

Annual report on the coal industry of Illinois is now in preparation by the State Bureau of Statistics. The figures show the production of the last year to exceed that of any corresponding period in the mining history of the state.

A Printer Burglar. King, 24 years old, was identified as the mysterious burglar who has been making in Kankakee for several months.

Illinois Biggest Tree. Largest tree in southern Illinois, a white oak, is owned by a lumberman who is active in the lumber industry in the state.

Divorces Bring \$15,000. Anna C. Sprinkle, living eight miles from Pana, has been married twice and allowed all the money to go to her ex-husbands.

Build Line in Illinois. Illinois Valley Traction Company has been authorized to build a line from La Salle to Decatur, connecting Ottawa and Princeton.

Illinois in Brief. A man has been sentenced to 21 years in the penitentiary for the murder of a man in law, cut his throat while in the penitentiary.

UNCLE BILL

AND

The Editor

EDGAR BAKER



BOYS will be boys an' men will be men but yer can't tell anything about what a bachelor'll be, said Uncle Bill, as he landed his boot heel in the favorite correspondent's manuscript, on the editor's desk.

"What bachelor have you been having trouble with now?" asked the editor, as he handed Uncle Bill a 'stogie' and a match with the remark, 'Have a smoke on the new editor up at our house.'



Kneels Ter Ole "Sol."

promised ter sumone else, an' it's gittin' simmered down now, ter where it's the bachelor's last chance, 'cause he's gittin' too old fur the young women ter have an there's only one widder left in Shake Rag that he'd stand a ghost uv a show with an' that's the widder Baxter, an' if he gits her there'll be an experience meeting every night 'cause she's mighty stingy an' would 'bout starve him out I reckon, 'cause 'bout the only thing they'd have fur supper would be a 'scrap' an' a soup bone."

"Is she inclined to be quarrelsome?" asked the editor. "She would be with 'Zeke' 'cause he's so gosh darn squeamish 'bout women. His strong-suit card has been playin' with the children an' when an' ole bachelor tries ter make believe that he's fond uv children, the women folks know that he's lookin' fur a wife an' fight shy uv him, but 'Zeke's got a good fair chance now with the widder, 'cause I'm tryin' ter fix it with her, fur him."

"Do you think that you will succeed?" asked the editor. "Well, I'll tell yer it's 'bout the last chance either one uv 'em 'll have," said Uncle Bill. 'Cause the widder is a gittin' 'wiggy' an' 'Zeke' has got silver threads on his gold nugget an' he's gittin' bald headed, to an' alarmin' extent, an' yer know that 'marble top furniture has gone out uv style, 'specially the edges, like 'Zeke's' got an' then 'Zeke's' gone an' made a fool uv himself."

"In what way?" interrupted the editor. "Oh he's gone an' turned heathen," said Uncle Bill disappointedly. "Turned heathen?" exclaimed the editor. "I don't quite understand you."

"It's this way," explained Uncle Bill. "'Zeke' has been readin' 'bout the sun worshipers, what the heathen are convertin' Chicago with, an' he went in



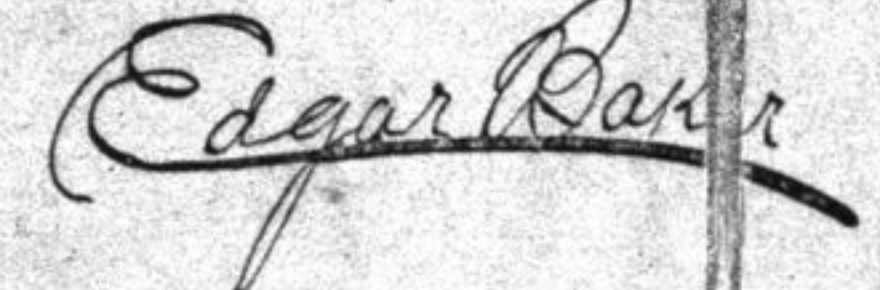
Im Tryin Ter Fix It.

an' found the ole heathen doctrine purty good medicine fur a bachelor ter take 'cause they believe that yer kin git any thing yer want if yer'll only fall down an' worship the sun an' ask fur it,

an' 'Zeke' wants a wife, so he turned the heathen.

"I have read something about it, but I believe but do no take much stock in it," remarked the editor.

"Zeke's clean gone on it, 'cause he wants the widder an' if he can't get her she'll soon patch up sum uv the misery spots uv bachelordom fur him, or she fixed 'Hi' Baxter so's sum peck he was mean enough ter say, that he'll get cheap by dyin' ter git rid uv her. Well, 'Zeke's' bin purrin' round fur a time an' finally he's joined the 'sun' worshipers an' kneels down ter old 'Sol' every day when it ain't cloudy—askin' 'em ter warm the widder's heart, 'cause he kin git his hands warm at her 'side, 'an' I guess she'll grab him, 'cause she thinks old 'Sol' has done his duty, 'cause then he'll 'pop' gee whizz, what yer think uv that? Jest imagine him flyin' his kite so long an' finally heavin' it light over in the widder's pasture, an' then jest imagine an ole bachelor's feelin's who has got feet gettin' last chance an' then think uv sneerin' 'bout women folks,—becomin' the 'Widder Mite,' but then any fellar what ter sun worshipin' is apt ter turn ter most anything, even from a crusty ole bachelor ter Widder Baxter's husband."



MRS. FREMONT'S CLAIM.

No Payment Ever Made to Her for Land Seized for Fortifications. Denver News: In 1860 Mrs. Jessie Benton Fremont, wife of the famous Pathfinder, purchased certain lands at Point San Jose, near San Francisco, for \$40,000, and built a residence thereon.

John C. Fremont and his wife who was a daughter of the great Senator Thomas H. Benton, have been accused by the American people. Few men rendered their country more distinguished services than Fremont, and his name "the Pathfinder" belongs to his fame by right. For years he was carried on the books of the government as a defaulter for a few hundred dollars, but after his death an examination of his accounts, instituted by request of his wife, revealed the fact that the government had during all these years owed him over \$19,000. His grave is almost unmarked. His widow is old and feeble, and not in affluent circumstances, and yet the nation has robbed her of the land that was her home.

New Leguminous Plant. German papers speak of an annual belonging to the leguminous group growing in tropical Africa, which is largely cultivated by the negroes as an article of food. It has been introduced to some extent in Brazil. The Africans call it woandou, but its botanical name is Glycine subterranea. The fruit, like the peanut, matures under the ground. The eatable kernel has the shape of an egg, and is dark red, with black stripes and a white hilum like most beans. It furnishes a very white flour, the flavor of which, after cooking, very much resembles that of chestnuts. Two pounds of this product would supply the daily requirements of the human system. This is one of the few fruits which in a natural state contain all the chemical properties of a perfect nutriment.

A Boston steamer sailed for California last Thursday with enough rum to intoxicate 1,700,000 men. This outfit has a civilizing influence on the gold coast.



Dr. Saws—"And how much did charge you to set your broken limb?" Patient—"Twenty-five dollars." Dr. Saws—"Twenty-five dollars?" Patient—"Why, would you have any more?" "What sum?"

WORLD OF FASHION.

A SHORT CHAPTER ON ORNAMENTATION.

Touches of Gold and Silver—Contrasts Wrought in Furs—The New Cord Net.

Paris letter: One must look now to the little details of toilettes for any innovations to put on record. The very newest creations exhibited at present in the shops offer no radical changes in styles. Ornamentation now takes up the principal role in this the mid-winter season and works wonders in giving a diversity to prevailing forms. So wide is the range that ornamentation embraces this season that one is tempted to say that it excludes nothing that beautifies. There is really an embarrassment of choice that confronts one. Insets of lace, appliques of lace, velvet ribbon in abundance, generous touches of hand embroidery and hand painting. Contrasts wrought in furs. Large buttons of wondrous charm. Gulpure, combining various colors. There are a dozen or more fetching trimmings that come under the head of applique ornamentation. The jewelers, too, lend some of their best efforts toward good decoration. Lately they have wrought some gorgeous boleros of gold braid set with precious stones. Their latest designs in standing collars, in buttons and buckles are exquisite in color and workmanship.

A little item of interest culled at the glove shops shows how wide reaching the craze for ornamentation is at present. Some of the newest light gloves are embroidered with gold and silver threads.

One of the new reception gowns built of lavender blue zibeline has a trimming of white net lace appliques that is quite novel. The net is hand-made and is wrought of rather coarse white silk cord knotted with little bunches of silver. It is made with a long coat with rather close fitting basques. This has a long yoke and plastron of the net that shows the interlining of silver gauze beneath. Over this there extends a little waistcoat effect of white satin covered close with tiny straps of black velvet ribbon. The lower part of the basques is ornamented with the net which is covered with appliques of deep cream gulpure motifs. Narrow black velvet ribbon ornaments the high net collar. The sleeves of the cloth are close fitting and are striped with bias lines of the narrow velvet ribbon. Over the upper part there falls a deep shaped flounce of the cloth with a border of gulpure trimmed net.

The skirt is made with two deep overlapping shaped flounces of the cloth trimmed along the edges with the net. These are slashed at the front to show a panel of the plain net over silver gauze.

The couturiers seem loth to dispense altogether with the services of gold and silver as ornamentation. They have ceased to lay it on lavishly but they put it on in telling touches that make it appear to better advantage.

Nothing could startle us now in the way of unique muffs and boas. The ample plain fur muffs go all right with some morning or walking toilettes, but ceremonious toilettes demand more elaborate affairs. The really dressty muffs and boas are fashioned of tulle, of chiffon, of mousseline de sole and a score of other gauzy materials. They are draped and befrilled, flower trimmed and embellished with flowing bows of velvet ribbon. A gorgeous vision in white that attracted a good deal of admiring attention at a recent mid-winter picture exhibition wore a muff and collet made all of narrow white taffeta frills. They were corded and pinked. The collet was made over a lining of ermine that rendered it more practical than it appeared. It had long stole ends covered by the frills. The front was ornamented with bows and loops of burnt orange velvet ribbon that reached to the bottom of the stole ends. Along the edges of the pinked frills there were tiny ruches of white tulle. The large muff was one mass of the taffeta frills that went round it. They too were corded and edged with the white tulle ruches. At the left side of the top there was a full bow of orange velvet ribbon with flowing ends.

One of the pretty new black velvet coats reflects the partiality shown black and white combinations at present. It is a close fitting affair with long full basques. There is a narrow plastron of white faille silk crossed with narrow bias folds of black velvet and bordered at either side with broad box-plaits. These box-plaits are ornamented each with three large black velvet buttons set in rims of carved ivory. The basques of the coat are box-plaited and between each box-plait a narrow panel of white silk is inserted. These panels, like the plastron, are crossed by narrow bias folds of the black velvet. The velvet of the full sleeves is box-plaited and the spaces between are of the white faille trimmed with bias folds of velvet. A carved ivory buckle ornaments the front of the narrow black velvet ceinture. Black velvet folds ornament the high straight white silk collar. This coat is lined with white brocade silk.

The large buttons used so much in the trimming of these three-quarter length coats offer such a wide range for choice. The newest thing are the buttons covered with the same material as the coat that are set in rims of gold, silver, or cut steel. A carved ivory rim on buttons of black velvet is considered quite the most elegant thing in buttons. The bolero seems really to be shelved for the moment. It seems to be merged into a coat that is a sort of compromise between a bolero and a Louis XVI coat, at least this new coat partakes of features of both. It has a bolero front with rounding points that fall over a plastron of some soft gauzy

material. The back invariably boasts coat tails. Coat tails of varying lengths and shapes; some of them dapper little swallow-tails glistening with small metal buttons. Others there are that are long and sweeping and extend to the bottom of the skirt. A great many of the new coats have long box-plaited basques with a generous flare around the bottom. This feature is common alike to outside coats and coats that are included in indoor toilettes. Skirts are trimmed a great deal in bands of contrasting materials. Some of the more elegant taffeta skirts are trimmed with narrow stitched bands of cloth that mount up to the waist band.

One of the new street gowns made of bisquit colored cloth has a trimming of seal bands on the skirt that is very effective. It is fashioned with a habit back and round the lower part the skirt is slashed and fans of the cloth in a still lighter shade are inserted. These are crossed by narrow bands of seal.

The coat is a close fitting, long, double breasted affair with flaring basques. It fastens with small seal buttons set in dull gold. Embroidered cream chiffon is tucked and put on to the upper part of the coat in the form of a pointed yoke. Over this extend short revers of the seal. A band of the seal with a point at the front tops the high straight collar of tucked chiffon. The sleeves are rather full and bag over a short cuff of the cloth which is seal trimmed. The lower part is slashed and has insets of the plier cloth crossed by narrow bands of seal.

The modistes have nothing especially startling to display at just this season. Flowers are more popular than ever; evidently we are not to wait for "the flow-

SHOWING A NOVEL TRIMMING.



Reception gown of lavender blue zibeline. It is trimmed with a coarse meshed cream net that shows a lining of silver gauze. Touches of black velvet ribbon.

ers that bloom in the spring" for winter blossoms may be seen on all the latest hats. One of the new hats is a flat draped in white satin gauze and dips at the front and back. At the left side it turns up slightly and is trimmed with pink and blue hydrangeas. Below this there is a bow of black velvet ribbon with the loops extending toward the back very much elongated so that they droop down nearly to the shoulder. NINA GOODWIN.

Burke Ho Speaker.

Washington Post: That the most eloquent essay carefully prepared before hand, when delivered by one lacking the orator's gifts, may as a speech be an utter failure gets an illustration in a new anecdote of Burke told by a writer of reminiscences in the Westminster Gazette. Lord Erskine was once asked by Mr. Riaz, the American ambassador, about Burke's delivery. "It was execrable," said his lordship. "I was in the house of commons when he made his great speech on American conciliation, the greatest ever made. He drove everybody away. I wanted to go out with the rest, but was near him and afraid to get up; so I squeezed myself down and crawled under the benches, like a dog, until I got to the door without his seeing me, rejoicing in my escape. Next day I went to the Isle of Wight. When the speech followed me there I read it over and over again. I could hardly think of anything else. I carried it with me and thumbed it until it got like wadding for my gun."

Rudyard on Golf.

"I see that Rudyard Kipling speaks of the 'muddled oafs' at the goals. That's something new, ain't it?" "Yaas, I think so. I fancy it's Scotch, you know. I'll awsk our instructor. He's Scotch, too." "Well, what do you suppose it means?" "I'm blest if I know. 'Muddled' is 'mixed up,' ain't it? And 'oaf'—say, that must be short Scotch for 'loaf.' And a 'muddled oaf' is a fellow who plays lazily, so lazily that he gets a little mixed, see?" "What mixes him?" "Scotch highballs, of course. Let's have one."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Floods of the Nile.

The floods of the Nile are so regular in their coming that for hundreds of years they have not varied ten days in the date of their arrival at a given point.

OLIO OF EVENTS.

Before rain came about the middle of November, Edinburgh had suffered from drouth four months, and was within two weeks of a water famine.

The Kaiser has offered a prize for the best motor car suitable for agricultural purposes. The award will be made by the emperor himself in 1903.

President Maclean, of the University of Iowa, believes that church congregations should adopt the practice of applauding sermons which they like.

The Norwegian council of state has decided to negotiate for a loan of £2,000,000, to be used for the construction of railways and a thorough telephone system throughout Norway.

An order of the Prussian minister of commerce authorizes the establishment from April next of a chamber of commerce, with 36 members, for the city of Berlin and suburbs.

The Bohemian chamber of physicians has recommended the enactment of a law that every one before marriage must be provided with a physician's certificate of bodily and mental health.

For the first time in the history of the German army, during the recent maneuvers, naval battalions were brought into play; these battalions were commanded by Admiral Prince Henry of Prussia.

San Francisco bay is to be tunneled to accommodate the traffic between opposite sections of the city which now has to go around. The distance is about five miles, and the subway will pass beneath an island in the bay.

Rev. Dr. Hiram W. Thomas, pastor of the People's church of Chicago, has expressed his willingness to go to the reconcentrado camps of South Africa to distribute the money raised by the American Transvaal league.

France, with upwards of 40,000,000 of population, has but one really large city—Paris, with 2,150,000 inhabitants. The two next largest are Marseilles, with 494,769, and Lyons, with 453,245 inhabitants.

The late Heinrich Duntzer was perhaps the most erudite and fertile of the German scholars who made the Goethe-Schiller special of German literature their special field of research. He lived 53 years, and from 1846 to his death, a few weeks ago, he was librarian at the Catholic high school in Cologne.

Prof. Charles Emory Fellows, who has been chosen president of the University of Maine, is 45 years old. His special line of work in history, which he has been teaching in the University of Chicago, has been the study of the nineteenth century, particularly the period covered by the last 25 years.

On the reopening of the Italian parliament in January, a scheme is to be presented for a direct railway from Rome to Naples, reducing the journey to two hours and a half, or half the present time. The journey from Milan to Naples will be accomplished in nine hours, while now it takes 15.

One of the latest acquisitions of the botanical gardens at New York is a specimen of the original flower from which all cultivated chrysanthemums have been developed. This flower is known as the chrysanthemum indicum, and the only surviving plants of it exist in remote parts of China.

Dr. Siemering has completed the sketch for the monument to the historian Heinrich von Treitschke, which is to be placed, with the Kaiser's consent, in the grounds of the Berlin university. The inscription is to be Treitschke's own "winged words," "Manner machen die Geschichte (history is made by men).

Orsa, Sweden, has in course of a generation sold \$4,000,000 worth of trees and by no means of judicious replanting has provided for a similar income every 30 or 40 years. In consequence of this commercial wealth there are no taxes. Railways, telephones, etc., are free, and so are schoolhouses, teaching and many other things.

Three keepers of a lighthouse at cape Grinez were fined \$10 each recently for poaching, by spreading nets to catch the birds attracted by the reflectors of the lantern. It was stated during the hearing of the case that no fewer than 5,914 birds were captured between Oct. 10 and 14, the majority being jacks thrushes and cornercrakes.

The state in which there are the least number of government pensioners is Nevada, in which they number only 275. There are 800 in Wyoming and 850 in Utah, Ohio and Pennsylvania together have 210,000—only 10,000 less than the total number of persons engaged in the federal service of the United States at home and abroad.

A comely Pueblo Indian girl was graduated at the head of the class of professional nurses at the Philadelphia Woman's hospital. Miss Seicher Atayse violates many of the accepted ideas of the personal appearance of Indian women. She is small and attractive. She was brought east twelve years ago, when she was only 10 years old, and was educated at Carlisle.

The superintendent of the assay office at Vancouver, B. C., believes that the miners of British Columbia and the Yukon territory do not know platinum when they see it, and that in all the placering districts in the territory mentioned large amounts of platinum and kindred metals have been thrown away, the value of the product being unknown.

The portrait of a suicide is on the new \$10 bill, which is known also as the "Buffalo bill," because of a rampant bison picture in the center of it. The suicide was Meriwether Lewis, the famous explorer. Lewis was also private secretary to President Jefferson, who afterward made him governor of Missouri territory. In a fit of melancholy—he was a man of moods—he killed himself, when only 35 years of age.