THOMAS'S

PART TWO.

andsome, if sle was industrious. Her executly absorbed all the coloring mat- of humor. her in her maje-up, her eyes, brows, and lashes were pale, hardly distinguishable from the pallor of her skin. Dertainly it di look for a moment ing." when Aunt Ellei May turned her back as if Hiram wai bashful, but the girl was standing beide him, expectantly | thought he might bring some one back it seemed, and liram, bending over, landed a kiss, a she turned timidly away, upon her ift ear.

"They're as god as engaged," whispered Aunt Eller May to her sisterin-law in the hous "He's kissed her," surprise showed pon Hiram's moth-

er's face. ed in much the tme way that the

eldest had done, ad picked out two estimable women ho they were sure would suit their nelew. One was the daughter of a richity man who had recently bought abig farm in the neighborhood. He id an only daughter who would inhet his money. She was an insignificat little blonde, given to frivolity lidress, and some of the neighbors inpuated that she was also frivolous to complexion and sometimes overessed it. acknowledged to twity-eight years, and malicious peopledded ten years to that. The youngestant, who chap-

Miram to drive her hoe, was a little troubled at that, but to thought of the money reconciled h. "There's no knowi but Hiram might run for Congress he had some one to push him on," a said to herself as she watched a courteous treatment of her guest loud she remarked casually as there drove off

eroned her to a pice and brought

carriage she had provide "Look out for Hiram bn you say good-bye, my dear. Youever know what these country boyvill do."

together at the close of | day in the

There was an unpleassayression on Hiram's face just thould it looked as if his reputation forpd nature might be everestimated, bue did not him he would marry her." say anything.

the city," simpered the la blonde dially, and the two entered. lady as he lifted her frothe carher face saised invitingly his Hiinto the carriage again, but timight | and throat, have been a mistake.

ad young woman the other f tofestival kissed Hiram berserben more. a half suggestion was made the primment of the five aunts.

Aunt Anastasia had quite merent kind of a girl picked Hiram. She reverted to a tind tavited him and the girl she heleated to help perpetuate the ily name.

Such a dainty little maiden ship slender, delicate, with a flower's big blue eyes, and only sevented

"There is no use trying to Hiram with some girl who is at housekeeper," she thought to he "He has money enough to hire bousework done, and a clinging creature will be sure to capture h

sia was right. Hiram treated the tle maiden with a gentle respect was akin to tenderness, and under talked prettily and cheerfully,

eknowledged to twenty-eight years

the child with an expression of genu-

"Now, if you want to kiss her you

an do it right before me," said Aunt

Anastasis as shey were about to leave.

"I will tell her mother and it will be

"No," said Hiram, raising the flush-

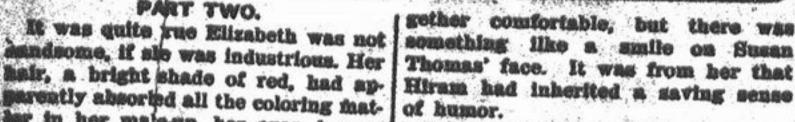
d face by the rounded chin, "she is

on afce a little girl to kiss," and the

hise eyes looked up at him gratefully.

Why was it that Hiram's five aunte

all right."



"You looked dressed up for company," said Aunt Lizzie Alice, breaking a long silence, "and I smell cook-

"Yes," said Susan Thomas, placidly knitting. "Hi's gone to town, and he with him. There he is now."

There was a rush for the window, and ten women, young and old, saw carriage drive up and Hiram assist a comely, well-dressed woman to the ground. Her figure was round but and again an expession of wondering | slender, and she looked young, though apparently not in her first youth.

"Why, it can't be," said Aunt Ellen, The youngest to aunts maneuver- May. "Yes, it is Susie Benson, as true as I'm alive, and she doesn't look much older than when Hi used to carry her books. She is smiling up at him just as she did then."

"Yes," said Susan Thomas, "if



She looked young.

seems that her husband has been dead for some years. Hi met her in New York, and he said if she would have

"I am delighted to have you all here "You must not mind mying from to welcome my wife," said Hiram, cor-

"And I am glad to see you all again," riage in her own dooryard. am try- | said Susie Benson, now Mrs. Hiram ing to be a real country gland you Thomas. Then as she looked around must treat me just like one, d with the room she was seized with a violent fit of coughing which made her ram kissed her. It sounded if he cover her face with her handkerchief, said something under his ith as and a delicate pink color could be seen he gathered up the lines amepped from behind it tinting her forehead

"I believe she sensed something of | Benate by Vote of 57 to 18 Adopts the The black-haired, buxom, rheek- what had been going on and felt mortifled," said Aunt Anastasia later, when vited to go with them to thourch the sisters met together alone once

However that might have been, the bride looked very cheerful as she uncovered her face. There might have been an awkward silence then if from the corner there had not arisen the sound of sudden sobs. The little seventeen-year-old protege of Aunt Anastasia was weeping bitterly.

"What is this, Hiram?" said bride, looking at her husband with something of reproach in her voice and eyes as she gataered the child in her arms in a motherly way as Hiram came and stood near her.

"What is it, dear?" she asked. "Oh, I am so glad Mr. Hiram is married," sobbed the girl, "I didn't want It really looked as if Aunt Aus to-oh, I did-there is some one I think so much of, but he is youngand perhaps now-"

The eyes of the bride and bridekind consideration she blossomed groom met with renewed confidence. "Perhaps?" repeated the former. Biram listened, his eyes resting upof course, it will be all right, my ear; you will see that he will make so. But now we must have tea, ecause I know mother is going to

ive us something good, and I for one n hungry." Mrs. Hiram Thomas, nee Susie Bencertainly did have a winning way, i's bride, his five matchmaking

all agreed, and it was a jolly though there sat at table Hits, and the five young women m these same aunts had considhis flances.-M. A. Taft in New Times.

hought Him Too Particular. n Fox, Jr., the author, went on of Kentucky in search of "local and one night stopped at a alneer's cabin, where he slept p the clapboards of the roof ne down a ladder to breakfast. thed his face in a creek below se and dried it on a siding of ack hung against the logs for se, and combed his hair with comb before, a piece of brokstuck between the chinking ng. The mountaineer's boy he stranger make his tollet, clusion of which he said: er, you're a good deal of courself, ain't ye?"

eful Apple Seed. comparatively small proal actoble know of the remedito been olden nommon of seed in

OFFER PURSE FOR DUEL IN DODGE COUNTY, WIS

Town of Mayville Seeks to Have As fair of Honor Take Place Within Its Precincts.

Milwaukee, Wis., special: Mayville, in Dodge county, wants the duel between Editor Von Schleinits and Dr. Gustav Hoffmann. It is an exclusive ly German community and a German society there telegraphed an offer to Schleinitz guaranteeing \$1,000 to the widow and orphans of the victim if he would have the duel fought in that town, and offering to furnish a park for the combat and give a guarantee against any interference by the authorities.

Dueling in Wisconsin is an indictable offense. Even the sending of a challenge to fight is punishable by imprisonment in the state penitentiary.

The principals in the sensational episode have been suppoensed to appear before the grand fury to tell the circumstances of the challenge. Mr. Von Schleinitz was served with papers and Dr. John Alexander, a member of the staff of the Germania, has also been called to testify as to his connection with the affair. Dr. Alexander is said to have transmitted the challenge to Mr. Von Schleinitz from Dr. Hoffmann, Margarethe wnose solicitude for Ruehmkorf, a German actress, led to the challenge.

BLOODY COMBAT FOR YOUNG WOMAN'S FAVOR

Rivals Engage in Fight and One Is Severely Cut by Knife in Hands of His Assailant.

Crawfordsville, Ind., dispatch: The town of Wallace, eighteen miles west of this city, was the scene of a bloody combat between William Woodrow and Harry Lowe, reputable young men of that community. As a result of the affray Woodrow is in jail awaiting a charge of assault and battery with intent to kill and Harry Lowe is dying at the home of his mother.

For several months the men have vied with each other for the favor of one of the pretty young women of that vicinity. She showed no particular choice between them and in their rivalry for the girl's affections Woodrow and Lowe became bitter enemies. They met in the village barber shop and quarreled about the girl. Woodrow drew a large knife and thrust at Lowe. In the fight, which extended about the shop and out into the roadway, Lowe was terribly slashed about the body and head.

PASSES CUBAN BILL.

Reciprocity Measure.

Washington dispatch: The senate passed the Cuban reciprocity bill by a vote of 57 to 18. One Republican, Senator Bard of California, voted with seventeen Democrats in opposition to the measure, and nine Democrats, Senators Bacon and Clay of Georgia, Blackburn and McCreary of Kentucky, Cockrell and Stone of Missouri, Overman and Simmons of North Carolina, and Gorman of Maryland, voted with forty-six Republicans for the bill. Several Democrats were absent, but paired against the measure. The opposition Democrats came from states interested in case and beet sugar industries and from tobacco-growing states. The vote in detail was as fol-

Yeas-Aldrich, Alger, Allen, Allison, Ankeny, Bacon, Ball, Beveridge, Blackburn, Burnham, Burrows, Burton, Clapp, Clark (Wyo.), Clay, Cockrell, Cuilom, Depew, Dillingham, Dolliver, Dryden, Elkins, Fairbanks, Foraker, Foster (Wash.), Frye, Fulton, Gallinger, Gorman, Hale, Hanna, Hansbrough, Heyburn, Hoar, Hopkins, Kean Lodge, Long, McComas, Mc-Creary, McCumber, Mitchell, Nelson, Overman, Penrose, Perkins, Platt (Conn.), Platt (N. Y.), Proctor, Quarles, Scott, Simmons, Spooner, Stewart, Stone, Wetmore-

Nays-Bailey, Bard, Bate, Berry, Carmack, Culberson, Daniel, Dubois, Foster (La.), McEnery, McLaurin, Mallory, Martin, Newlands, Pettus, Taliaferro, Teller, Tillman-18.

WOMEN AID THE LABOR PARTY

Exercise Right of Suffrage for First Time in Victoria.

Melbourne, Victoria, cable: The first of the commonwealth general elections at which women exercised the right of suffrage was held Dec. 16, with the result that all political calculations were upset. The struggle was between the government, opposition and labor parties, chiefly over the fiscal question. The women voters were excellently organized and cast a heavy ballot almost exclusively in support of the labor ticket, the result being that the labor party won many seats. At the last elections the laborites were badly beaten.

HELD FOR MYSTERIOUS MURDER

Man and Wife Are Accreed of Killing

ILLINOIS

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM SPECIAL CORRESPOND THROUGHOUT THE STATE

12,500 ACRES OF LAND Commissioners Will Expend \$200,000 on Seventeen-Mile Wall to Keep Floods From the Bettoms.

BIG LEVEE TO RECLAIM

Commissioners appointed by supervisors of Tazewell county will expend \$200,000 next year for the improvement of the bottom lands along | Carterville, rural route No. 1; Arthur the Spring lake region. A tract of 12,500 acres, now for the most part unless, will be reclaimed and made fruitful for the farmers. The commission has been engaged in allotting the assessment of the expenditure on those whom it is intended to benefit. The great majority of those assessed are said to be satisfied with their portion of the expense, and it is believed that the minor complaints will not be sufficient to prevent the completion of the John Auglin, Shelbyville. undertaking.

It is proposed to construct a levee | SECRET seventeen miles in length, which will follow the Illinois river the entire distance. The land which has been marked for improvement has been almost wholly unfit for use. At certain periods of the year when the river is low there are portions not submerged, but when crops were planted it was more than an even chance of total loss by floods. Part of the land was never free from water, with the result that it was a swamp and good only for the resort of ducks.

This improvement is in keeping with that of a similar kind along the Mississippi and other rivers.

The commission spreading the assessment is composed of Henry J. Puterbaugh of Mackinaw, L. L. Preston of Manitou and Joseph Daily of Chil-Bloothe.

Favors Arbitration.

The state conference of the Illinois bricklayers' union was held at Decatur. There was a banquet after the open meeting held in the circuit courtroom, where a large audience of laboring people of the city gathered to hear the address by George B. Gubbins, president of the national association. It was a conservative talk, urging fair work for fair pay, and advocating resort to arbitration in case of disputes. Strikes were discouraged, but officials were advised to stand firm for the rights of the union's members. Plans for the more satisfactory settlement of disputes were taken up and adopted.

Jaw Broken by Revolving Fan. Henry Symonds, aged 60, president of the East St. Louis cornice works, was badly injured by a revolving fan at the works. He pointed out a defect in the works, using a cane, which came in contact with the leaves of the fan and was jerked from his hands. It revolved with the fan, and struck him with fearful force on the side of his face. His jaw was broken and he was otherwise injured.

Horticulturista Elect.

The forty-eighth annual convention of the Illinois State Horticultural Soclety at Urbana elected the following officers: H. A. Aldrich, Neoga. president, re-elected; S. N. Black, Clayton, vice president; L. R. Bryant, Princeton, secretary, re-elected; J. W. Stanton, Richview, treasurer, reelected. The selection of a place for holding the next meeting was left to the executive board.

To Boom Hamlin.

The committee named to stimulate the candidacy of Attorney General Hamlin in Sangamon county for governor is as follows: Postmaster L. E. Wheeler, Charles Selby, Dr. A. L. Converse, E. S. Smith, Sheriff Ben Brainerd, John Zaring, Frank Marsh, Will Conner, P. W. Harts and H. King.

Masonic Grand Deputy.

George S. Caughlan of East St Louis has been reappointed district grand deputy of the Masonic order of the state. His jurisdiction embraces the counties of St. Clair, Randolph and Monroe. The appointment was made by W. B. Wright, grand master of Illinois.

Mine Employe le injured. John Groom, employed at the Green Mount mine, near Belleville, was caught between a pit car and the wall of the mine and his leg broken.

Secures Coal Options.

George E. Doying, representing Jacksonville and Chicago capitalists, has secured options on 1,100 acres of land near the city of Carlyle.

Bricklayers' Officers. P. J. Byrne of La Salle was elected

president of the Illinois bricklayers union, William Booth of Springfield secretary.

Spendthrift Petition,

List of Those Who Were Successful Before State Board.

The list of those who passed the examination before the Illinois state mining board is as follows: Examiners-John W. Gallagher, Carterville; John Sparts; William G. Wigham, Sparja Fred C. Neil, Gillespie; John Howell Bell, Coulterville; James Handwright Virden; Walter El. Cox, Centralia Eugene Cox, Centralia; John Carlyon Oglesby; Charles Flynn, Pana. Hoist ing Engineers-William P. Colwell Canton; Herbert Stocks, Carterville; William C. Johnson, Marion; Bert A Dugges, Collinsville; Lewis Huff, Canton. Mine Managers-W. H. Williams, Edinburg. Local Mine Managers-Thomas A. Stricklin, Marion;

SOCIETY **ELECTIONS**

Masonic. John D. Moody lodge, A., F. & A. M., of Salem, has elected these officers: J. A. Hindman, worshipful master; A. N. Rooks, senior warden; William Mo-Cartan, junior warden; W. L. Finn, secretary.

Grand Army.

F. D. Hubbel post, G. A. R., of Hills boro, has elected the following offi cers; Seth E. Washburn, commander; Simeon C. St. John, senior vice commander; Fred Brown, junior vice commander; George W. Potter, chaplain; George D. Campbell, sergeant; Frank P. Winchester, quartermaster; Enoch J. File, officer of the day; Henry F. Potter, officer of the guard; & C. St. John, delegate.

Knights of Pythias. Marion lodge, Knights of Pythias, of Salem, has elected these officers; George W. Smith, chancellor commander; C. M. Brinkerhoff, vice chancellor; A. R. Bryan, prelate; Lee F. Webster, keeper of records and seal; W. R. Holmes, master of work; W. J. Tweed, master of finance; F. G. Hait, master of exchequer; E. E. Boynton, master-at-arms; B. W. Grunendike, innor guard; A. Farnhart, outer guard; H. T. Pace, trustee.

The Chester lodge of Knights of Pythias has elected the following offi cers to be installed at the first meeting in January: J. H. Hathaway, chancellor commander; August Sanneman, vice chancellor; Ames Barnett, prelate; B. C. McCloud, master of works; D. H. Holman, keeper of record and seal; Warfield P. Smith, master of finance; J. W. Nisbet, master of exchequer; W. S. Hearn, master-at-arms; Fronte Gray, inner guard; O. A. Stanley, outer guard.

Phantom Panther.

Residents in the vicinity of Moro report a continuation of the visits of the Indian creek panther, which has been terrorizing that part of Madison county for several months. The animal has caused much damage to stock George Lawrence, living at More, was chased a mile by the brute, and finally escaped on a fast horse. Hunts to kill the animal have been organized. but none of the hunters have had a glimpse of it. People living in the vicinity of Indian creek, where the animal makes its haunts, are afraid to go out at night without being heavily armed.

Argue Insurance Suit.

Arguments in the injunction suit of Attorney General Hamlin for the state or Illinois against 110 of the principal fire insurance companies of the country doing business in Illinois, and M F. Zent, their district manager, with offices at East St. Louis, charged with maintaining a trust to the detri ment of companies not in the alleged trust, were concluded in the St. Clair county court at Belleville. Judge Burroughs stated that he would take the case under advisement and give his decision before the close of the pres ent term of court.

Gets Life Sentence. James McValley entered a plea o guilty in the circuit court, Belleville, to having murdered Gustave Wentzel in East St. Louis, October 16, and upon consent of State's Attorney Farmer, Judge Holder sentenced the prisoner to a life term in the penitentiary. McValley entered the plea with reluctance, and only upon the urgent advice of his attorney. The dispute which led to the killing was over the collection of rent claimed to be due Wentzel.

Secure Coal Rights. L. D. Hewitt of Taylorville has purchased 1,500 acres of coal rights at Clarksdale, four miles west of Taylorville, and will sink a mine there in a few months.

Mule Kicks Blacksmith.

POR MINERO | NEGROES LOSE

Alton school case in the county circuit court. seventh time that the case he up for trial. The case has he appellate and supr each time has been reversed.

of Alton are trying to compel the clais to permit them to so to with the whites. The suit was b by Scott Biff and several of compel the mayor of Alton, the permit his children to so to with the whites. The suit started eral years ago, when the board of each cation built a separate school for the blacks.

After the decision in favor of the city the attorney for the negroes and notice of an appeal to the court. It is said that the negros Chicago and other cities are furn funds for the prosecution of the case and that the blacks intend to me the Alton school case a test case.

SURVEY CLINTON COUNTY ROAD

Company Secures Coal and Oll tions Along the Route,

A new cost and west road has bee surveyed through the northern part or Clinton county, seven miles ! of Carlyle. The name of the or tion is the Okaw and St. Louis road, Oil, Coal and Beveloping pany. It is to be an extension St. Louis, Truy & Eastern. The W posed route is through Co Troy, Sebastopel, Strose, May Patoka, Klamundy, Saylor Suring and Robinson, Ill., thence to T Haute, Ind. Legal representatives a now securing the right of way, I the coal and all options are on basis of \$5 per sere, good for year. Drilling outfits have been pur chased and if paying voice of conare found the road will be in opera tion by October, 1904.

Death of Remarkable Word Mrs. Mary Levaum a native of Loraine, France, and a resident of Belville since 1872, died at 6t. Whi Hospital in her \$2d year. Mrs. Lo. vaux was conversant with no less than five languages. Driven from hi home and native land, as the result the France-Prussian warr-her husband Frank Lavaux, being killed on I farm, during the devastation by the German soldiers, accompanied by a only son, Mrs. Lavaux emigrated to America.

Changes in Pasterates. Rev. Lewerenz of Nashville, whom the Lutherns congregation of Hoyleton extended a call to become their pastor, has not accepted, and the congregation has elected Rev. H. Hahne of Montague, Mich., to the pr sition. Rev. C. A. J. Cramer of Terri Haute, Ind., has accepted the call of the German Evangelical church at Dubole, He succeeds Rev. W. Stock

Sheriff Rearrests Men. 1888 Leonard McGrill and Grant McGri arrested at Kane station, Jeffs county, and who were just release from jail at Springfield, where the had been serving a sentence for vio lation of the internal revenue las were immediately rearrested by Sheriff Whittington of Wayne county, who had state warrants charging the two men with failure to pay state license for the sale of liquor.

who goes to Hays City, Ind.

Ploneer Woman Passes Away. Mrs. Cornelia Josephine Campbe wife of William Campbell, one of the oldest residents of Belleville, died at her home, aged 65. She is survived by her daughters, Mrs. Frank H Burns, Mrs. William Diamond, Mrs. G. E. Richards and Mrs. Alexander Groom. The marriage of the latter took place at the request of her mother, who witnessed the wedding on her

Not Guilty of Attempt to Marden In the preliminary trial at Mon Sterling of A. H. Barrows, charge with being the instigator of the tempt to murder his wife, Mrs. Mary Barrows by Mrs. Martha Fowler, I rows was acquitted.

all passing through one of h