with the railway companies. The proposition of Arriaga was received with dead silence and the discussion of it deferred.

The action of the Cabinet yesterday in dismissing from his position Senor Carvalho, administrator general of customs, was due to the fact of that official concealing from the government the fact that transit dues owed to the State by the Royal Railway Co., had not been paid.

### A Minister of Finance in Trouble.

LISBON, Feb. 5.—The motion made in the Chamber of Deputies yesterday demanding the impeachment of Senor Carvalho, ex-minister of finance, was referred to a committee. The motion grew out of Senor Carvalho's action while holding the portfolio as minister of finance, in advancing to a railway company 12,000,000 conos on his own responsibility and without the knowledge of his colleagues. About the middle of last month Carvalho informed the council of ministers of what he had done, and the president of the council laid the matter before Cortes. The council of ministers, the president said, declined to accept any responsibility in the matter and Senor Carvalho resigned. The president further declared that his efforts to find a man who would accept the office of finance minister had failed and that, in consequence, the whole ministry resigned.

Carvalho afterward explained to both chambers the nature of his proceedings during his term of office. He stated that he had arranged for payments amounting to 17,000 contos of rels during his period, and when he accepted the office, the only resources available were 400 contos remaining from the finance loan. Senor Carvalho was visibly affected in making his statement. He said if all his constituents for saving the country from financial disaster had been realized, he would have been a hero. He had, however, he declared, saved the country from bankruptcy on three occasions, in June, October and January.

### Literary Notes.

Rt. Rev. Phillips Brooks, of Massachusetts, is the subject of a portrait and biographical sketch in the January issue of The Ladies' Home Journal (Philadelphia). The current number has the most complete list to be anywhere found of the new books of the month, accompanied by reviews and illustrations. It also presents portraits of Dickens, Collins, Carlyle, Jane Austin, Sam Houston, Robert Fulton, besides portraits of two or three very recent contributors to the literature of the day.

The initial article in the *New England Magazine* for February (beautifully illustrated) deals with the life and work of Corot, the great French painter. It is written by his godson, Camille Tharwanger. M. Lamont Brown furnishes a fine engraving of "Corot at Work" for the frontispiece and other engravings in the body of the article. "Some Letters of Wendell Phillips to Lydia Maria Child" will recall many memories of the great orator. All interested in the material development of New England will turn to George A. Rich's article on "The Granite Industry in New England," as illustrated by Louis A. Holman and J. H. Hatfield. Walter Blackburn Harte contributes a critical estimate of Walt Whitman's work and genius, and a short story of journalistic life called "John Parmenter's Pledge." Those who have read and enjoyed in Mr. Harte's "In a Corner of Dudeley's" will read this story with some curiosity. Sam T. Clover writes on "The Prairies and Coteaus of Dakota." It is finely illustrated, and sprinkled throughout with original verse-descriptive of the prairies. Winfield S. Nevins' valuable series, "Stories of Salem Witchcraft," is continued, and the illustrations by Jo. H. Hatfield add to its attractiveness. Caroline Hazard contributes a story, "A Tale of Narragansett," which is illustrated by H. Martin Beal, and A. E. Brown wins another witch story in which there is no witchcraft. C. M. Lamson writes on the "Churches of Worcester." Albert B. Smith gives a good idea of the war as viewed by those who stayed at home in "A Country Boy's Recollections of the War." The Omnibus department of light, humorous, and social verse is very entertaining.

The contents of the February number of the *North American Review* are to be unusually varied. In addition to the first of the four articles by Mr. Gladstone on Olympian Religion, will be the following contributions: Tammany Hall and the Democracy, by Hon. Richard Croker; How to Attack the Tariff, by the Hon. Wm. M. Springer, chairman of the ways and means committee; A Claim for American Literature, by Clark Russell; Can Our National Banks be made Safer? by Edward S. Lacey, comptroller of the currency; Fires on Trans-Atlantic Steamers, by Earl de la Warr, who has recently been active in the House of Lords in his efforts to prevent imperfect sewage at Cowes; The Duty and Destiny of England in Asia, by Sir Edwin Arnold; A Perilous Business and the Remedy, by Henry Cabot Lodge—the business referred to being the occupation of salmon; A Year of Railway Accidents, by Col. H. G. Pettit, edited by the *Railroad Gazette*; The Opera, by Edmund C. Stanton, director of the Metropolitan Opera House; and Lotteries and Gambling, by Anthony Comstock.

### How to Clean and Use Paint.

The simplest way to apply painting to floors is to put it on with an ordinary paint brush. It is better to apply several coats in order to get the best effect. When this has been varnished, nothing more was and sun is enough injurious to make it when it costs a little more than fifty bottles. This mixture may be kept in a tightly stopped bottle or jar, and may be dug out with a broad bladed knife. To apply it place it in small lumps on a rubber sponge of varnish with marble cement. When this is lightly rubbed on the floor. Then make a wooden rubber of a wood, with a handle like that on a scrubbing brush. The lower edges of the rubber are rounded, of course, and it will be found easy to work it in the crevices to a long brass handle for a stiff stiffiron lump. With this give the floor good rubbing until the work is finished the wood. If bare spots are seen put on more wax. When this process is finished go over it all with a soft brush, which will polish it until it shine. Floors do not require to be scrubbed or rubbed more than once in three months unless very amount work is done, and those can be washed with a few months. But they cannot be polished with the brush this after. When kept properly they should always wear.

## THE TOO MEEK WOMAN

### AWKWARD ADVENTURES OF ONE WHO WAS NOT ASSERTIVE.

Conveniently the Friend Herself in a Hot Light, and Later When She Rose Up Against Another Unmagnificent Person, the Latter Got Scorched Hers.

"That boy, Hiram, are the meek," is a good enough boy in most respects, on the other day. "The meek easily ought to have some reward hereafter, for they have a hard time of it here. I often regret that I was born meek, I'm a disappointed, and not willing to forgive the coward proclaimed in the rest of the rest. For they shall inherit the earth," for a fine, overbearing, bullying spirit.

"I was stopping in a city block around some the other day with my daughter and we were looking in a window for a hanging sampler. On the contrary was a pretty stuff with a purse pocket on one side of it, and as I admired it I placed it up, showed it to my daughter and told her that if her father and the children wanted to give me a present to be nice and let them know that I would prefer a soft purse like that.

"Look at this door little purse pocket on the side, I said, as I unfastened the outer of the pocket and looked in. I for to my surprise, I saw a dirty ten hundred bill and some money. Instantly in thought struck me that I had picked up some traveler's stuff by mistake, and at the same time a sharp voice sounded in my ears, saying, 'What are you doing with my stuff?'

"I turned around and saw a tall, well dressed woman looking at me sharply, and I regret to say I blushed deeply at my purse-snatching. I felt like a thief, and I felt as if I had stolen something from the shop girls and the floor walker.

"Finally the woman took her stuff, shut off her stream of words and walked away, leaving what I had not snatched out of my pocketbook. I found on the floor walker to explain it to him, but he said he had not time to listen, and intimated that the store would prefer to get along without visits from me in the future. Now wasn't that a poor inheritance for my meekness?

"After I had recovered from my mortification somewhat we went into another big store to look at some hats. There were more customers than shoplifts in the millinery department, and as I did not see any clerks were doing—tried on a number of hats before the glass without waiting for a shopgirl to help me. Not finding any hat to suit me, I decided to go out, and tucked around for my own hat, where I had laid down on a table as I was trying otherwise. It was gone. I looked everywhere, but could not find it. When suddenly my daughter spoke to me the head of another woman, who was trying it on before a glass.

### ANTIPATHY BY PROXIMITY.

"Going up to her, I said politely, That is my hat you have on.

"Indeed, it's not your hat," she answered hotly. "I don't care if you did, you took it out. I have chased it, too, before you paid for it, and I intend to keep it.

"Hope my meekness overcame the spirit. I saw that by letting my hat down among the stuff for sale I had led this woman to think it was for sale too. Was she to blame? Was not I at fault? Surely, we I apologized meek and was about to assure once more that it was my own hat, when the woman appeared entirely to a shoplift, saying that I was trying to bully her, and pulling her purse she asked the price of the hat and declared her intention of paying for it and carrying it away in spite of my "reluctance."

"The shopgirl looked at the hat for a moment and then said that it was not a store hat at all, and was not made there.

"Then why is it on the table for sale?" asked the woman with fury in her eyes.

"I put it there by mistake while I was trying on some hats," I said. "It is my own hat. I intended to keep it.

"Anybody made me it was a cheap, second hand, hideous thing," said the woman, now in a scorching rage. "Take your old rag," and she threw it down on the table and hurried out, leaving my acquaintance with confusion and feeling like a guilty wretch. I suppose I should have charged her with stealing, but the sister woman did so. But, then, you know the meek shall inherit the earth. I'm not one of those people who take the silver but, when an hold to say that I never to saw a meek person who seemed to inherit as much of it as the other kind do."—New York Tribune.

### An Interesting Bird.

Hanging on the wall of a coal estate office in Boston is a curious relic of the days of Italian ownership—a dead bird, having some hard nose Bonaparte's Bay from the Italian island popularly known as "Bird Island." The bird is stuffed on parchment. The dead is executed on parchment, and is a genuine curiosity. The edges are cut in a curiously irregular way, so that the piece of parchment with the bird on it looks as it would to exactly into the "bonnet" of this bird. In that way the Italian secured him for the commissioner of the colonial company in the city of Boston. This was in the days of the Tuscan system of land tenure. King Philip made his mark in the chase of his efforts to prevent imperial sewage at Cowes; The Duty and Destiny of England in Asia, by Sir Edwin Arnold; A Perilous Business and the Remedy, by Henry Cabot Lodge—the business referred to being the occupation of salmon; A Year of Railway Accidents, by Col. H. G. Pettit, edited by the *Railroad Gazette*; The Opera, by Edmund C. Stanton, director of the Metropolitan Opera House; and Lotteries and Gambling, by Anthony Comstock.

### Didn't Entertain the Mechanics.

When the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen made their first visit to America some years ago they had an original experience with a sitting bed in a Chicago hotel. It was the first experience of the kind they had ever seen, and a servant expressed to somebody in the courtesy. During the night the lady of the house heard a noise in the adjoining room, and, rising, found a long rail for assistance, and a chambermaid, who was discovered by the lady of the house, who was in the act of forcing the sitting bed, clad in a flannel gowned dressing gown, fearlessly endeavoring to extricate the hair mattress from the bed, and the lady, very well pleased to see the servant, left the room and left the servant to her unexpected.

### The Proprietor.

The famous proprietor, "poor man's weather clerk," has the disadvantage of being a native poet and has learned sweet complaints expelled from our flower gardens in favor of weeds, which are rarer but lack much of being as pretty. The proprietor is a charming little flower, which opens about 9 in the morning and closes late in the afternoon, but has the remarkable peculiarity of indicating a coming shower by shutting up its petals. For this reason, if for no other, it deserves encouragement, and would appropriately take the place of some of the ugly trifles and other imported flowers now so popular.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

### How to Arrange a Long Railroad Trip.

No person, man or woman, should ever start on a railroad trip without a well stocked basket lunch. A trip may be broken to last six hours but from known to last six days, and an overland train is often thirteen hours late. Under such circumstances the hungry passenger, in the first place, is more wicker basket has better staying capacity than any other. On the bottom put a layer of small tins of sardines, potted chicken, game, or any of the preserved meats that are best liked; some can opener. Above that put one or two of those little glass frigid boxes that cost twenty-five cents, a pint tin cup, one or more cans of condensed milk, a pound of sugar in one closed tin canister and one of coffee in another, a small tin coffee or tea pot and a pint of alcohol are also to be packed in. Half a dozen lemons should come next, and at least one a day should be eaten with the fish a correct. A small pint bottle of olives or pickles and one lime so it cold tongue, or better still a raw chicken cooked at home. The rest of the space should be filled in with oatmeal and small crackers, bread and apples or oranges. Pack the fruit so as to move lemons and perhaps some plain cake. No pie, it crushes but doesn't look tidy. The meats and bread, if any, should be wrapped in waxed paper, and a supply of those of Japanese paper napkins put in, with a knife, fork and spoon, and a pretty mug for coffee and a plate can be tucked in somewhere. You can make coffee or tea with one of those little spirit lamps. To pack so small a lunch basket for one you require a basket about eighteen inches long, a foot wide and a foot deep. It will hold sufficient for a week's travels.

### How to Converse.

Speak distinctly, and neither too rapidly nor too slowly. Never speak with your mouth full. Tell your jokes first, and laugh afterward. Do not use superfluous words. Appear sincere, avoiding conceit and affectation. Never force a laugh, and only talk when you have something interesting to tell.

### How to Estimate Shingles for a Roof.

There is an easy method of calculating the number of shingles necessary to cover a roof. Get the length of the rafter, pale in inches and multiply it by the length in inches from the ridge pole to the edge of the eaves. Cut off the right hand figure and the result will be the number of shingles required for both sides of the roof.

### How to Get Rid of Superfluous Hairs.

First get a pair of strong pliers and saw kid on the skin, thinly, so as not to hurt the hairs. Then take soft pine wood, or failing that, get an ounce of resin and ounce of turpentine and let them stand in a bottle with a wide mouth over night. The turpentine dissolves the resin and it becomes sticky. Rub a little of this on the edges of the lid covered pincers and then take hold of the hairs one or two at a time and pull them with a slow, even movement, avoiding any jerk which will break the hair. In this way the hair will be pulled out of its place root and all, bringing usually the little fat follicle and breaking up the nerve cell that kept the hair alive. After the hair is out, touch the place with a little clear turpentine and then wipe the whole off with cold cream. Repeating the process a few times will cure the worst cases of superfluous hairs. The turpentine should be used sparingly, and stings, but the cold cream will calm that and the skin will not be injured in the slightest degree.

### How to Detect Chloroform.

Chloroform begins with more or less fever and burning of the skin. The eruption looks very much like that seen in smallpox, only the pustules are round instead of square. They are usually in clusters of three or four close together. The eruption is not contagious, but it is a very annoying disease from the intense itching. The whole body will be quite red, the eruption dark, changing to yellowish and watery and later to dark brown scabs.

### How to Cure Stammering.

Take a full breath and talk very slowly. The usual difficulty is with words beginning with consonants, and say the first effort to force the words out only increases the difficulty, and the longer he get over the consonants form them first. For example, take the word blanket, which to a stammerer is a verbal pitfall. Begin by making the sound of "b," which is easy, and then the vowel follow it with the rest of the word, "bl—anket." You will be surprised to find how easy it is. Read aloud to yourself, stopping to take breath the moment you feel the slightest difficulty, and in all words over which you have any difficulty in the slightest indicated. When with people, or stammering is almost purely a nervous failing, have something to say ready to play with, as this will help greatly. The cure is sure, but absolutely sure. When you are to converse, talk, working out each word over which you have any difficulty. In talking to others remember that stammering does not speak quickly, or you have an idea of breath, or both.

### How to Make a Barrel Trap.

This is the simplest and best ingredient trap made, and is particularly available for the small garden. Put a board on the ground and on a barrel across it so that the open end will pass around the other end and fasten it to the board. Put a piece of meat in the bottom. The cats will get into the barrel. Put a piece of meat in the bottom. The cats will get into the barrel, for weight tips the barrel down and is captured. The only objection to this trap is that it is interfered with by rainy weather.

### Congress Flowers.

Poem—Hey, take this one leaf of flower to Mrs. Hopkins opera house.

New Man—Yours. What said I—

"Cultured one of the finest extreme and give me to the minor to present to the young lady who sits the curtain falls on the first act."

"Yours."

"Thank you, yes, yes, yes."

"Thank you, yes, yes, yes." "Good New York.

### A Remedy Growing Year.

Eighteen hundred and ninety-one seems to have been not of novel breaking year. Horses have trotted faster in the same time during 1891 than ever before. Bicycles have run faster and further, boats steamships have made quicker passages, crops have been bigger and cheaper, cows have produced more of milk than before.


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