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There is much excellent fiction including a serial by Harold Frederic; stories extending through several numbers by H C Bunner, J S Dale, and others; and short stories by R L Stevenson, Joel Chandler Harris, T A Janvier, Miss Jewett, Octave Thanet, H H Boyesen, Miss Crosby, and a host of others.

Notable special papers to be published very early are General F A Walker's on Socialism; Dr. William Hayes Ward's on Babylonian Cylinders; Mr John C Ropes' on the Portraits of Cæsar; Captain Greene's on Coast Defence, etc., etc.

SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE will be published at $3.00 a year, or 25 cents a copy. Subscriptions may be sent to any newsdealer or bookseller, or to

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743 & 745 Broadway, New York. 23-1t

George White, a negro, who resides at [illegible]'s Bayou, Concordia Parish, La., [illegible] before the federal grand jury that he [illegible] father of 165 children.

AN EX-PRESIDENT DEAD.

NEW YORK, Nov. 18.—Ex-President Chester A. Arthur died at 5 o'clock this morning at his residence No. 123 Lexington-avenue. He had been ailing for some time from a complication of diseases, principally kidney affection. He had spent the summer at a watering place and it was supposed that this had strengthened somewhat his enfeebled constitution. His death was unexpected, it not being supposed outside of his home that he was in any immediate danger. As soon as the news of Mr. Arthur's death was made public many flags on public and private buildings were placed at half mast. Mr. Arthur had lived at No. 123 Lexington-avenue for twenty years or more. A stroke of cerebral apoplexy, sudden but not wholly unexpected by the attending physicians, terminated his life. The stroke came in his sleep between Tuesday night and Wednesday morning, and he did not rally thereafter.

Mr. Arthur was 56 years old. He had been a widower seven years. His wife died in 1879. She was Miss Ellen Herndon, daughter of a naval officer, a Virginian, who was lost at sea. Of their two children, the son, Chester Allen, is 22 years old. He was graduated from Princeton College Columbia law school. His practical training he received in the law office of Knevals & Ransom, a firm of which the ex-President was a member up to the time of his election to the vice Presidency. The daughter, Miss Nellie, of whom Mr. Arthur was very fond, is 14 years old.

He was born in Franklin, Vt., of pious, educated parents. Graduating at Union College, in New York State he became a lawyer. One of his first cases was a voluntary advocacy of the right of colored people to ride in omnibusses and cars. In 1861 Gov. Morgan make him Quarter-master-General on his staff—a most responsible office during the civil war, and one which Gen. Arthur filled with ability and integrity. After the war and until 1871 he pursuad his profession in New York, at the same time taking an active part in local politics and becoming the efficient organizer and leader of the Republican party of that day. In 1871 he was made Collector of the Port of New York. But as a friend and ally of Mr. Conkling he fell a victim of the factional crusade Mr. Hayes had at one time the courage to organize against the New York senator. He was removed without cause for political reasons, and in consequence, through an unbroken chain of circumstances was carried to Mr. Hayes's place in the White House.

The actual cause of Mr. Arthur's death was cerebral apoplexy.

Godey's for December.

Godey's Lady's Book is as usual ahead of all its competitors, having succeeded in doing what others have failed in, and secured a story for the January issue from the pen of the talented authoress, Miss Rose Cleveland (sister of our President), and a New York society letter from "Jenny Juno," the most popular fashion writer in America. While preparing a treat for the opening number of 1887, the December number has not been forgotten; it is a handsome holiday book full of attractions. A beautiful steel plate from an original subject, two colored fashion plates, a design for Christmas church decorations, giving some seasonable effective and useful hints. A colored work page representing the end for a piano scarf, numerous black fashions and work designs complete the illustrations. "Why Did He do It?" by the author of "Wedded to Misery." "How Sister St. Agnes Took the White Veil," by Lanta Wilson Smith. "A Legal Fetter," by Mrs. Olivia Lovel Wilson and A Pair of Christmas Clippers," by Augusta DeBubna, are all good stories. "A Wave O' the Sea," by Marian C. L. Reeves, is concluded; this story has met with unbounded favor. Several good poems complete the literary features. A fashion letter from a new correspondent in Paris promises to add many attractions to the fashion department. Godey proposes being ahead of all the fashion magazines for 1887, and bids fair to succeed. Now is the time to subscribe for the cheapest and best fashion magazine. Price, $2.00 per year. Liberal terms to club raisers and valuable premiums. Send for circular and specimen copy, 15 cts. GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK, Philadelphia, Pa.

A portion of Hampton Court Palace was destroyed by fire on Friday.

The Greek Legislature has been dissolved and new elections ordered.

During the year 1885, 4,091 males and 1,200 females committed suicide in Germany.

During the recent strike in Chicago an attempt was made to poison one of the Armours.

Lord Randolph Churchill boldly declares that "the voice of England shall not be lost sight of." 'Ear, 'ear!

Louise Michel has been officially pardoned, the unexpired portion of her term of sentence being cancelled.

It is stated the Manitoba Government has made arrangements to return to the municipalities the aid granted to railways.

The Canadian Anthracite Coal Company with a fully subscribed capital of $500,000 has been formally organized in Winnipeg.

Charles A. McAulay was arrested in Toronto last week on the charge of murdering his father, an old man 62 years of age, during a drunken quarrel.

The Campbell divorce suits will be shortly tried in London, in which Lord Colin Campbell and his wife bring charges of adultery against each other.

Mrs. McKin's failure to stand again for West Wellington shows that the conspiracy cane was not a plum pudding for him, unless he is to get that very plump plum, the shrievalty.

The report of the committee on the gopher plague adopted by the North-west Council proposes proposes poisoning the gophers with strychnine—the plan adopted in the Western States.

Owing to the large number of votes which had to be cast in one polling booth at the recent municipal election in Calgary voters, after polling their votes, had to make their exit through a window.

A man named Gibbs, who has just been sentenced to three years and ten months in Auburn State prison for bigamy and seduction at Watertown, New York, at one time figured in Port Hope in connection with the Saved Army as Rev. Mr. Gibbs.

The by-law to grant a bonus of $25,000 to the Wood Mountain and Qu'Appelle Railway Company was carried by the rate payers of Qu'Appelle almost unanimously. Eighty-five votes were cast in all, and of these only nine were against the by law.

A London despatch says it is understood that the British Government has decided to dismiss Sir Robert Hamilton, chief permanent official at Dublin Castle. His crime is having understood and sympathetically supported the aspirations of the Irish people.

A horrible tragedy is reported from White River, Ont., a station on the Canadian Pacific railway 246 miles east of Port Arthur, six persons of one family having been murdered by a railway labourer, who afterwards fired the house to conceal his crime.

A committee of the English Presbyterian Church had been engaged for some time in preparing the revised version of the Psalms of David for use in congregation worship. Of this committee Rev. Rigby Murray, of Brunswick church, Manchester, was the convenor. On the last Sunday in September the Revised Psalter, pointed for chanting and set to music by Mr. Murray, was introduced into the service of the Brunswick Street church. It is believed to be the first time that the revised version of the Psalms has been so used. The Revised Psalter proved to be a great success. There was but one opinion as to the relative value of the old and new versions, while the simplicity of the pointing, the easiness of the chants, and the purity of the harmonies came in for general praise. It is expected that the new Psalter will be adopted and used by most of the non-conforming bodies.

The Value of Forest Preservation.

To the Editor of the Champion:

SIR,—I should like if you can spare me a little space for the purpose to endeavor to explain to your readers the reasons, so far as scientific experiment has revealed them, for retaining a considerable portion of forest interpersing all land devoted to agriculture and grazing. The result of these experiments and observations may be summed up in the statement that a portion of country one-fourth or one-third forest will grow more crops, take less savour, and be a far healthier place to live in than the same portion would be if cleared of wood.

The reason why this has not been apparent the convictions was upon us that some thing was wrong in our system of management, and that something found by examination to be over-clearing, is that the operations of nature are largely hidden from view, and patient search is necessary to arrive at even a partial understanding concerning them.

The chief fact to be borne in mind is that, whether in the growth of a tree or of a plant, water is the vehicle of carrying which conveys all nourishment and adds all growth. The method of growth is that whatever comes from the soil is carried by water, (that is, water is largely intermixed with it), into the roots, from thence it is borne upwards to the leaves, where it is exposed to the air, receives additional plant food thence, and undergoes certain changes to fit it for its purpose, and is then carried back into the plant and deposited where ever needed. But a little water goes back into the plant, most of what carried the food up from the roots passing away into the air when it reaches the leaves.

It will be seen from this how necessary is the constant presence of sufficient moisture in the soil. But this moisture must not be permanent; it must be continually changing to produce growth. The presence of stagnant water, whether on the surface or in an undrained subsoil, is injurious to most vegetation.

The presence of woods directly acts in maintaining the supply of moisture, and keeping it in beneficial circulation. They hold the rain and the snow-water, which would otherwise flow rapidly away, and allow it gradually to pass off, thus keeping the underground channels of the earth full, and diffusing moisture around them. They prevent the winds from passing too rapidly over the land, and thereby preserve for a longer time the good effect of spring and autumn showers. They also do much to procure these showers, as there is always arising from the immense number of their leaves a cool and damp vapor, which, meeting with the warmer atmosphere of a rain-laden cloud, must produce precipitation, and a consequent fall of rain at some adjacents point. These are only a few of the effect of forests, but they show the beneficial influence they exert on that great factor of all vegetation, the circulation of moisture through the air and ground.

For these reasons everyone who has forests should endeavor to preserve a proper portion of them, and it may be remarked that the very best assistant in doing this will be found in keeping cattle out of that portion it is intended to preserve. Let them range in any bush except the one which is intended to stand. Next to a forest, the best thing is a row of evergreens along the most exposed sides of a farm, which can be successfully planted by keeping the roots damp and covered till set out. The time is about the first of June.

Yours etc.,
R. W. PHIPPS.

Toronto, Nov. 9, 1886.

Sir Richard Cartwright last week received the Reform nomination for South Oxford.

When Rev. Sam Jones, in Omaha, Neb., asked any man present who had never spoken a cross word to his wife to stand up, a round-faced, good-faced, good-natured looking individual, with a beard, stood up. "Thank God, there's one man who never said a cross word to his wife," said Rev. Sam. "I'm a bachelor," shouted the round-faced man.

The following resolution from The Manchester (England) Court Record for October 12, 1603, is probably the earliest record of football:—"That, whereas there hath bene heretofore great disorder in our towne of Manchester and the inhabitants greatlye wronged and charged with makinge and the the amendinge of their glasse windows broken yearlie and spoyled by a companye of lewd and disordered persons usinge that unlawful exercise of playing with the ffootballe in yo streets of the said towne, breaking men's windows and glasse at their pleasure, and other greate enormytise, therefore we of this jurye doe order that no manner of persons hereafter shall playe or use the ffootballe in any street within said towne of Manchester subpœand to any one that shall use so use the same for any time, XIID."

Referring to the proposition to equip the British Army with repeating rifles, the Army and Navy Gazette says: To fight such enemies as British troops generally have to face, the single-charge breech-loader is quite good enough; but as there may be enemies armed with repeating rifles more formidable than Soudan Arabs, Burmans, or Indians to encounter, it is intended to manufacture a large number of magazine rifles, to be kept in store in case of need for issue to the Army "as soon as the pattern has been determined." There are two systems of repeating rifles, American and English, now before the War Office, and the Austrain Schulhoff rifle is momentarily expected. When all the various systems have been thoroughly tested and examined, the officers charged with reporting on the results will formulate their opinions and recommendations, and the manufacture will at once go on. When that will be we cannot say. The new and improved rifle on the lines recommended by the committee will be ready for trial in a few days. Only fifty will be made for experiment at the outset.

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The Serial Stories include 'Juan and Juanita,' an admirably written story of Mexican life, by Frances Courtenay Baylor, author of 'On Both Sides'; also, 'Jenny's Boarding House,' by James Otis, a story of life in a great city.

Short Articles, instructive and entertaining, will abound. Among these are: 'How a Great Panorama is Made,' by Theodore R Davis, with profuse illustrations; 'Winning a Commission' (Naval Academy), and 'Recollections of the Navy Academy'; 'Boring for Oil' and 'Among the Gas-wells', with a number of striking pictures; 'Child-Sketches from George Eliot,' by Julia Magruder; 'Victor Hugo's Tale of his Grandchildren,' recounted by E S Brooks. Also interesting contributions from Nora Perry, Harriet Prescott Spofford, Joaquin Miller, H H Boyesen, Washington Gladden, Alice Wellington Rollins, J T Trowbridge, Lieutenant Frederick Schwatka, Noah Brooks, Grace Denio Litchfield, Rose Hawthorne Lathrop, Mrs S M B Piatt, Mary Mapes Dodge, and many others, etc., etc.

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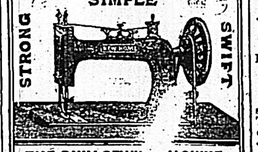

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