

SUPPLEMENT.

TO THE
CRIGGS COUNTY COURIER.

NOTES OF THE TIMES.

SARAH BERNHARDT spells the immortal William's name "Shakespeare." His is a name which has cast a great many different spells.

It is said that Wm. D. Howells collects material for his novels by "shopping" with his wife. No wonder American women are not pleased with the pictures made of them by Howells.

HARRISON, who was Gen. Grant's body servant, and who was discharged from the Government Printing Office a week ago, has been appointed a laborer in the Paymaster-General's office.

THE White House is enlivened by the presence of a little child. May Cadman, a cousin of Mrs. Cleveland, is attending one of the public schools of Washington and living at the Executive Mansion.

THE Comte de Paris has rented for a year the residence of Lady Louisa Menx at East Sheen near Richmond, in Surrey County, England. Lady Menx, who is a daughter of the Marquis of Allesbury, generally resides in Paris.

REV. RICHARD SALTER STORRS, DD., LL. D., has been pastor of the Church of the Pilgrims, Brooklyn, for forty years. He is a cold, statuesque man, with a highly cultured intellect, and has pleased for two score years the most exacting congregation on Brooklyn Heights.

GOETHE'S house in Frankfort is now thrown open to all tourists who pass through that city. It is a sort of museum of curiosities relating to the great poet. Among the recent addition to these is a Punch and Judy box that used to be the great delight of the author of "Faust" when a child.

THE Philadelphia Times remarks: "Samuel J. Tilden and Thomas A. Hendricks both died childless, both were able lawyers, both accumulated considerable property, both made wills when in the full vigor of their mental powers, and both have a lot of collateral relatives who propose to contest their wills."

GABRIEL DUMOUT, a lieutenant of Louis Riel during the late rebellion in the Northwest, was connected with Buffalo Bill's show on Staten Island during the past summer. The Canadian Government recently extended a pardon to the rebels, and Dumout is now on his way to Canada. He is a fine specimen of manhood, forty-nine years of age, six feet tall, and weighs 210 pounds.

KING OTTO, of Bavaria, is still in the same condition, but his physicians say that he is less apathetic than formerly. He asks for the papers every now and then, but throws them away as soon as they are handed to him. The Queen-Mother, who has not been at Munich since the death of the late King, has decided, at the instance of the Prince Imperial of Germany, to visit King Otto at Furstenried.

A WASHINGTON paper says there is yet due undertaker Speare of that city, from the Garfield estate nearly \$2,000. Speare was offered in compromise \$700 which he refused to accept believing Congress would see the bill paid in full. There was about \$55,000 appropriated for the payment of the Garfield funeral expenses, but the auditing Committee pared down the bills, which left a surplus of the appropriation in the Treasury. Speare has recently presented the bill to Mrs. Garfield, but up to the present time nothing has been heard from her. In case she refuses to pay it he will again ask Congress for an appropriation.

THE Religious Herald gives us the following: There was a meeting of the preachers of Lynchburg, Va., and when it was breaking up Dr. John Hannon could not find his hat. Turning to Rev. R. R. Acree, he said, "One of your Baptists has my hat." "Then," said Brother Acree, "your hat has more brains in it than ever before." "A few days after that Dr. Hannon was passing by Brother Acree's yard-gate, and, when urged to come in, said, "I am on my way to preach." "You can't preach," replied Brother Acree. "So I felt for a long time," replied Dr. Hannon, "but since hearing you the other day, I have changed my mind."

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

Domestic News.

The Amsterdam Knit Goods Association of New York, have notified the Agents of Labor that hereafter they will only treat with individuals. United States Treasury Inspector McHale seized the Canadian steamship Isaac May, in Chicago for towing the schooner Severn between Chicago and South Chicago. A foreign vessel towing another between two American ports is subject to a penalty of 30 cents per ton on her gross tonnage. Under this act the vessel was seized, and will be held to await a decision from Washington. De Lesseps was tendered a reception by the New York Chamber of Commerce Theodore L. Gurney, ex-city comptroller of Chicago, who was stricken with paralysis three months ago, is pronounced by his attending physicians to be dying. A St. Louis saloon-keeper named Blake shot a railroad engineer named Van Darough dead. The latter had threatened to thrash Blake. Gov. Hill of New York, accompanied by a distinguished party of Democrats, were banqueted in Philadelphia by the Democrats of that city. Gov. Hill addressed a mass meeting in the evening. Mayor Harrison, of Chicago, has received a communication from Secretary Banfield, of the National Educational Association, accepting the invitation for the organization to meet in Chicago in annual session in July 1887. The association has been tendered the use of the city council chamber and committee rooms for the meeting. The Adams Express Company suspects Frothingham and a number of his companions put up a job to rob the express car. The Guard steamer Pavonia struck on a rock near Plymouth, Mass., but received no injury, and arrived safely in Boston. Bradstreet's business review indicates a slight check of the general trade. Ex-Minister Morton tendered a reception to the French visitors at his residence in New York City. The miners working for the Hamilton (Mo.) Coal Company have struck.

Current Matters.

President Cleveland will attend the 250th anniversary of the founding of Harvard college. The public debt reduction for October is \$13,000,000. A clerk in the Treasury department Washington, Martin D. Casey, suicided by poison owing to poor health. Mrs. A. T. Stewart's will was admitted to probate Nov. 1, bearing date July 5, 1877, with codicils in 1878, 1883 and 1885. She bequeaths \$20,000 per year during life to her brother, Charles F. Clinch; to each of her sisters, Anna, Emma and Julia Clinch, she leaves an annuity of \$10,000 a year; to her nephew, Sarah N. Smith, she leaves \$50,000; to Cornelia S. Butler she leaves \$200,000, and to each of her children \$50,000; to Kate A. Smith, \$200,000; and to each of the remaining children of Sarah N. Smith \$100,000; to each of the deceased children of her sister, Louise \$50,000. All the rest of the estate, real and personal, to Charles J. Clinch, now of Paris, and Henry Hilton.

The law taxing oleomargarine went into operation Nov. 1. R. M. received by Commissioner Miller show that all classes of manufacturers, and dealers, including the retail men, propose to meet the tax and continue in business. The statute of Liberty was lighted for the first time Monday night, and the fireworks which were intended for use on the evening of the unveiling were let off.

Current Matters.

Capt. William Johnson, U. S. A., has been found not guilty of duplicating his pay accounts by the court material, but Gen. Sheridan, who received the evidence, set the verdict aside. The secretary of the treasury has issued the 14th call for the redemption \$10,000,000 of the 3 per cent bonds. It is not likely that the President will go to Buffalo to vote. The Hartley Reclining Chair Company, of Chicago, has made an assignment to W. D. Gibson. The liabilities are stated at \$19,000 and assets at \$25,000. Judge Donahue, of the New York supreme court, has granted an attachment against the property of the Charter Oak Life Insurance Company in favor of George S. Sandwell in a suit brought by him against the company to recover \$150,315, the amount of 91 policies that he owns by assignment. Alfred Russell Wallace, the distinguished English naturalist who shares with Darwin the honor of first propounding the theory of natural selection, has arrived in Lowell, and began a course of lectures in the Lowell Institute on Monday. He will probably remain in this country during most of the winter, and will lecture in the principal cities.

Chicago Fire.

The six story Knight & Leonard printing house building, East Madison street, Chicago, became a heap of ashes and ruins between 4 and 5 a. m., Oct. 31. The lower floor and basement were occupied by bins carrying stocks of the value of one hundred to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars and the upper floor by printers, book binders, paper stock and offices. The roof of the building fell through to the basement burying a number of men in the debris all of whom were injured and some fatally. Three or four men were caught under falling walls and the havoc made with the limbs and person of firemen and policemen was beyond all precedent. The fire originated in the Knight & Leonard printing office and the total loss above insurance is put at \$250,000. An incident of the scene was the flight of gamblers from a dozen rooms in the vicinity, some of them merely escaping with life.

Briefs of Events.

Eight persons were burned to death near Flat Lick, Ky., by the destruction of the residence of William Poe by fire. At Plymouth, Mass., the grand jury indicted two men for ordering a boycott. For the last fiscal year there were 14,433,153 money-orders issued, representing \$132,716,317, for which fees aggregating \$1,214,506 were received. It is estimated that the expenses of the postal service for the next fiscal year will aggregate \$5,342,150, an increase of \$676,586 over the current year. Canadian merchants are clamoring for an extradition treaty with the United States. The heavy losses by the Rothschild failure at Toronto are the cause. The Episcopal convention, which had been in session in Chicago 2 1/2 days, adjourned Friday to meet in New York in 1889. Miss Quick, daughter of wealthy parents in Ithaca, N. Y., was killed by falling under a train, she missing her footing while standing on the platform.

Calamities.

Treasurer Barkley, of Laurel township, Clermont county, Ohio, took \$4,000 to Cincinnati early in September, and suddenly disappeared. He was found Friday wandering about the streets of Cincinnati, evidently suffering from a blow on the head. He says he was assaulted the night of his arrival, and as since been kept a prisoner by strangers. The business failures throughout the country during the week as

reported by R. G. Dun & Co., number for the United States 196, and for Canada 19, a total of 215 failures. An ore bank at Dillsburg, Pa., caved in, killing two men and wounding several others. Wm. W. Sanders, formerly editor of the Carrville Leader, has been sentenced to hang for the murder of Charles Campbell at Albany, Ore., last June. Elhu B. Washburn has somewhat recovered from the sudden attack of illness which he experienced several weeks ago, he is still in a very weak condition, and is unable to remain in the open air for more than a few moments at a time.

News Tips.

The Corn Exchange Bank of New York city has filed an attachment suit for \$3,200 against the Indianapolis property of J. C. Ferguson & Co., because of Neeld's bogus warehouse receipts. The increase of diphtheria in St. Louis has caused the board of health to issue a manifesto. Mrs. Parsons, wife of the Chicago anarchist, had an enthusiastic audience of 1500 people at Philadelphia Sunday afternoon. Henry Ward Beecher was a passenger on the Eururia, which arrived at New York Sunday. Mr. Beecher is in good health. Mr. and Mrs. Aveling and Herr Liebkuech, the German socialists, talked to an audience of 2,000 people in Cleveland at the Ohio city armory on socialism. The St. Louis refinery, the largest in the West shut down Saturday night and discharged about 125 of their employees. The cause of closing is said to be the same as recently compelled the shutting down of several Eastern refineries—inability to compete with the shot his sixteen year old sister through the head. She will die. Two Indianapolis girls were abducted by a colored process from Chicago, but a gentleman who accidentally met them, saved them from ruin. A wild engine collided with a passenger train near Madison, Wis. One man was killed and several badly hurt. All the mail was burned. The Secretary of the Interior decided that the marriage of a single woman who has not made a homestead entry will not defeat her right to make final proof and receive title to the land under the homestead law. This decision reverses the commissioner of the general land office in the case of Maria Good, nee Wilcox, of Kirwin, Kansas.

From the Wires.

Hewitt is a favorite in the betting in New York for the mayoralty. The President has discharged two United States attorneys for electioneering while holding office. A son of Charley Sarrell, living near Owingsville, Ky., accidentally discharged a rifle and shot his sixteen year old sister through the head. She will die. Two Indianapolis girls were abducted by a colored process from Chicago, but a gentleman who accidentally met them, saved them from ruin. A wild engine collided with a passenger train near Madison, Wis. One man was killed and several badly hurt. All the mail was burned. The Secretary of the Interior decided that the marriage of a single woman who has not made a homestead entry will not defeat her right to make final proof and receive title to the land under the homestead law. This decision reverses the commissioner of the general land office in the case of Maria Good, nee Wilcox, of Kirwin, Kansas.

The Pistol.

Surveyor of the Port of New York Beattie was shot twice in his office in the custom house by Louis Bieral, an employe who had been discharged for impositions and frauds practiced by him on emigrants. Mr. Beattie's wounds are not fatal. His assailant is 72 years old and had been in the custom house twenty five years. The chief cook and a waiter at the Astor House, New York city had a quarrel in the kitchen and the waiter fired at the cook inflicting fresh wounds and then ran out and blew out his own brains. Henry Mono of Evanston, (Chicago) Ill., a wealthy real estate man was found dead near his house; his assassin is at present unknown. A colored magistrate of Memphis, Tenn., was shot dead in his own doorway.

Fires.

The Titusville, Pa., chemical works was damaged by fire to the extent of \$20,000 or 30,000, the cupola and sulphur house being destroyed. Des Arc, Ark., was on Sunday visited by a fire which destroyed property to the value of \$150,000, about one-third covered by insurance. Ennis, Texas, had a \$25,000 fire, on the 31st ult., and one man lost his life trying to save his money. The insane asylum at Hamilton, Ont., was damaged by fire \$50,000, Oct. 31. Marshall's foundry at Pittsburgh, Pa., burned on the 31st ult., loss \$25,000. Three acres of coal in the standard mines, Mt. Pleasant, Pa., had been burning three days on the 1st inst., and no success had been attained in stopping it.

Casualties.

Two unknown Italians, who were waiting on the track, were struck by a freight train near Pine Creek, on the West Pennsylvania railroad, and instantly killed. The Ore bank owned by D. W. Cox, at Millsburg, York Co., Pa., caved in, killing two men and injuring several others. A freight train on the Oregon & Pacific R. R. ran into a rock slide near Akali derailing the engine and 15 cars, killing three men and a wrecking train going to their assistance ran into another rock slide killing one man. Eva Elliott of Redwood Falls, Minn., was killed at Macalester, a suburban station of St Paul on the Milwaukee road, being struck down by a locomotive as she attempted to board a train for Minneapolis.

Unveiled.

The famous Bartholdi statue of Liberty was unveiled and presented to the Nation at Bedloe's Island, New York harbor on the 28th, with the most imposing ceremony, witnessed and participated in by a million people. The land and naval processions and the decorations were most notable. The presence of the Sculptor Bartholdi was loudly cheered. Count Ferdinand D. Lesseps made an address in French, Senator Everts the presentation address, President Cleveland giving the signal for removing the veil and making the acceptance response, Chauncey M. Depew following with an oration. President Cleveland and the Cabinet reached Washington at 11:15 in the evening.

Educational Institution Burned.

The Case School of Applied Science, probably the finest equipped institution of the kind in the country took fire at Cleveland, Ohio, Wednesday afternoon from an explosion in the laboratory and burned with the loss of \$200,000. Insurance \$75,000.

Another Victim.

Lawyer John McDonald of Detroit, Mich., 1 ft for Minneapolis Tuesday night. From telegrams received it appears that he was on the train wrecked at Rio, Wis., and is one of the victims of that disaster.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Brought by Cable.

The steamer Borderer, from Boston, collided with the Minerva in the Thames. The latter vessel sunk, and seven persons were drowned. The Borderer sustained little damage. Mr. Lewis, who was beaten by Justin McCarthy in the recent contested

election case in Londonderry, in a far-fetched address to the Loyalists of that district says he regrets handing over his seat in Parliament to one who, whatever his personal qualities may be, has been received and enlisted in America by Fenian dynamiters and advocates of murder. Lord Londsdale's colliers in Cumberland who have been on strike, have resumed work pending arbitration. Lord Lytton will succeed Lord Lyons as British Ambassador at Paris. Chadwick's thread mills, in Bolton, have been partially destroyed by fire. The damage amounts to \$40,000. Advice received in London state that the natives at Ennambane, a town at the entrance of Mozambique Channel, revolted and defeated the Portuguese garrison stationed at that place. The natives surrounded the fort at the time the information was sent. Joseph Dacrusse, the accomplice of Betram, the Hong Kong forger, has been found guilty and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

Foreign Summary.

A general strike of compositors is threatened in Berlin. The men contend that the tariff recently decided upon is proving unfair, and they give their employers until January first to consider the matter. The strike will involve almost every newspaper in Berlin. The imports into Great Britain of cotton for the past year were 109,076 bales. The exports 8,207 ales. Since January first imports 2,830,067 bales, exports 355,32 ales. Rt. Rev. John W. Bewick, Roman Catholic bishop of Hexam and New Castle died at 77, in North England Friday. An Avicenes from Brailin, Roumania, says that feverish preparations for war are being made in Southern Russia. A number of iron-clads are expected at Sebastopol, several transports are lying at anchor in the harbor of Odessa and torpedo boats are leaving Sebastopol for Varne. The Neue Freie Presse says that a proposed meeting to be organized by the present Bulgarian government and proclaim a ministry under Zankoff, with Gen. Kaulbars as head of the army, was frustrated by the proclamation of a state of siege at Sofia.

THANKSGIVING.

Proclamation by the President.

A Proclamation by the President of the United States: It has long been the custom of the people of the United States, on a day in each year, to temporarily set apart that purpose by their chief executive, to acknowledge the goodness and mercy of God, and to invoke his continued care and protection. In observance of such custom, I, Grover Cleveland, president of the United States, do hereby designate and set apart Thursday, the 25th day of November, to be observed and kept as a day of thanksgiving and prayer. On that day let all our people forego their accustomed employments and assemble in their usual places of worship to give thanks to the ruler of the universe for our continued enjoyment of the blessings of a free government; for a renewal of business prosperity throughout our land, for the return which has rewarded the labor of those who till the soil, and for our progress as a people in all that makes a nation great; and while we contemplate the infinite power of God in earth quake, flood and storm, let the grateful hearts of those who have been shielded from harm through His mercy be turned in sympathy and kindness towards those who have suffered through His visitations. Let us also in the midst of our thanksgiving remember the poor and needy with cheerful gifts and aims, so that our service may, by the deeds of charity, be made acceptable in the sight of the Lord. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington this first day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six, and of the independence of the United States, the one hundred and eleventh.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

By the President,
T. E. BAYARD,
[Seal.] Secretary of State.

MINNESOTA.

Done in Minnesota.

The Sank Center railroad line has been surveyed as far north as Wadena. Charles W. Loomis, a prominent citizen of Pipestone died of typhoid fever. He was formerly a resident of River Falls, Wis. The Rochester board of trade subscribed \$200 for the preliminary survey of the proposed railroad from Duluth to Red Wing. James Holden, of Norfolk, lost his house with its contents by fire, during his absence from home. Loss about \$1,000. insured. John Borin, of Alftsburg, Sibley county, was gored to death by a bull. An employe of the Polar Star mills at Fairbault was caught in the machinery while oiling up and was literally torn to pieces. At Vermillion a newly married couple were given a hideous serenade and the young groom discharged a shot gun into the crowd wounding two of them.

Unfortunates.

Wm. Dillman, a Minneapolis man, was murdered at Lytton, B. C. Three men were arrested here being sentenced to be hanged on Nov. 24. Dillman leaves a widow and seven children in Minneapolis, having gone to British Columbia to make a home for his family there. While Orta Stone, a young man living near Pelican Rapids, was out hunting Monday, he accidentally discharged the contents of a shotgun into his mouth, tearing away his lips, teeth and nose. Thomas Devine attempted to get on a moving freight train at Delano and was badly cut up by the wheels and died. A man giving his name as John Bailey, was found unconscious near Huron. He claims to have come from St. Paul.

Personal.

Michael Davitt, the Irish Patriot had an enthusiastic greeting at St. Paul and Minneapolis and addressed immense audiences in both cities on Sunday. M. and Mme. Bartholdi and other members of the French delegation, except M. De Lesseps, visited Niagara Falls, returning to New York on Wednesday. De Lesseps went to Philadelphia. Wm. B. Dennis, an adventurous young fellow is making a trip in a small clinker-built boat into Buffalo, by way of the Miami canal, the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, the Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic ocean, Hudson river and Erie canal to Buffalo. He is now at Memphis, Tenn.

IOWA.

Feature of the Haddock Murder.

The disappearance of Henry Peters, one of the important witnesses of the Haddock murder at Sioux City and the intimation that he has been killed to prevent his telling tales, has been nearly confirmed. On the 4th of this month the body of a stranger was found in the willows about a mile from Crescent, near Council Bluffs. It was badly decomposed and could not be identified. His body was buried in the

Potter's field at Council Bluffs. An examination of the clothing has now made leading to the almost complete identification of Peters. It is thought that he, too, was killed by the Haddock murderers to prevent his revealing the first assassination.

IOWA AFFAIRS.

The supreme court of Iowa has decided that in a trial for carrying concealed weapons it is unnecessary to show willful or malicious intent. A New York officer passed through Des Moines Friday with a prisoner supposed to be Gus Bender, wanted for murder in Oregon. J. E. Hannon, general passenger agent of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern road, was married Friday at Cedar Rapids to Mrs. Fannie Hall. A prosperous farmer living with his wife near Gilmore City, named Geo. Gardner, while in a state of religious crazes took his own life by sinking a hammer an inch deep in his forehead and afterward nearly cut his head off.

THE ELECTIONS.

As Complete Returns as Possible Wednesday Morning from the Voting.

MINNESOTA.
ST. PAUL, Nov. 1.—The returns from the election on the 2nd, are far from complete, but appear to show the election of the Republican state ticket, by a reduced majority, the Republicans claiming 10,000 for McGill for Governor, and the election of Lind and Nelson to congress, with the 1st, 3rd and 4th districts not fully enough reported to warrant an emphatic claim either way, with the probability that the Republican elect in the 1st, and the Democrats in the 3rd and 4th. Hennepin County is reported as giving 1,000 plurality for McGill and possibly a smaller plurality for Gillilan for Congress. Incomplete returns from Ramsey appear to show 2,500 majority for Rice for Congress and something less for Ames for Governor. On the County ticket the Republicans elected sheriff, treasurer and register of deeds, and the Democrats carry the balance of their ticket. Returns are too meagre to make any showing in regard to the legislative tickets of the several districts and counties. In the 5th congressional district the Republicans experienced a considerable loss, which had reached the other portions of the state would have reversed the result. Definite figures can not be given this morning, only the general outline, as indicated above, which fuller returns may not materially change. The St. Paul Globe of Wednesday morning says that the election of Ames for Governor is probable by a majority ranging from 5,000 to 7,000, and claims the election of Rice, Wilson and McDonald to Congress.

DAKOTA.

FARGO, Nov. 3.—The returns indicate great political activity and a large vote cast. Gifford, Republican, being elected delegate to Congress by a strong majority, possibly as high as 20,000, though Day the Democratic candidate made an excellent showing, under the circumstances. The reports of the legislative and county tickets do not indicate any material change of former party positions.

WISCONSIN.

The majority for Gov. Rusk and the Republican state ticket will range, between ten and twenty thousand. The Republicans elected congressmen in seven of the nine districts, Guenther, Rep., being elected in Gen. Bragg's old district; in the 4th district Henry Smith, Labor, was elected, and in the 5th Hadd, Dem., was elected. The legislature is probably Republican, but with a reduced majority on joint ballot, though the Labor party has elected ten or twelve members, and Robert Sciffing claims they will hold the balance of power and control the election of United States senator to succeed Senator Sawyer.

IOWA.

DES MOINES, Nov. 3.—The Republicans claim the election of their state ticket by eight to nine thousand and all but two of the eleven congressional districts, though there is doubt expressed regarding secretary of state and attorney general. The Democrats claim the election of five congressmen.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Nov. 3.—In New York city for mayor Mr. Hewitt has a plurality of 25,000 and perhaps more, 68,000 votes were polled for George and 60,000 for Roosevelt. The Democrats carry the state ticket by a slight majority. The Republicans claim a gain of four congressmen and control of the legislature which will elect a successor to U. S. Senator Warner Miller.

PENNSYLVANIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 3.—The Republicans claim the election of Beaver by 40,000 plurality, and the Democrats concede his election by a large majority. No material change in the congressional districts is reported.

OTHER STATES.

INDIANA—The Democrats have carried the state ticket and legislature and claim nine congressmen.

OHIO—The chairman of the Republican State Committee claims the state by 12,000, and the election of 15 congressmen.

MASSACHUSETTS—The Boston Traveller claims the election of Ames, Rep., by 5,000 majority. MICHIGAN—The Republicans claim the state by 5,000, but nothing can be said regarding congressmen or the legislature.

CALIFORNIA—Indications point to the elections of Swift, Rep., for Gov. and a Republican legislature.

In the southern states which held election the usual Democratic preponderancy is reported to prevail.

MONTANA.

HELENA, Nov. 3. Delegate Toole has nearly 2,000 majority and the Democrats have secured the legislature.

The fig tree has always been associated with the vine as an emblem of peace and plenty. A young lady asks why the fruit is then counted as comparatively worthless in the common expression, "I don't care a fig" for the object described. This is *figo* or *fio*, not a fruit, but a fillip or snap of the fingers. The Italian *far le fighe*—to snap the fingers—gives the key to the contemptuous expression so often used.