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JOHN M. AKER, Editor.

"INDEPENDENT BUT NOT NEUTRAL"

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VOL. XV.

Governor Matthews recommended his last message that a compulsory education law be passed in Indiana.

In the dominions of the British Empire alone some 8000 individuals vanish every year without leaving any trace.

Only two miles of steam railroad were built in New England during last year, and these were equally divided between Maine and Vermont.

Twenty acres of good land in many parts of California, says the California Fruit Grower, is a sufficient area to provide a good living for an average American family of refined tastes and industrious habits.

In 1793 Benjamin Franklin left \$5000 to be loaned to needy apprentices at five per cent. The accumulated principal and interest now amount to \$800,000. Poor Richard himself could hardly have managed it more thriftily.

It is proposed that a college for firemen be established in New York City. In such an institution men could receive a course of instruction in scientific fire fighting by the most approved methods. The project is being advocated by a number of prominent business men.

Professor Henri Moissan, the distinguished chemist, who came to this country to lecture at the Princeton celebration, says the thing that drives him most, apart from his scientific equipment.

The Erie railway was the first to follow: Lawyers, 68; business men, including bankers, ministers, shipowners and stock raisers, 15; preachers, 1; farmers, 2; journalists, 2; surgeons, 1; and other holders, recalled in the absence of a better classification, 3.

According to the London Figaro the Prince of Wales is the greatest spendthrift in the world. The statement is made that he has spent \$50,000,000 in the last thirty-three years. From the English nation he has received \$25,000,000, and \$5,000,000 more for traveling expenses and special allowances. He has, besides, private debts amounting to \$20,000,000.

The New York papers are sending a note of warning to the effect that if the port charges be not reduced that port will shortly take a back seat to Norfolk, Baltimore, Newport News and Philadelphia. They carefully abstain from any reference to New Orleans, which has lately been cutting a big swath in the matter of grain exports, notes the Picayune.

As a proof of what has been done by forty years of careful breeding, the result of last year's shearing of the Dorset-bred flock of pure Merino sheep, South Australia, is given as follows: 15,709 grown sheep averaged 9 pounds 15 ounces of wool per head; 12,599 lambs averaged 3 pounds 11 ounces per head, being a general average of 17.21 pounds 81 ounces per head.

Professor Kraft-Ebing, who holds the chair on mental diseases at the University of Vienna, Austria, introduced a startling novelty into one of his instructions a fortnight ago by permitting a madman to lecture in his place. The man is afflicted by periodic attacks of mania, during which he is much more clever and witty than when sane. His lecture on "The Mental Condition of the Maniacs in Periodical Attacks of Madness" was a brilliant success. At the close of it he was again placed in confinement.

The Young Men's Christian Association has recently celebrated its thirty-fifth anniversary. Its membership is now 263,295. Thirty years ago there was not a single building owned by the associations. Now there are 315, valued at \$16,759,839. Last year their expenditures for carrying on their work amounted to \$7,226,141. They have 493 gymnasiums, 792 reading rooms, 365 educational classes, with 283 students, and 751 Bible-teaching classes. Among the Indians there are 41 associations, 11 among colored people, 108 for railroad men and 460 for college students.

TWO VIEWS.

Who dwells within a shadowed vale
Knows only grass and trees,
The mower's scythe, the milkmaid's pail,
The streamer flowing free;
Or a slender, silencing spire,
The wayward, the wayward;
The world to be a little space,
How narrow, oh, how narrow!

A HIGHWAYMAN.

ONA SHELDON was making the European tour of her education and she and her mother had spent the last two years in traveling.

Zona's mother was a wealthy widow, and Zona was an only child. Her reading and culture had given zest to her travels, and she had understood as well as reason.

The important subject under discussion on the October morning which brings them to our notice, is an invitation to be present at a wedding in the north of England.

But here was Miss Mrs. Sheldon, who was so indisposed as to be unfit for the journey, yet she did not wish Zona to stay at home.

Unhappily, among other ideas, perhaps a little erroneous, Mr. Sheldon had been told that it was a serious undertaking to travel in a compartment car, unless there were so many passengers that there was no possibility of a robbery.

It is you to consider me at her mother, "I am indisposed enough for such a journey. I will take good care of my remaining compartment."

At the train station, she said to her mother, "I am indisposed enough for such a journey. I will take good care of my remaining compartment."

The train started out of the station, and Zona's father, who was a good traveler, turned to her and said, "I am indisposed enough for such a journey. I will take good care of my remaining compartment."

When a new sensation stirred within her, she drew out her dusty little watch and looked at it. Twelve o'clock and twenty minutes. Two hours since she had started. She laid down the book and opened the little lunch basket, then she drew out her gloves and looked at them in the pocket of her jacket and began to eat. The man in the corner took this opportunity to read the title of her book, "Bigelow Papers."

Zona, all unconscious of his scrutiny, finished her dinner, returned to her books, and I must admit, fell asleep. "Wake up, wake up! We got out at the next station."

Zona looked about with a start to see the October day darkening down and realize that when the family party should leave the train, she and the man in the corner would be the only occupants of the compartment.

Hereupon occurred a strange thing. Zona, who had never before felt a fear in traveling, began to tremble all her mother's stories with which she was wont to fortify her theories of the dangers of traveling in compartment cars.

"What a villainous contentment!" One could see a desperate fellow. How foolish I was to let my watch and ring be seen! I am sure he is looking at my ring."

Now the ring was a beautiful diamond given to Zona by her mother, and Zona, with a disregard of conventionality, wore it on her finger which is usually set apart to carry the signal of engagement. Therefore, "Well, I thought you were engaged," he said. "Don't wonder, she surely is the loveliest girl I ever saw. I wonder who the happy fellow is. What can be the matter with her, though? She doesn't look a bit like she did the first part of the day. I've a notion to speak to her; an American girl isn't likely to be so squeamish as a native—here goes."

"I beg your pardon," he said aloud. "You look worried. Do you go much further?"

"An Englishman wouldn't speak without an introduction," thought Zona, "if he hadn't come down here, it was some little time before the question was answered, for she was making a calculation whether it was worth her while to go to the wedding."

"She says he is a tall, powerful fellow—very similar looking to you," he said. "You had better let me see her eye, at all events," he said. "If you don't she will not be fit for duty to-morrow."

"Zona," said Louise, as she came in after a moment's absence, "you had better let him examine your eye. He says it is dangerous to let the inflammation run on, and he thinks it will be quite well to-morrow if you get a good night's rest."

"What a little idiot I have been! How could I have imagined such things of him? He is tall and powerful—dark eyes, and a nose like yours. I don't wonder he is so taken with you. What blue eyes! I wish Louise had not told him."

"What a relief!" exclaimed Zona. "Thank you, doctor." "You are quite welcome," he replied. "By to-morrow I hope you will have quite forgotten it."

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And in Louise's snug room the prospective bridegroom recounted her woes, and was pitted and comforted, and assured that she should not be allowed to go back alone.

"Cousin John Pierpont, who is going to be best man, is going down and he will see you safely back. You know he is an American, a graduate in medicine, and has been studying in Edinburgh. He is going to spend this winter in the London hospitals, and I know you will like him. I hear a brute now. I believe he has come. Will you excuse me till I go down and see?"

"Of course Zona would, and Louise soon ran up again. "Yes, it is he; and now, dear, dinner is ready. Let me help you."

"Oh, Louise, dear, you must excuse me from dinner. I can't go down with this horrible blue eye."

"This Louise went down alone to the dinner, where she related in full the sad journey which her friend had made. "Would she recognize the villain, do you suppose?" asked Dr. Pierpont, who had listened with much interest to Louise's recital.

"I don't know, indeed," said Louise. "She says he is a tall, powerful fellow—very similar looking to you," he said. "You had better let me see her eye, at all events," he said. "If you don't she will not be fit for duty to-morrow."

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THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Reveries—Didn't Pass—Only Natural—A Useful Rule—In Boston—A Small Boy's Feet, Etc., Etc.

Man's fate is not in his control;—As he scans the stars for him;—He slips into an open hole;—And the paper prints his name;—Chicago Record.

Why can't you get an accident insurance, Grumpy?—Because they say I'm too stiff to decapitate myself.—Detroit Free Press.

What makes you think Major Dabill is in the signal service?—Major Dabill is in the signal service, but he appears the conversation lacks.—Judge.

Physician—"Why don't you practice what you preach, Mr. Humphrey?"—Clergyman—"Oh, you can't expect a doctor to take his own medicine—now can you?"—Judge.

The play last night was most magnificently staged.—Jones—"Is that so?"—Brown—"Yes, in one sense they need real coal."—New York Tribune.

They say it calms the mind to let the eye rest on the distant horizon.—That's a fact, when I see a man to whom I owe money it always quiets me to look steadily into the distance.—Chicago Record.

What excuse did the hat-chopper offer?—She said she was homesick.—"What did the judge say?"—"He said not to give her a contagious epidemic and give her thirty days."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Death me old chap, what do you do with all those photographs talking to you at once?—Chippie—"Getting ready for the summer at the seaside. I expect that as usual I shall be the only man of the hotel I put up at."—Truth.

If it wasn't for me my class in soap would have any standing at all," said Hubert.—"Nonsense," said his aunt. "Your mother says you are the foot of it."—"Am," said Hubert. "How could it stand if it didn't have a foot?"—Herper's Round Table.

That's what I call realistic! Why, just look at that thundercloud in my 'Coming Storm.' Doesn't it look to you as if it might burst at any moment?"—Comedian (sarcastically)—"I am glad I brought my umbrella along."—Truth.

Confidential Friend (to young wife)—You indeed must have the best of temper; you've been more than forty days not to go out with him, and he has not once called out to ask if you're ready."—Young Wife—"Oh! I always had his gloves, cigars and spectacles in my bag, and he apologizes for having kept me waiting. It's a very effective plan, my dear, and I recommend it as a peace-maker."

Whenever I think of Utah," said Mr. Meekton's wife, "I can't repress a thrill of indignation."—"Neither can I, Henrietta. But I'm surprised to hear you express such sentiments."—"Surprised! Do you think I could tolerate the manner in which that State has allowed divorcing men to marry as many women as they please?—Didn't happen to think of that. I supposed you were speaking of the manner in which women are allowed to take the upper hand and vote."—Washington Star.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

Aluminum skates gain favor.

A clever Parisian has invented a machine that can split a human hair lengthwise into thirty-six strips. A great excluder for vehicle hubs consists of a cap secured to the outer end of the hub, being easily removable.

An electric roller for massage purposes is composed of plates of copper and zinc and generates its own electricity.

It takes thirty-seven specially constructed and equipped steamers to keep the submarine telegraph cables of the world in repair.

Steels tempered in pincel have been found by M. Seval to have much greater hardness and elasticity than those tempered in water.

A Massachusetts woman has a patented leather dressing consisting of a compound of wax, rubber, gutta percha, Spanish flooroil and paraffin oil, the proportions being secret.

A new nut lock has one corner recessed, in which a pin is placed having a sharp point to engage the flutes of the bolt. The pin can be sprung back out of the way to unnerse the nut.

It is reported that Dr. Geacarelly of Rome, has discovered the characteristic germ of yellow fever and he hopes to utilize his discovery for the prevention or amelioration of the disease.

A new car leader is attached to the truck of a car, instead of the car body, thus doing away with the oscillating motion of the car, as the truck always remains solid on the tracks, the car body only springing up and down.

The pneumatic tube system for carrying small parcels and mail packages is to be laid down in Boston. The system has been in use in European cities for the last fifty years, but the majority of the tubes are only three inches in diameter. The Boston system will have eight-inch tubes.

Swallow-wort, or the great cancer cure, which Dr. Denikenko asserts is a cure for cancer, has long been used by country people to cure warts. The doctor uses the juice of the plant directly, both externally and internally, in external cases injecting the fluid hypodermically around the cancerous growth. According to the Lancet, however, experiments have not confirmed his results.

Gold Nugget From the Ocean.

Captain J. Dahl, master of the Norwegian bark Handy, when discharging a timber cargo at Irvine, the other day, had with him, says the Boston Journal, a small nugget of gold which he found adhering to his sounding lead after taking soundings off the coast of Newfoundland a few weeks ago. Captain Dahl, who has from Framm, Norway, was at the time on his way home to Dalhousie, New Brunswick, to load his cargo. The lead had the usual thick coating of yellow on the end which comes in contact with the bottom, and when he had found the tin bit of gold, about the size of a bean, sticking to the tal-

At Dalhousie Captain Dahl showed it to the merchant with whom he was transacting business, and who, on having it tested, found it to be pure gold. Captain Dahl stated that before leaving he had an offer of \$2000 on condition that he would furnish information as to his precise bearing at the time he cast the lead, but refused. He was in British waters at the time, and will first ascertain what the Government authorities have to say to him on the subject. He has the lead he marked in gold.—Washington Star.

LOVES MESSENGERS.

The rose shall be my messenger,
The horn of affection,
Each petal sweet shall be the seat
Of fondest emotion;
And in the heart of each fair rose,
Deep hidden in the core,
There rests my soul, my inner self,
To love but you, O'ercome.

Even roses will die, each petal faded
And wither fast away;
Each fragile heart that speaks my love
Will languish and decay;
Not so with love, my soul that's hid
Within each rose's core;
That love will flourish and speak and live
Forever, evermore.

'Twill live for you and speak to you
When roses cease to bloom;
I'll breathe the rose's fragrance rare
For thee, my sweet, for thee!
Then haste, my messengers of love,
Tell her my each emotion,
Oh, petals sweet, at her dear feet,
Be-break my fond devotion.

—William Manly's.

—Yale Record.

—Puck.

—Puck.

—Puck.

—Puck.

—Puck.

—Puck.

—Puck.

—Puck.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

"What do you mean by being engaged to three men at once?" "Nothing."—Yale Record.

She—"Doesn't he make a fine clog-springer?" He—"He's great! I counted five men asleep."—Puck.

Jones—"The play is said to be an artistic success." Smith—"Are they losing much money on it?"—Truth.

Langdon Natter—"That is quite a high building." Foreigner—"Yes, indeed; that's a regular fog-scraper."—Puck.

Bobby—"Pop, what does pre-emption mean?" Fond Parent—"From the Latin, Bobby, means 'I told you so.'"—Puck.

You can buy wearing apparel for a song nowadays, but, unfortunately, great many people can't sing.—Boston Budget.

Mamma—"Mrs. Brown says her little boy looks very much like ours." Papa—"Then yours must be better looking."—Puck.

"Let's see," remarked the youth and the demsel; and then they turned down the gas till nobody else could see a thing.—Detroit Tribune.

"Splutter—"Do you suppose it's such a very bad thing to be sarcastic?" Cutter—"Not nearly as bad as to think you are and not be so."—Truth.

The young man who is anxious to lay the world at the feet of the girl he adores, three months after he marries, has not been willing even to lay the carpet.

"Are you angry, Miss Spitzky?" "I'm cragel. I'm going to make that man's life miserable if I have to marry him to do it."—Detroit Free Press.

The good die young, you know," said Bigor to Sadboy, the pessimist. "Yes," said Sadboy, "that's because it's the only time people are good."—Rosbury Gazette.

The Countess—"Do show me the coronet!" The Earl—"My dear, I'll show you the ticket for the coronet. It was hypothecated to pay for the engagement ring."—Puck.