

THE CRANE'S MEAL

He Easily Catches and Kills the Sparrow, But Finds It Hard to Swallow Him.

Court square has a new denizen, and now the peacocks and the squirrels stop every now and then to look in wonder at the splendidly colored crane which stalks in the solemn dignity of a king, says the Memphis Scimitar.

Then comes the fun. The sparrow is a little large to swallow. The crane kills him, thinking the small bird's lively capers must be the cause of the difficulty. Death makes the task no easier. The sparrow still chokes the crane. The crane tries the sparrow head on. The small bird's wings stick out and prevent the sparrow from going down.

SPANISH-CUBAN FINANCES.

The Enormous Debt Incurred by the Spaniards in Trying to Subdue the Cubans.

The separate public debt of Spain, says a writer in the Review of Reviews, now amounts to about \$1,500,000,000. This would appear not to include the debt which the Spaniards have fastened upon Cuba, and which must now amount to at least \$400,000,000.

Not only was there involved in the question of Spain's continued sovereignty in Cuba the \$400,000,000 of so-called Cuban indebtedness, but there was further involved, undoubtedly, the total bankruptcy of Spain. That is to say, the value of the \$1,500,000,000 of indebtedness issued directly in the name of the Madrid government, of which something like a thousand millions was in the form of the permanent consolidated four per cent debt, was in dire peril.

WAR LEVELS ALL RANKS.

A Little Story About a Young Private That Is Not Too Good to Be True.

Like love, war levels all ranks. Unlike love, it substitutes other ranks of its own making, says the Chicago Journal. In a company of southern volunteers in a private war, by virtue both of pedigree and race, is socially a very well-known man in his part of the country. He would be recognized merely as a private, however, his duties are those of the common soldier, and while it is nothing to his credit that he does these without hesitation, such work is certainly novel to him.

"Of course it couldn't be helped," she said, in recounting the incident later. "Still, I did what I could to spare his feelings. I called to the girls to run quick to the back of the house and not to dare to go near a window for fear they'd catch sight of young Blank peering the lawn."

The present war has brought to light the fact that Dr. Antonmarchi, who attended Napoleon during his last illness at St. Helena, is buried at Santiago de Cuba, where he gave his services free to the poor for many years.

THE LADRONES.

Interesting Information Concerning This Group of Islands.

The Ladrones group, whose industries have been blighted by Spanish rule, comprises about 20 islands, only five or six of which are inhabited, the rest being mere dots on the ocean, the tips of volcanoes which have sunk, the reath the sea as the crust of the earth at this point subsided.

The present islanders are mostly descendants of settlers from Mexico or from the Philippine islands. The people do not differ materially from the natives of the Philippines and although the islands have several good harbors the Spaniards have done little or nothing for their improvement.

It is a singular fact, discovered by Anson, that there are evidences on several of the islands of a former civilization. Cyclopedic ruins exist, the architecture and dimensions of the great ruins found in the island of the Greek archipelago.

To the United States the value of the islands is at present principally military, as furnishing harbors and coaling stations, but under an enlightened government there seems no reason to doubt that with proper cultivation the cotton of the islands would equal that produced along the coast of South Carolina, the sugar would rival that of Cuba and Puerto Rico, and it is said, that the tobacco of the Ladrones has a flavor equal to that of Vuelta Abajo valley.

The islands were discovered by Ferdinand Magellan on March 6, 1521. He named them Ladrones, or Thieves' Islands. Not long after Magellan perished in a fight which he and his men provoked with the Philippine islanders. Of his five ships, only one, with 18 men, returned to Spain and many years elapsed ere any attempts were made to occupy the islands which he had discovered.

A MINISTER'S EIGHT RULES.

They Will Insure the Success of His Church and Pastoral Work.

- 1. I must be always ready to call when invited.
2. Must catch at every straw of an errand to take me to one of my people.
3. Draw out from others their interests rather than intrude my own, but always assume a common interest in the improvement of the town.
4. Never leave a house without having something on which to hang another call.
5. Never meet a person with criticism or fault-finding.
6. Prepare for calling as truly as for preaching.
7. Study especially the Master's way, and try to carry His spirit with me.
8. Keep always in mind that it is my business to bring men to a consciousness of God, and to an understanding of their relationship with Him.

THE BIRTH OF CHRIST.

Much Controversy Regarding the Beginning of the Christian Era.

The date of the birth of Christ, the beginning of the Christian era, has been a matter of controversy and even now may be considered as by no means settled, for equally reputable and reliable authorities are arrayed on each side.

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CURE FOR OBESITY.

Harmless Method That Has Been Practiced for Years.

In the Maryland Medical Journal Cathell gives rules for the reduction of obesity which have been successful in his practice for many years. "Over-fatness" is commonly due, he says, to one of the following causes: Congenitally small lungs with a defective oxygenating capacity; eating excessively of all kinds of food; want of long-expanding exercise; using alcoholic drinks to excess.

Many of the drugs which have a known fat-reducing power exert an injurious action on the other tissues of the body, and if used persistently for any length of time or in inefficient doses become dangerous to health.

While taking the waters the person should keep a weekly record of his weight, always using the same scales and wearing the same clothing, and should also, for his own satisfaction, record his chest, waist and hip measurements. If the loss in weight exceeds two pounds a week, the amount of each water should be made smaller; and if the loss has not equaled two pounds a week a few table-spoonfuls of lemon juice should be added to each glass of Kissingen water to increase its acidity, and a teaspoonful of aromatic spirits of ammonia to the vichy to increase its alkalinity.

The mode of action of these waters taken in the manner described is not clear, but their efficiency is too well established to admit of doubt.

At the patriotic bull fight in Seville held recently each bull bore the name of some American minister, which added a spice to the slaughter.

Bulletin Financier.

Lundi, 8 août 1898.

COMPTOIR D'OPERATIONS (CIRIARNO) (BOURSE) DE LA NOUVELLE ORLEANS.

Jauguet cette semaine... \$1,664,305 00 \$236,475 00

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APPECTIONS D'ESTOMAC, SANG PAUVRE ANÉMIE, MANQUE DE FORCES FAIBLES FIÈVRES ET SUITES DE FIÈVRES QUINA-LAROUCHE

Bulletin Commercial

Lundi, 8 août 1898.

MARCHÉ DE LA NIE-ORIENT.

Le Coteur Exchange a reporté aujourd'hui des ventes de 250 balles et à arriver.

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