to officers, as that term is understood.

When this subject comes up for discussion upon the floor of the House, as it will, the volcano will break forth. The line have numbers, patronage and social influence supporting their cause. The engineering societies of the country, the great technological institutions of the land, the various technical and marine journals and many of the industrial iron trades are fighting the cause of the engineers. Secretary Herbert is now considering the best and most effective method of repressing the belligerency existing in his department. Assistant Secretary McAdoo is in favor of adopting very stringent means, and it may be that some prominent naval officer, or officers, will be treated with the severity the regulations warrant, with the view of making an example that will stop the warfare.

JULIUS CHAMBERS.

In Florida, Perhaps.

[Chicago Dispatch.]

Little Billie has been located in Canton, Ohio. Now where is the political Svengali?

Some Information for the People.

Causes of Mexican Prosperity.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—Will you kindly inform a daily reader of your paper if our sister republic, Mexico, is a prosperous country—by prosperous I mean are her manufactures increasing, her commerce extending and business flourishing? I am aware that Mexico is on a silver basis, and for that reason wish to know. Have asked the above question from several New York papers, but they refused to answer. PATERSON.

Paterson, N. J., April 22.

Yes; on account of the great natural resources of the country and the immigration of active and intelligent Germans, English and Americans, who are largely the powers developing the country.

With Regard to Payment of a Note.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—By answering the following you will greatly oblige a constant reader: (1) Are you allowed three days' grace on a promise-to-pay note? (2) If a person gives his note payable at his place of business in this city and goes out of business in this city and lives in another county, must I present the note where it was made payable in this city and if not paid have it noted for my protection? VERITAS.

New York, April 22.

(1) No; not since May, 1894. (2) Present note where his place of business was, and if not paid bring action against him. You need not protest the note unless indorsed and you want to hold the indorser.

How to Become a Notary Public.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—Kindly favor a constant reader with information concerning examination for a notary public and how such a certificate is obtained. Yours truly, L. W.

New York, April 22.

Notaries public are appointed by the Governor of the State by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and upon taking the prescribed oath and paying the fees of the County Clerk a certificate will be issued. No examination is required. Of course, the Governor must be satisfied is some way as to the applicant's character, etc., and this is generally done through a Senator or Member of Assembly who knows you.

Malicious Prosecution.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—Will you kindly answer through the columns of the Journal whether there is any way to stop malicious prosecution and persecution. I am compelled to defend from time to time civil suits for damages which have little or no ground for action, instituted by a person out of pure revenge, whose sole desire is to ruin me. Losing his suits does not seem to deter him from instituting new ones, which are entirely unjust. An answer through your valuable paper will be greatly appreciated. Yours truly, DAILY READER.

New York, April 21.

The grounds for action against the said person for malicious prosecution are: (1) A prosecution by him. (2) Its termination in your favor. (3) Malice. (4) Want of probable cause.

Landlord and Tenant.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—How much time must a landlord give a tenant on a disposess notice? N. N.

New York, April 23.

It depends on what sort of a lease the tenant is holding under. State the case.

How to Apply for a Divorce.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—I am about to apply for a divorce from my wife. Please state where I would have to apply for divorce papers. (2) Can I get them free of charge? (3) If not, how much would it cost, about? HARLEM.

New York, April 25.

(1) Employ a lawyer to draw up the necessary paper. (2) You cannot get the papers free of charge, unless you sue as a poor person. (3) It would depend upon the contract you made with your lawyer—from $20 to $500, or more.

Goods on the Instalment Plan.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—Some time ago I bought some goods from an instalment dealer on time. I have paid nearly three-fourths of the bill, and now, through sickness and lack of work, am unable to meet my obligations. Can the dealer, under the laws of New Jersey, seize the goods? JERSEY BLUE.

Jersey City, N. J., April 23.

Yes, if the contract of sale expressly provided for such seizure.

Taxation of Two Similar Buildings.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—What is the difference in the taxation of two buildings built exactly the same, except one being ten stories and the other being twenty stories high? DAILY READER.

New York, April 22.

Our whole standard of taxation in similar cases is crude and uncertain. The difference in taxation in the two buildings would be determined by the difference in the gross rental value of the second ten stories.

Boarding Houses and Licenses.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—(1) Can a boarding house that has no license detain trunks for a board bill? (2) What does a license cost and where should it be applied for? M. L. H.

New York, April 24.

(1) Yes. (2) There is no ordinance requiring boarding-house keepers to take out a license.

The Making of Voters.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—If a man has received his first papers in the State of Missouri for one year can he vote? Yours truly, ROBERT ADLER.

Paterson, N. J., April 24.

No; see last Tuesday's Journal.

His Father's Marriage Place.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—As I am a constant reader of your paper I would like to know where I could get the record of my father's first marriage, as I don't know the church he was married in. Is there an office in this city where they keep the records of all marriages performed? If so, will you kindly let me know through your valuable paper and oblige, M. J. ROBERTS.

New York, April 22.

The Bureau of Vital Statistics, in the Criminal Courts Building, at Franklin and Centre streets, will probably be able to give you the information you require.

Language and the Post Office.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—Will the Journal kindly decide in its next Tuesday's editorial page which of the two following sentences is correct: "Do you know where any of the checkers is?" or "Do you know where any of the checkers are?" Also please to answer the following question: In the New York General Post Office are letter drops variously marked "Domestic," "Foreign," "New York City," etc. Is the Post Office required to deliver a letter properly stamped and directed dropped into the wrong box. Yours, etc., C. L. N.

"Do you know where any of the checkers are?" is correct. The Post Office is required to deliver a letter that is properly stamped and directed if dropped into any of the boxes.

A Is Correct.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—A claims that the Prince of Wales, if he so desired, could legally engage in mercantile pursuits. B claims that the laws of Great Britain deny the Prince the right. Who is correct? D. R. MACK.

New York, April 22.

He Would Fight for Cuba.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—I have been a soldier in the United States Cavalry for thirteen years. I would like very much to join the Cuban cavalry. I am a horse trainer and an instructor in riding. I have some good letters from officers who are at present in the United States Army. Could you tell me if there is a place of recruiting in the United States? I am thirty years of age, five feet eleven and three-quarter inches high; weight about 170 pounds. I am at present out of the service. X. L.

Highland Falls, April 22.

Apply at the headquarters of the Cuban Junta, No. 56 New street, this city.

European Travellers and the Single Tax.

Editor Journal:

Dear Sir—Don't you make a mistake in this statement: "The annual rush of pleasure seekers to Europe is a striking exemplification of the extent of the dissemination of wealth and leisure among the Americans"?

Please compare the few thousands of these "drones" with the vast army of absolutely idle, unemployed men, who would be busy wealth producers if "land had not been gathered into few hands" and was as free for all as its Creator meant it to be, and as it would be if we established the "single tax on land values."

Please look into the fight now being made to establish the "single tax" in Delaware, and see if it does not deserve the support of what seems to me to be a Jeffersonian Democratic newspaper, the Journal. Yours truly, H. R. STARKWEATHER.

Brooklyn, April 25.