

Downers Grove Reporter.

By WHITE & WILLIAMS.

DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS.

Uncle Sam is right in feeling irritated at John Bull's taking ways.

Man may want little here, but he takes a queer way of proving it.

Bismarck's physician says that the prince will live to be ninety. But he should refrain from acting like sixty.

The time-honored expression, "by the beard of the prophet," has been revised in Nebraska to "by the beard of the legislator."

A Michigan correspondent has found a man who is "living without brains," and actually publishes his discovery as a piece of news.

In short, the boy king of Spain doesn't care to put on the gloves with Uncle Sam just yet—nor, for that matter, for several years to come.

Cuba will not get over the revolution habit till it is annexed to the United States, and there is no absolute certainty that it will get over it then.

Chicago has an alderman who rejoices in the name of "Hinky Dink." Here is a chance for Brother Dana of the New York Sun to spread himself.

The reported appearance of an immense sea serpent in a Florida river indicates that the failure of the orange crop has driven the Floridians to drink.

Upon the meeting of the fifty-fourth congress each member will find on his desk a button, a pressure upon which will be promptly answered by a page.

Oscar Wilde resembles Emerson in always having pencil and paper handy to jot down his best thoughts. But the resemblance goes all to smash when he begins to write.

Advertising is the bait that attracts customers. Your treatment of them—the line that holds them. Your bait may be all right, but if your line is rotten you lose the fish.

The trouble with a good many statesmen in the leading nations of the earth is that they think patriotism consists of playing a bunco game and following it up with a jingo bluff.

There is danger that the heretofore meek and lowly potato will become puffed up with pride and hauteur owing to the importance being given it from a humanitarian standpoint.

It is proposed to name a new street in New York city, Parkhurst avenue, even if it does break the rule that honors of this sort shall be conferred only upon people who are dead.

It is well a man should have a mind of his own. But when he has three wills, there's sure to be trouble. That's why the Friesco lawyers are sailing in such fair weather just at present.

If Li Hung Chang will only come to this country to induce the Chinese laundries to stop their war on American collars and cuffs, he will receive the thanks of a long suffering community.

President Clark of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, testifies to the fact that business is improving throughout New England. Factories and tradesmen are doing increased business.

It was a great mistake of the late Senator Fair to die before carrying out his matrimonial contract with Miss Phoebe Cousins. Not many men have a chance to marry a genuine Missouri colander.

Boston is to put on two express trains to Halifax each day, making the journey in less than twenty-four hours. It is by little business arrangements like this that Canada is getting a foretaste of annexation.

But, after all, the great question concerning the young woman who has just been admitted to the New York bar is as to whether she will insist on wearing her thesaur while engaged in the trial of cases.

Various speakers at the Sunset club in Chicago the other night tried to answer the question, "What will the coming woman be?" but none of them got it right. We violate no confidence in saying that she will be a daisy.

The statue of Oliver Cromwell to be erected in London will be paid for by the government if the dominant party in the house of commons carry through their plan. This is magnanimous considering what Old Nell did when he had an undesirable parliament on his hands.

The man who shuts off the advertising solicitor by saying that his goods are the best advertisement may mean well, but he makes a serious error. Nearly all the gold that has been taken from the California mines since 1849 would be there yet were it not for the fact that the newspapers made known the discoveries.

An unmarried woman in Chicago has sent in a bid for cleaning the streets of the Nineteenth ward of that city, and as she is a large property owner and her bid is low she will probably get the contract. The ward named is full of tenements where typhoid fever lurks. The bidder has studied the street-cleaning systems in Glasgow and Manchester, and believes that she can perform a public service by introducing new ideas.

Experiments are said to show that farmers can make a profit on wheat at seventy cents a bushel by feeding it to hogs. Farmers can also make a profit on it at fifty cents a bushel by feeding it to men, but perhaps that hasn't anything to do with the hog question.

The Exposition of Industries and Fine Arts to open in the city of Mexico in April of next year will be held on grounds embracing some 600 acres. It will be a fine opportunity for the manufacturers of the United States to make their products better known to the people of Mexico.

ROVING THE SEAS.

Travels of the Whistling Buoy That Broke Adrift from Cape Canso.

There are several whistling buoys now drifting about in eccentric fashion with the currents and storms of the North Atlantic. Two of them are still whistling, according to the logs of steamships that arrived at this port last month. The most notable of the lot was originally anchored by a heavy chain cable at Cape Canso, the extreme easterly point of Nova Scotia. This buoy has two whistles which have been blowing since December, 1893, and have doubtless caused many mariners who have encountered the buoy on dark nights or foggy days to think that they were out of their reckoning, and to be fearful for a moment for their vessels. The Cape Canso buoy was torn from its moorings by heavy ice that drifted down with the Arctic current in December, 1893. It followed the current for more than a month. It was first observed by a passing craft on Jan. 22, 1894. It took a southeasterly course and drifted in that direction more than 100 miles above the European side of the steamship track; then it was driven diagonally across the track once more, presumably by strong northwesterly winds, and was last sighted on Feb. 9 by the British steamship Mab, which was bound from a European port to Galveston. It is probably now with a cluster of derelicts, knocked out by the February hurricanes within 400 miles of the Irish coast. The captain of the Mab reported that the buoy was heavily freighted with barnacles and vegetation, but was hoarsely blowing as well as when it drifted away from Cape Canso. The sign on its side "Cape Canso" was not in the least affected by the weather. The track of this phenomenal drifter is longer than that of some famous derelicts. The hydrographic office considered it of so much consequence that it has marked it in dotted red lines on the latest chart. It has been seen fourteen times by ocean crossing vessels. The probability is that this record might be doubled if all craft that had passed it had reported it.

ACCIDENTAL FAME.

Circumstances Do Sometimes Make, or Bring Out, the Man.

The great French painter, Bastien Lepage, who died lately, was pursued by unmerciful disaster through his youth in his efforts to study art. His mother worked in the fields to keep the sickly boy at school. At 15 he went alone to Paris, starved for seven years, painted without success, but still-pained.

He had just finished a picture to send to the Salon, when Paris was besieged and he rushed with his comrades to the trenches. On the first day a shell fell into his studio and destroyed his picture and another shell burst at his feet, wounding him. He was carried home, and lay ill and idle for two years. Then he returned to Paris, and reduced to absolute want, painted cheap fans for a living. One day a manufacturer of some patent medicine ordered a picture from him to illustrate its virtues. Lepage, who was always sincere, gave his best work to this advertisement. He painted a landscape in the April sunlight, the leaves of tender green quivering in the breeze; a group of beautiful young girls gathered around a fountain from which the elixir of youth sprung in a bubbling stream. Lepage believed there was real merit in it.

"Let me offer it at the Salon," he asked his patron.

"The manufacturer was delighted. 'But first paint a rainbow arching over the fountain,' he said, 'with the name of my medicine upon it.'"

"Then I will not pay you a sou for the picture."

The price of this picture meant bread for months, and the painter had long needed bread. The chance of admission to the Salon was small. He hesitated. Then he silenced his hunger and carried the canvas to the Salon. It was admitted. Its great success insured Lepage a place in public recognition and his later work a place among the greatest of living artists.—To-day.

MILLION FOR A MUSIC TEACHER.
Legacy from a Woman She Was Kind To at a Summer Resort.

Miss Agnes Epplewhite, who for some time past has been a guest at the Brunswick hotel, New York, but who of late has lived at No. 19 East Sixty-first street, is alleged to have fallen heir to at least \$1,000,000. When she received the news of this windfall she fainted and the services of a doctor had to be called in. Heretofore Miss Epplewhite has been comparatively poor. She is a brilliant musician. Two summers ago she visited Port Jervis, where she received her board at a hotel for looking after the musical entertainments. She became acquainted with a Mrs. Heindricks, a wealthy widow residing in Philadelphia. Mrs. Heindricks was a paralytic, and used to lead a lonely life, most of which she spent in a bath chair. She became infatuated with Miss Epplewhite's musicals. At the close of the season the women parted, each with a certain amount of regret. They have never met since. Miss Epplewhite received a letter from Bennett & Baxter, attorneys at law, informing her Mrs. Heindricks had mentioned her in her will to the extent of \$1,000,000.

Good Amusement.
While in London last summer the Saunterer strayed into one of the cheaper London music halls. All through the music the audience was chaffing the orchestra, for even the lowest of European audiences know good music, and is free in venting its approval or disapproval. Suddenly in the back of the gallery a light arose and two costermongers, locked in a close but unfriendly embrace, gravitated to the rail overhanging the pit. At last one of them got the better of the other, and grabbing him by the collar, held him out over the rail. Apparently he was going to drop him into the pit. But from the audience in the pit arose a voice, shrill and small, but perfectly audible:

"Don't waste 'm, 'Arry! Throw 'm 'at the trombone!"

FOR WOMEN AND HOME

CURRENT READING FOR DAMES AND DAMSELS.

A Pretty Walking Toilet—Tribby Shoes—American Girl Abroad—A Fashionably Folly—The Ideal Man—Patterns for the Blind.

HATS ARE TO BE as showy as possible, but the picture-ness of the big drooping plumes that have all winter long nodded from women's headgear can in a large measure be replaced by flowers and lace. Feathers will have but a slight hold on the big hats, but in toques they hold their own. A new toque of a novel sort is shown here, consisting of a wire frame with very low crown covered with a waved weave in which straw and velvet are mixed. The brim is made of a wide fold of this material, doubled up to form the full puffed brim. Several loops and bows of lime green satin and three ostrich tips trim it. Two of these are put on the right side with the remainder of the garniture and the third plume droops over the crown. In bonnet shapes it is the Dutch style of head-dress that will, with its many variations, adapt itself to fancy. The very simplest and prettiest are made on a foundation fillet of silver or gold wire made spring-like to fit close on the head wherever it may be placed. The wire is woven and braided loosely and jeweled here and there. Through the spacings ribbon or lace is drawn closely into loops placed as fancy dictates. For the woman who does not like to have the crown of her head bare from the pschic to her brow, the Dutch shape is modified by a bit of lace which sets snugly over the top of the head, com-

A Walking-Toilet

A stylish dress of velvet and colored satin that is being made for an April trossseau, is illustrated. The satin is striped, with green and blue shades predominating, intermixed artistically with fine lines of yellow, rose and white. All the stripes running across the web. The full, plain skirt, with its wealth of fashionable organ-plaits, is finished about the bottom with a piping of velvet in green of the shade of the satin,



and has a ruffle of silk set about the inside of the skirt. The waist is a semi-blouse made over a smoothly fitted lining, but full enough back and front and long enough to give a fringe over the pointed sleeves and the stock at the throat are also of velvet. For warmer weather later in the season, a stock of chiffon the color of the yellow in the satin might be substituted. For the cool days when

Patterns for the Blind.

Miss Marie Stockman of Germany, who is said to be now in this country, has recently patented a series of printed designs in raised type, by means of which workers who are blind are enabled readily to count the stitches and to determine the colors needed for any special pattern. In fact, these designs are much the same as those with which we are familiar in Berlin wool work, cross and Gobelin stitches, the small blocks forming the design being raised and molded in color. If canvas in one of its many forms be chosen, or any other material having a raised thread which the worker can count by sliding the finger or needle across it, an intelligent person will, with a little preliminary guidance, soon be able to work cross, flat, long and short, tassel and Gobelin stitches with due attention to colors and shades of color. It will then be open to her to make borders suitable for portieres, mantel pieces, besides cushions, rugs and smaller articles of the blind seem to have an extra sense to enable them to distinguish color by the feel of the wools and silks, they can only work with the teacher at hand to tell them the number of stitches to be worked with each tint, and the introduction of these raised patterns should prove a great help.

The Ideal Man.

Probably every girl has at some time or other formed a vague and misty picture of the man she intends to marry. This ideal husband, as a rule, is endowed with every mental, moral and physical grace. Faults are left out entirely from his general make-up, and yet he is by no means to be of such uncommon clay that he will be above exhibiting a demonstrative affection and adoring admiration for the woman who has so long enshrined his image in the holiest recesses of her heart. Girls sel-

RICHES OF THE WORLD

AMERICA'S AGGREGATE IS BY FAR THE LARGEST.

Per Capita the United States Take Fourth Place, the United Kingdom Leading All Other Nations With a Valuation of \$1,300 Per Head.

It is a common impression in this country that the United States stands at the head of the nations of the world in aggregate wealth and the equality of its distribution. This is probably true in the narrow sense that the aggregate valuation of property in the United States is larger than in any other country, but, according to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, it is not true in the sense in which it is generally understood, that the average wealth per individual is greater, if the statistics of European economists regarding their own countries can be accepted as trustworthy. The aggregate for the United States is larger than for any other country, because the population is larger than that of other great commercial nations, but the proportion of wealth to the population is less than in Australia, Great Britain and France. The figures for Australia, however, are not really indicative of the wealth held in that country, as the property of the island is very largely mortgaged to British capitalists.

England stands pre-eminent in the actual holdings of wealth by her own people. The estimate of the wealth of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland made by Dr. Robert Giffin in 1885 was \$10,037,000,000, or about \$50,000,000,000. The classification of this valuation was about \$5,400,000,000 for land, \$5,600,000,000 for constructions, \$23,000,000,000 for foreign industrial and national securities and public funds, \$5,000,000,000 for English national and local public funds and \$4,000,000,000 for mortgages and tools of trade. This estimate is somewhat higher than that made by Michael D. Mulhall in his "Dictionary of Statistics" for 1892. His figures for 1888 are \$9,400,000,000, or about \$47,000,000,000, an increase of \$1,400,000,000 over 1882. Dr. Giffin's estimates were based primarily on the income tax of Englishmen as shown by the income tax returns, which he proceeded to capitalize at various rates of interest. Dr. Giffin has given much study to the subject and took account of many other elements and much data besides that of the income tax.

The population of the United Kingdom in 1882 was 28,023,371, which would afford an average valuation of about \$1,790 per head, or \$8,550 for a family of five. The figures would show a considerably higher average for England, Scotland and Wales if Ireland were excluded. The average, even for the United Kingdom, is higher than for any other country except Australia, where land values are a large element in the reported wealth. This inclusion of land values in thinly settled countries, where much of the land is unimproved, is subject to more or less criticism in an effort to ascertain the degree of affluence of the people, and adds greatly to the apparent per capita valuation of our own western states, like Nevada, Wyoming and Arizona.

The wealth of France is placed by several of her leading economists at 700,000,000,000 francs, or about \$140,000,000,000, which affords a valuation of \$1,081 per capita, or \$5,405 per family of five. France ranks second in wealth among the great commercial nations and shows a much more even diffusion of wealth among the masses than Great Britain. There is a slight difference between the estimates of M. de Foville and those given by Prof. Charles Gide in the last edition of his "Principes d'Economie Politique" as to the classification of French property, but the difference appears to be due to the different manner of setting off negotiable securities against the property which they represent. Prof. Gide gives \$15,000,000,000 in lands, \$10,000,000,000 in houses, \$16,000,000,000 in negotiable securities and \$4,000,000,000 in movables and money, making a total of \$45,000,000,000; but he deducts \$8,000,000,000 (40 milliards of francs) for national securities and mortgages held in France against French property, in order to avoid the duplication of figures. If, de Foville, as quoted by Prof. Clarifio Jannet in "Le Capital, la Speculation et la Financier," gives the figures at \$14,000,000,000 for securities, \$16,000,000,000 for land, \$8,000,000,000 for buildings and \$2,000,000,000 for movables and tools not represented by securities.

It is the great wealth of England and her large investments abroad which enable her to dominate the money market through the London stock exchange. Prof. Jannet declares that in 1890 there were quoted on the London market 2,482 securities and at Paris only 820. Prof. Gide, in speaking of the growth of stock investments, declares that in 1835 only five securities were quoted on the Paris bourse; in 1860, 402, and in 1893 more than 1,600. The political excess of Germany in the Franco-Prussian war and the settlement of the French indemnity brought Berlin within the circle of the world's great money markets, and 1,200 securities were quoted in 1890 on the Berlin stock exchange, but since that date Berlin has fallen behind Paris as a financial center. Prof. Jannet thus explains the financial supremacy of London among the money markets of the world:

Paris is far below London as the place of liquidation of international engagements. London, thanks to the monetary system based upon the gold standard and to the grandeur of British commerce, has concentrated the market for the precious metals and almost the entire market for exchange between Europe on the one side and the extreme east and North America on the other. One has only to cast a glance over the annual reports of the customs bureau to see that France is able to regulate her purchases in the United States, in India and in China only by the intervention of England. It is the same with other countries of Europe. Foreign governments, like Germany and Russia, keep considerable deposits regularly in the banks of London to protect their treasury operations.

Why? Horrid!

"Did ye ever hear of dese priests in India," said Reginald de Bummie, "dat sticks needles thro dere cheeks an burns dere skin jes fur fun?" "Dat ain't nothin'," replied Clarence Fitz Hautbean. "I knowed a man da' tuck a bath every day cause he said he liked it."



SOME SPRING AND SUMMER STYLES IN HEADWEAR.

ing as far forward as she likes and being held in place just at the parting of the hair by a rhinestone buckle. Of course the Dutch bonnet can be had at the milliner's, with the little lace skull cap attachment permanent and wired, or a quarter of a yard of lace can be adjusted after the narrow Dutch is in place. The effect will be just the same and the only difference will be in the bill, which, if obtained at a first-class millinery establishment, will be high.—Florette, in Chicago Inter Ocean.

A shoulder-strap is needed, the butterfly cape of chinchilla, depicted in the illustration, will be sufficient, as the sleeves of the dress are of themselves warm. The hat is of black braid, trimmed with a huge bow of black satin, some black feathers and a cluster of yellow primroses. Yellow gloves stitched with black, and a parasol of black tulle lined with peacock-green silk.

Crepons, of Course.

Poor Hamlet did not "harp on the daughter" more than the chroniclers of modes are compelled to do for crepon. When shopkeepers display nothing new but crepon, and fashionable women are uniformed in crepon, what is the vender of facts on the subject to do but harp on the same thing? Some ingenious designer who wanted the whole world and more too has combined two popular crazes by making glad crepon. If there is one thing more popular than crepon it is plaid, and if anything is more popular than plaid, it is crepon, and there you have it in a nutshell. The plaid is formed by narrow stripes of red or green crossing one another at intervals of two or three inches. It is marked \$3.75 a yard, but it is quite wide. There is a new black crepon, with dark-blue polka dots, which makes up very prettily with blue velvet to match. Another pretty variety is a black-and-white stripe. All these are silk crepons and none of them are less than \$2 a yard. The woolen ones are a little nearer the reach of a small-doll purse and green and brown, dull blues and greens and browns, trimmed with jet and spangled ribbon, make very pretty and serviceable dresses. This one is a dull-green,

dom marry their first ideals, and it is a blessed thing that they do not, for these brain pictures have a kaleidoscopic fashion of changing, and the woman of 23 admires a very different creature from the girl of 17. Again ideal men are not real men, and a woman wants something that she can more thoroughly rely upon than a bunch of visionary perfection. Let a man come along whom the woman's heart recognizes as the one being in the world to make her happy, and away goes those phantom pictures over which she has spent so many moments in maiden meditation. The ideal man may have been tall and fair, the real one dark and dumpy, but if he is beloved he will be sufficiently beautiful to satisfy even the idealist conception. Men and women are but loving, breathing human beings after all, and it is much better for faults to be seen than to build up an exalted sentiment regarding frail humanity which is found by the very nature of things to be shattered at some time sooner or later. Never lose sight of the fact that the ideal man or woman has no place on this earth, and if you have a desire for mundane happiness do not set up housekeeping with either an ideal man or an ideal woman.

Hard Times Theatricals.

Manufacturer—I want some advertising space on your drop curtain for tonight.
Theatre Manager—Sorry, but every square foot is taken.
Manufacturer—Too bad. However, it will do as well if you'll just change Hamlet's "To be or not to be" into "To wash or not to wash," and have him ring in something about my soap.

American Girl Abroad.

The Duchers de la Rochefoucauld, who was once upon a time—and only a few years ago—lovely Mattie Mitchell of Oregon and New York, is said to be one of the most charming hostesses and one of the most brilliantly clever women in sunny France. Of the truth of this assertion people who have the average opinion of the clever French women may have doubts, but of the duchesse's beauty there is only one opinion. She is remembered in New York as a lovely girl with perfect figure, superb snowy shoulders, which she always draped with chiffons, gauzes and tulle in off shoulder fashion, which showed to the best advantage the very classical contour of the lovely shoulders. Miss Mitchell also had regular features, bronze gold hair, a complexion of dazzling pink and white, and lovely eyes like aquamarine jewels of a haunting shade of blue gray. No wonder that Parisiennes Senator Mitchell's daughter as a clever in every way as she is pretty.

Mrs. Frederick Gebhard is noted as having pretty hands as any woman in America.