SPRINGER AND THE WAYS AND MEANS.

The *Star* says: It is not true it has been definitely settled Springer will be at the head of the committee on ways and means, but it is entirely probable he will be chosen for that position, being the most prominent of the Northern Democrats, from whom the chairman will probably be selected. It is probable that Mills, McMillan and Wilson, of Virginia, will be appointed on the committee, together with one man from New England, one from New York, one from Ohio, one from the South, and one from the far West. The committee will probably be increased to fifteen. If it practically settled Holman will go to the head of the committee on appropriations.

POSTER DEPORTING.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Secretary Foster continues to improve slowly, but he will hardly be able to leave his home by a month. He is compelled to cancel his engagement to speak at the dinner of the Boston board of trade Wednesday evening next, and has arranged with Assistant Secretary Nettleton to represent him. Gen. Nettleton left here for Boston this afternoon.

Lutherans in Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 14.—A decree has been issued stating that, from January 1st next, the Lutheran clergy will be deprived of the right to appoint or discharge the masters of Lutheran schools in Russia. A special commission has been appointed to examine teachers in the German schools. Should any teachers display an imperfect knowledge of the Russian language they will be dismissed.

Smuggled Chinese to be Photographed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Acting Secretary Spaulding has instructed the collector of customs at Buffalo, Ogdensburg, Suspension Bridge and Plattsburg, N. Y., to photograph all Chinamen arrested for unlawful entry. It is expected in this way to establish positive identification.

A Russian War Council.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 14.—The minister of war has summoned all the chiefs of the general staff to attend a council which will be held for the purpose of making a new disposition of the Russian forces.

The Chicago & Northern Pacific.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—A morning paper says the Chicago & Northern Pacific Railroad has floated six millions of its first mortgage 5's at 75c. and accrued interest, and gave the syndicate that purchased them a commission of 25 per cent. in Chicago & Northern Pacific stock. The syndicate that bought the bonds is composed of Speyer & Co., Kohn, Loeb & Co., the Deutsche Bank of Berlin, Dick Bros. & Co. of Philadelphia, C. H. Wright, Colgate Hoyt and the Bankbellers. It is understood the bonds will not be placed on the markets for six months.

Receiver for a Busted Bank.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Comptroller of Currency has decided to place a receiver in charge of the National Bank of San Diego, Cal., and leave open for a short time the question of the ability of the shareholders to restore the bank to a business basis.

Elliott's Answer to Briggs' Friends.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—Elliott, chairman of the committee appointed at the previous meeting of the Presbytery to prepare an answer to the protest of Dr. Van Dyke in the case of Dr. Briggs, has submitted his answer against Van Dyke, maintaining that the Presbytery committee which presented the charge is a committee of original jurisdiction, and may carry the charges before higher bodies without further reference to the Presbytery.

The Santa Fe Statement.

BOSTON, Dec. 14.—The annual report of the directors of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad company was issued today and says: The gross earnings of the company from the Atchison system on average operated mileage of 7111 miles is $33,093,716, an increase of $2,639,359 over the previous year. The net surplus for the year is $154,555. The total earnings of the St. Louis and San Francisco system for the year ending June 30, 1891, were $8,693,715, an increase of $344,930; operating expenses, $5,816,534, an increase of $703,464; net earnings, $2,877,178, a decrease of $187,054.

"Separate" Schools.

WIESBADEN, Dec. 14.—In the Supreme Court of the province this morning the chief justice decided the act abolishing all "separate" schools illegal. The case was appealed and will be carried to the Imperial Privy Council if necessary.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

Washington, Dec. 14.—A private telegram received here announces the death at Talequah, Indian Territory, of Mayes, chief of the Cherokee nation. The accident chief is said to be dangerously ill.

Denver, Dec. 14.—The severest storm ever known here raged tonight. Wires of all kinds are down and traffic generally is suspended. A regular blizzard is blowing.

Joliet, Dec. 14.—The extensive plant of the Watkins Wire Spring company in Lockport burned this morning. Loss, $60,000.

Oake, N. D., Dec. 14.—A fire here last night resulted in the death of Dr. Schmidt Nelson, and caused the loss of $20,000. Nearly the whole business portion of the town was destroyed.

Cincinnati, Dec. 14.—Colonel William E. Merrill, United states engineer in charge of the Ohio river and navigable tributaries, dropped dead this evening.

Santa Fe, N. M., 14.—The district attorney has filed suits against the bondsmen of ex-Sheriff and Collector Frank Chavez to recover $45,000, alleged to be due the county.

Berlin, Dec. 14.—Von Boetticher, secretary of the imperial home office, announces that the time reports on the 50 cases of trichina in American pork are unfounded.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 14.—Edward Allerton, who, September last, embezzled $50,000 in cash and nearly a million in securities from the Fidelity Trust Company, was today sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary, and his accomplice, Fred W. Chandler, to five years. Both pleaded guilty.

Canton, O., Dec. 14.—Major McKinley, who has been seriously ill with the grip, is much better tonight.

Vicksburg, Miss., Dec. 14.—John F. Richards of East Carroll parish, La., the largest individual cotton planter in the world, died today.

EFFECT OF WIND ON TREES.

The Supposed Effects of Cold Wind Upon Pine Growth.

Trees which grow in exposed situations have the tops always leaning away in the opposite direction from the prevailing winds, and the casual observer concludes that the branches have been bent by the constant pressure of the wind and retained their position. Now, although such trees have the appearance exactly of trees bending under a gale, still it is not genuine in that way which has given them their shape. The fact is, they have grown away from the least and not been bent by it after they grew. Examination of the branches and twigs will show this. We hardly realize the repressive effects of cold wind upon tree growth, which it partially or altogether arrests, according to its prevalence.

Conifers show the effects of this more distinctly than other trees. Owing to the horizontal habit of growth of the branches they point directly in the teeth of the gale from whatever direction it moves, and cannot. Like the oak, lean over and grow in the opposite direction hence coniferous trees growing in exposed situations produce good long branches on their lee side, while on the windy side the branches retain their right horizontal position, but make comparatively little growth, which is simply suppressed. One instance in substantiation of the foregoing was a Northern's spruce, growing in a position fully exposed to the northand north. One branch on the north side of the tree had fifteen annual nodes or growths and was seven feet long, and its opposite had the same number of nodes, being of the same age, but was nearly 24 feet longer, or 9½ feet, and all the lateral branches were proportionally long and well furnished.

If such a difference as that recorded above is found between the branches of a single tree standing alone in the open, of how much more importance is shelter to all kinds of tender trees and shrubs. When damage is done to trees by frost it is done suddenly, and we see the effects and are struck by them, but except in the case of subjects killed entirely or greatly damaged, it is probable that injury to trees from frost is almost nil compared to that carried by cold winds. These considerations should influence every one who contemplates planting, whether it be woods or single trees, but in either case it cannot be doubted that the more dense and better the influence, whether by means of belts or trees or hedges, that protects plantations of any kind from cold winds, and the hardier the subjects used for cold positions, the better.

Instructive Points on Grape Culture.

It is mentioned that a French grower has discovered a new method of growing the grape. The cut is made at the node above the point where it is intended the end of the wood shall eventually remain, at the same time destroying the bud found there. The sap then has left to remove the following year, when the death is complete and when at its base a collar has been formed, which soon closes after the dead wood has been removed to the bed. The theory is that under this method the wood does nearly and without decomposition of the tissues.

The practice of changing crops more or less systematically has always been found advantageous, and various theories have been offered explanatory of the principles upon which the benefits of rotation cropping depend. The same results have been found in the culture of the grape, as stated by Mr. Sandyes, superintendent of grounds and gardens at Washington, who has for a number of years experimented in this matter.

Wintering Monthly Roses.

The monthly roses are only half hardy, and consequently are likely to be winter killed when the thermometer falls 20 degs. below the freezing point. The best way to protect them, according to excellent authority, is to bend the branches down and fasten them securely within twenty inches of the ground by tying them to stakes driven for that purpose, or if done sooner they may be tied to each other. Then spread dry leaves or rough litter over them to a depth of say six inches. This should not be done, however, until severe cold weather sets in, so that nearly all the leaves are off the plants and they are thoroughly ripened, which is usually about Dec. 1 in the latitude of New York state. This covering should not be taken off until all danger of severe frost is over, say about April 1.

A Graceful Palm.

Numbered with decorative plants of decided value is the palm Dracena fulitiva, depicted in the accompanying illustration.

DRACENA FULITIVA, OR FOUNTAIN PLANT.

This attractive palm has gained for its graceful drooping habit the popular name of fountain plant. It is frequently employed for the centers of large vases and baskets. Dracena fulitiva is doubtfully valuable, for it is not only well adapted to indoor culture, but is one of the most desirable of plants for beds in the open ground.

Dread Laws in England.

The British law regulates the width of lanes and makes provision for the cleanliness and ventilation of the bakeshops. The price is left to regulate itself by trade competition.

The Ontario act empowers municipalities to enact efforts for the prevention of fraud, and clothes them with authority to confiscate all bread found to be of light weight. The bread seized in this way is turned over to charitable institutions for the use of the inmates.—Baker's Helper.

Lemon culture is being enthusiastically developed in California, where a new system of curing them is being found to work admirably.

Telephone Complications.

One of the young ladies at the telephone central office has a singularly pleasing voice, and it is just possible that her features match it. It is just as well right here to give the reader to understand that no names are to be mentioned—they are suppressed in the interest of a gentleman who holds a public office and was talked of for mayor. His clerk, who usually did the telephoning, never spoke to the central office girl without a form of endearment. The discussion over the wire generally begins with, "Is that you, dear?" and wound up with "Goodby, darling!"

In the absence of the clerk the distinguished man went to the telephone in person. Central promptly answered, and failing to recognize the voice asked, "Is that you, dear?" "Yes, darling," responded the distinguished public man. "It's the other fellow."

It is the good fortune of some wives to make their appearance just in the nick of the most exasperating time. That is what happened to this fortunate. Behind the distinguished public man when he said "No, darling, it's the other fellow," stood his wife, who had concluded to visit her husband that morning. She startled him by exclaiming, "Well, I like that!" Ind. Sun—Brooklyn Life.

American Love of Natural Beauty.

In spite of the alleged materialism of our people, it is plain that the love of natural beauty is stronger in the more ignorant classes than is common in the European nations. It is rare in Switzerland, in Switzerland, in the Tyrol, to see the natives of the region on the mountains except for what may be called business purposes—that is, as hunters or as guides. They do not take their families and go up for a picnic simply for the pleasure of the thing, whereas the city visitor can hardly stand on American mountain without finding a party of simple country people there before him.

Great that their demeanor is not wholly esthetic—that they may carry a hammer and chisel to carve initials on the rocks, that they leave sardine boxes about, that they even play a game of cards on the very summit—no matter; they are there. The chances are that the expedition was proposed by the wife or daughter of the farmer or mechanic who nominally leads it. It has a firm conviction, brought from some earlier trip, that the top of mountain is "a mighty fine place," and is rarely enough to contribute her best doughnuts and samovjes for the collation.—T. W. Higginson in Harper's Bazar.

A New York Miser.

An interesting specimen is an old fellow whom I got to know while making notes in the Astor library. He carried crusts of bread in his pocket and ate them bit by bit, as he huddled over his book all day long. His miserable dress, his haggard face and wistful desire to spend me with pity. And I opened an acquaintanceship with him. When I worked all day I was in the habit of lunching in a convenient beer shop of Bohemian renown, and once I invited him to join me. Thereafter he did it daily without invitation. When my work at the library was finished he got to haunting my house. Every evening he would lie in wait for me and buy toll to the sum of a dime, for his dinner, as he said.

One night a prominent real estate agent came up as I was making this contribution and greeted my pensioner by name. When he had shuffled off the agent laughed at me for my modest liberality. I learned from him that my haggard friend was a retired real estate speculator and worth at least half million in property.—New York Cor. Pittsburg Bulletin.

A Hogs Magnet.

According to investigations of Professor Frank H. Bigelow, the vast field of sunlight through which the earth moves in its annual motion around the center of the solar system is also a field of magnetic force radiated from the sun, and the effects arising from the motion of the earth through it suffice to account not only for the variations of the magnetic needle, but also for the permanent magnetic condition of the globe.—Exchange.

No Place to Put Seats.

The woman who does "fancy work" and embroidery assigned impossibilities as works and chair tidies is responsible for two new terms—"drape" and "throw." Personally, I think the use of the words as means an insult to our mother tongue and an offense that could do no injury, but I will admit that no word but "throw" is mean enough to describe the atrocious pieces spread across the backs of parlor frames. Now, there are places where a bit of drapery or a silk scarf is pleasant to behold, but all the canons of good taste are violated when a picture is mutilated in that fashion. If the picture has merit of drawing or coloring, a bit of colored silk detracts from the color by its own hues or from the drawing by its own form. If a picture is so poor as to need covering, it ought to be hung in the cellar anyway. At any rate, the word throw should never be applied to a picture.—New York Press.

The Cod That Helps to Cure The Cold. The disagreeable taste of the COD LIVER OIL is dissipated in SCOTT'S EMULSION Of Pure Cod Liver Oil with HYPOPHOSPHITES OF LIME AND SODA. The most nourishing food. CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, COUGH, COLD, OR WASTING DISEASES. Druggists everywhere. SCOTT & BOWNE, New York.

Scrofula

It may reasonably claim any other disease than that for which it is recommended, namely, Scrofula. Among those manifestations of this dreadful disease which are most conspicuous are those which appear on the surface of the body, such as Tumors, Swellings, Boils, Pimples, Eruptions, Salt Rheum, Erysipelas, Sores and Ulcers. Hood's Sarsaparilla has cured many such cases. It also expels the poison from the blood by the natural channels of the system, and thus cures Catarrh, Rheumatism, Dyspepsia, Kidney and Liver Complaints, Nervousness, Loss of Appetite, and all other diseases caused by impure blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla is a concentrated extract of the purest and most powerful blood purifying vegetable ingredients. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the only medicine of which it can be truthfully said, "One hundred doses for one dollar." Hood's Sarsaparilla is sold by all druggists. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass. 100 Doses One Dollar. Hood's Sarsaparilla Hood's Sarsaparilla Hood's Sarsaparilla Entirely Cured My Boy

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