

The Best For The Least Money

is what everyone is looking for and just what you will get from us. Our stock of.....

LUMBER AND BUILDING MATERIAL.

of all kinds is complete and of good quality. We are always pleased to see our old customers as well as make new ones. Come in whether you wish to buy or not.

Gull River Lumber Co.

Cooperstown, North Dakota.

The First National Bank of Cooperstown.

Capital \$25,000. Surplus & Profit \$6,500.

Banking in all its branches.
Farm Loans promptly taken care of.

DIRECTORS.

H. P. HAMMER.
R. C. COOPER.
R. JONES.
G. H. CONDY.
PETER E. NELSON.

OFFICERS.

ROBT. JONES, Pres.
G. H. CONDY, Vice-Pres.
IVER UDGARD, Cashier.
N. A. PATTERSON, Ass't C.

THE STATE BANK

OF COOPERSTOWN.

—MAKES—

Farm Loans and
transacts General Banking.

JOHN SYVERSON, Pres.
A. GARBORG, Cashier.

CHAS. BURSETH, V. Pres.
H. ST. JOHN, Ass't Cashier.

DO YOU LIKE COOD PRINTING?

The Courier

Does good printing at reasonable prices.

TRY US

for your next order for stationery. We can

PLEASE YOU.

THE ONLY IMPORTERS AND BREEDERS IN AMERICA

That mark notes they take in red ink, "This note taken in payment for a stallion," consequently making the note non-transferable.

We make a specialty of **PERCHERON STALLIONS** that are **SVRE BREEDERS**.

We have a shipment of Percheron Stallions that for *Size, Quality, Substance and Style* cannot be excelled in the Northwest. We intend to sell these horses at live and let live prices. We intend to fully guarantee them and stand by the guarantee. We consider that every stallion sold this year that turns out well, will make us three customers next year, and conduct our business accordingly. We can sell you a first-class **PERCHERON STALLION** and wait for our pay until he earns it. Our prices are as low as possible, consistent with the quality of stock and the breadth of our guarantee. Write for illustrations, prices and particulars.

BRIGGS & DELANCY, VALLEY CITY, NORTH DAKOTA.

Valley City is 50 miles west of Fargo, on the N. P. and Soo railways.

Water shrews.

A pretty little animal, writes a correspondent, occasionally to be noticed at the edge of a stream or pond is the water shrew. The ways of these creatures are most fascinating. I have seen them quietly emerge from the grass, run down the side of the bank into and along the bottom of the stream. While under the water their movements are very rapid. They scrape away on the bottom with their feet, thrusting their long snouts into the mud and under stones and leaves in search of insects on which they feed. They then retire a little way up the bank for a moment or two to take breath and burry back to their work once more. I have never seen water shrews dive. They simply run in and out of the stream, as if air and water were both alike to them, and they were equally at home in either element. When under the water, they look as if they were covered with minute silver pearls owing to the particles of air adhering to their furry bodies. Land and water shrews are not of the mouse tribe. They have the sharpest and most delicately beautiful teeth imaginable and live entirely on insect food.—London Opinion.

The Williams and Johns.

It would be difficult, if not impossible, to estimate the relative frequency of names prior to the Norman conquest, which created something like a revolution. "William," of course, got a good start, as is shown in "Doomsday Book," where stand 68 Williams, 48 Roberts, 28 Walters and 10 Johns. In 1173 Sir William St. John and Sir William Fitz-Hamon entertained a dinner party at the court of Henry II. The invitations were limited to knights of the name of William, and the company numbered 120.

But the day of "John" was not long to tarry, and in 1347 the common council of London contained 35 Johns, 17 Williams, 15 Thomases, 10 Richards, 8 Roberts, and in 1385 out of 370 names enrolled in the Guild of St. George at Norwich there were 128 Johns, 47 Williams, 41 Thomases. From that day to this John and William have held their ground as the commonest baptismal names in England.

The Lion of St. Mark.

The symbol of the Venetian republic—the famous lion of St. Mark—is made of bronze. There is a tradition among the Venetian people that its eyes are diamonds. They are really white, agates, faceted. Its mane is most elaborately wrought, and its retracted, gaping mouth and its fierce mustaches give it an oriental aspect.

The creature as it now stands belongs to many different epochs, varying from some date previous to our era down to this century. It is conjectured that it may have originally formed a part of the decoration of some Assyrian palace. St. Mark's lion it certainly was not originally, for it was made to stand level upon the ground and had to be raised up in front to allow the evangel to be slipped under its fore paws.

Ancient Legal Statute.

The provision of the Virginia code exempting from service on the grand jury the owner or occupier of a grist mill, says Law Notes, is an interesting example of a law which has been allowed to remain on the statute book long after its usefulness and the condition that called it into being have ceased to exist. When the statute was passed, serious inconvenience to the citizens of the surrounding country might have arisen as a result of summoning a mill owner from his work, but the mill owner is no longer so important a member of the community.

Inhospitable.

"Smithers is positively the most inhospitable man I ever saw."
"Yes; I never knew him even to entertain an idea."—What to Eat.

A Thoughtful Man.

M. M. Austin, of Winchester, Ind., knew what to do in the hour of need. His wife has such an unusual case of stomach and liver trouble, physicians could not help her. He thought of and tried Dr. King's New Life Pills and she got relief at once and was finally cured. Only 25c, at H. H. Bateman's drug store.

HID BEHIND THE RULE.

One of Horace Greeley's Orders That Helped His News Editor.

As an editor Horace Greeley had become weary of the constant repetition of the word "the" in opening sentences. One issue of his paper in particular exasperated him. Almost every item had its opening paragraph begin with "the." This lack of judgment on the part of his writers in the choice of words received attention. Greeley wrote a note. This notice he requested to be posted in the editorial room and caused copies of it to be sent to correspondents. The order read:

"Under no circumstances must the word 'the' be used in the opening or subsequent paragraphs of a news article. In sentences within a paragraph it will be tolerated if used with moderation. If you cannot write a paragraph without 'the' to open it, omit."

One day shortly after the issuance of his new rule Greeley entered the editorial room in a fury.

"How is it that we have nothing in today's paper regarding Holland's attitude toward the policy of the north?" he asked of his editor who had charge of the foreign news.

This editor was aware that he had omitted an important news item which at the time he considered as unimportant. But he was resourceful.

"Your rules and orders are positive, Mr. Greeley, are they not?" asked the editor.

"Certainly!" shouted the famous scribbler.

"Then tell me how I could have used 'The Hague' for the date line in the Holland dispatch without violating your positive order?"

Mr. Greeley was beaten, but he muttered, "If you fellows could use judgment, there would be no need for rules."

PONIES AND COBS.

How the Distinctions Between the Two Are Defined.

A correspondent writes, says the Badminton Magazine, to ask me what a "pony" is—not the pony of the betting ring; he refers to the animal. The dictionary which he has consulted tells him no more than that a "pony" is "a little horse," and he wants to know where the pony ends and the horse begins. The term is, of course, very loosely used. At Newmarket, where one might expect accurate definitions, the trainers seem to call all sorts of animals ponies. "I will send round your pony at 8 o'clock," is a familiar phrase to me, and in two cases it has always portended the arrival of an animal of quite 14.2. I have searched for authorities for some time past and only accidentally came upon one the other day. A pony, I find it stated, is strictly applicable to an animal under 13 hands. Above 13 and up to 13.8 the creature should be known as a gallop-way, and over 13.8 it becomes a horse. This, however, is not the modern interpretation, though when the phraseology was altered I do not know. According to the Hurlingham rules of polo, "the height of ponies shall not exceed 14 hands 2 inches," and such an animal, according to my old time authority, would be quite a full sized horse. One cannot, of course, go against the Hurlingham nomenclature, but I should be inclined to say that in general parlance anything under 14 hands is a pony. I am glad my correspondent did not ask for an exact definition of a "cob," for I could do no better than suggest that a thickest pony from about 13.3 to 14.2 would come under the head. The term "cobby," at any rate, has a significance of its own.

Different Investments in Mind.

Julius—Would you like to live your life over again?
Edgar—No, but I'd like to spend over again all the money I've spent.—Stray Stories.

Makes a Clean Sweep.

There's nothing like doing a thing thoroughly. Of all the Salves you ever heard of, Bucklen's Arnica Salve is the best. It sweeps away and cures Burns, Sores, Bruises, Cuts, Boils, Ulcers, Skin Eruptions and Piles. It's only 25c, and guaranteed to give satisfaction by H. H. Bateman, druggist.

An Effective "Attachment."

Attaching a man's property for debt is supposed to be a legal process, but an incident which occurred years ago in the city of Natchez, as related by Davy Crockett in his "Life and Adventures," shows that there are other "attachments" which sometimes accomplish a beneficent purpose.

An odd affair occurred when I was last at Natchez, says Mr. Crockett. A steamboat stopped at the landing, and one of the crew went ashore to purchase provisions. He went into a saloon on the way, and the adroit inmates contrived to rob him of all his money. The captain of the boat, a determined fellow, went ashore in the hope of persuading them to refund, but they declined.

Without further ceremony, the captain, assisted by his crew and passengers, some 300 or 400 in number, made fast an immense cable to the frame building where the theft had been committed. Then he allowed fifteen minutes for the money to be forthcoming, vowing that if it were not produced within that time he would put steam to his boat and drag the house into the river.

The thieves knew that he would keep his word, and the money was promptly produced.

Parching May Flies.

On the banks of the Elbe a curious sight may frequently be seen. Men and women come there in the evening and light fires, near which they carefully spread spacious cloths. In a few minutes swarms of May flies, those delicate little creatures whose earthly life lasts only for a few hours, hover around the fires, and speedily hundreds—nay, thousands—of them are burned and fall on the cloths.

After a sufficient supply of flies has been gathered in this way the fires are extinguished, and the cloths are carefully raised from the ground and taken home. On the following morning they are placed in a garden on a sunny spot, the result being that the bodies of the flies become thoroughly parched. The flies are then ready for the market and are sold for a few cents a quart to dealers in birds, who say that there is no better food for nightingales, robins and other feathered pets. Only the bodies are used for this purpose, and therefore before they are sent to market the utmost pains are taken to see that all the wings have been removed.

Waterproofing Boots at Home.

I have for years used successfully a dressing for leather boots and shoes composed of oil and india rubber, keeping out moisture and uninjurious to the leather applied, leaving same soft and pliable. To prepare same, heat in an iron vessel either fish oil, castor oil or even tallow to about 250 degrees F.; then add, cut into small pieces, vulcanized or raw india rubber about one-fifth of the weight of the oil, gradually stirring same with a wooden spatula until the rubber is completely dissolved in the oil; lastly, add to give it color a small amount of printers' ink. Pour into a suitable vessel and let cool. One or two applications of this are sufficient to thoroughly waterproof a pair of boots or shoes for a season. Boots or shoes thus dressed will take common shoeblackening with the greatest facility.—Scientific American.

Balsac and Dumas.

It is said that Balsac detested Dumas. Once he brought to the Siecle the manuscript of a novel, which was to follow "Les Trois Mousquetaires," then being published. He asked to be paid 2½ francs a line. The director of the journal hesitated. "You see, M. Dumas is being paid only 2 francs a line." "If you are giving 2 francs to that negro, I shall get out!" And Balsac stalked off.

Dumas was not ignorant of Balsac's feelings toward him and did not spare him. In the foyer of the Odéon theater Balsac was talking loudly in a group of literary men. "When I have written myself out as a novelist, I shall go to playwrighting." "You can begin right away," called out Dumas.

An Arabian Story.

An Arab and his wife were constantly quarrelling, and the wife always went straightway to her father and made complaint. One day the Arab boxed the ears of his better half, whereupon she went again to her father and related her grievance, demanding revenge. The father, a wise old sheik, shook his head, and, after long reflection, boxed his daughter's ears and said: "Now thou art avenged. Thy husband has boxed the ears of my daughter, and I have boxed the ears of his wife!"—Lustige Blatter.

The Real Truth.

"Didn't she marry a 'has been?'"
"No. She thought he was a 'will be,' but he turned out an 'isn't.'"—Life.

Change.

A little change in the hand is worth more than a great change in the weather.—Philadelphia Record.

MISSISSIPPI ROUSTABOUTS.

They Are Trampers, Nomads, Auto-crats, and a Lot More.

The black steamboat roustabout of the Mississippi is as much part and parcel of the river as is the water and quite as necessary. There is an impression that the roustabout is a much abused individual, an inclination to class him along with the swartlike circus hand. This is wholly wrong. The roustabout is traveler, nomad, auto-crat, man of leisure. He is little seen on the upper river, but in St. Louis, Memphis and Orleans there are enough of him to man five times as many boats as touch at those ports. Yet lower river packets have trouble in shipping full crews of the blacks. They are compelled to ship for each trip separately, because it does not please the roustabout to take more than one trip in a month. The balance of the time he plays gentleman of affluence. On the Memphis levee I listened to a group of the brawny fellows as they lolled within the shade of a freight pile. Not one was there who had not visited at some time every point in the Mississippi valley at which the steamboat calls. They were equally at home in Pittsburg or Orleans, Little Rock or Chattanooga.

In summer the roustabouts are fairly willing to work, though they exercise fine discrimination in the matter of boats, but in the fall, when steamers are plentiful and labor scarce, they become exceedingly coy. They do not gather around the hiring mate then. He has to come to them. They regard coldly the average monthly wage, \$40. They ask for \$60 and even for \$90, and they get it. If they hold a grudge against the mate of a boat, they demand his discharge and get that too.

But the moment, summer or winter, that the roustabout steps upon a steamer's forecastle his hours of ease are gone. He works day and night, a sort of work no white man could stand for even twelve hours. He sleeps at odd minutes between landings sprawled on deck or cotton bale. He wears shirt—usually—trousers and shoes and finds them burdensome. He lays aside his powers of sight and reasoning, retains only ears and muscles and becomes a powerful machine, answering to the slightest inclination of a mate's will.—Willis Gibson in Scribner's.

SOUTHERN SUPERSTITIONS.

If you kill frogs, your cows will "go dry."

Tickling a baby will cause the child to stutter.

To throw hair combs out of the window is bad luck.

To thank a person for combing your hair will bring bad luck.

No person who touches a dead body will be haunted by its spirit.

Cut a dog's "dew claws" and it will not die from poisonous snake bite.

To kill a ghost it must be shot with a bullet made of a silver quarter dollar.

To dream of a live snake means enemies at large; of a dead snake enemies dead or powerless.

To dream of unbroken eggs signifies trouble to come; if the eggs are broken, the trouble is past.

If you boast of your good health, pound wood immediately with your fist or you will become sick.

To cut a baby's finger nails will deform it. If the child is a month old, it will cause it to have fits.

To allow a child to look into a mirror before it is a month old will cause it to have trouble in teething.

A child will have a nature and disposition similar to those of the person who first takes it out of doors.

To hear a screech owl is bad luck.

To prevent hearing its cry turn the pockets inside out and set the shoe soles upward.

A Struggle With English.

American tourists abroad often comment upon the literal translation into English of notices in foreign languages. The well meant efforts of landlords and others to convey in the language of the visitor the meaning of the native often produce laughable results.

A Washington citizen found this notice posted in his room in an Alpine hotel:

"Mistres, the venerable voyagers are earnestly requested not to take clothes of the bed to see the sun rise for the color changes."—Washington Star.

Our Paper Money.

The man who is ever ready to bet on anything said suddenly to a group of members of the club, "I'll bet a case of catchup to a bottle of curry powder that there isn't a man in the party that can name the denominations of United States paper money." All lost, and all were abashed when he mentioned \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000. Most men are unaccustomed to handling notes above \$100, and few ever saw one of \$10,000.—New York Press.

Two girls wanted above.

E. MARQUARDT.

WARNER THE INSURANCE MAN

Writes all kinds of insurance
fire, hail, Life and Accident
the best companies and he
knows how to write insurance.
Call on him before writing else-
where, he always profits his customers.