

## M'L RENOUNCES WHITE RACE.

Mrs Williams, of St. Louis, Declares That She is a Negro at Heart.

Mrs Williams, a tall, well-formed white girl, with a rather pretty face, has renounced the Caucasian race and married a negro doctor, Frank Williams, because she was displeased with the treatment accorded her by members of her own race. She was married in East St. Louis, Ill., by Rev. B. M. Campbell, negro preacher.

The story came to light through the statement of Mrs. Annie Lane that Mrs. Williams had been kidnapped by Williams. Investigation revealed that she had become tired of suffering among her own people and had accepted William as a husband because he administered to her wants and treated her with unusual kindness.

"I was an orphan," she said. "I was black and in want. The only assistance I got was from Williams. My own people jeered at me when I asked them for help. So I became a martyr to my own resolve. I am a negro at heart, if not by birth, and want nothing more to do with my own race. My husband's skin is black, but his heart is white."

The couple live in humble rooms at 716 North Sixteenth street, St. Louis. The girl was born in England and is 13 years old.

## LEGAL EQUALITY OF WIVES.

Maryland's New Law Giving Married Women Control of Their Property and Adding Responsibilities.

Maryland's married women are invested with additional rights under a new law which has just gone into effect. While it places a wife more upon an equality with her husband, it imposes upon her greater responsibilities. She is given absolute control over the disposition of her own property.

In the case of a married woman who is under 18 years of age, however, the husband has to approve of the deed to make it valid. A wife has the power to convey property by deed to her husband, and she is also given power to make contracts.

She can be sued separately; nor is her husband liable for any act committed by his wife, without his participation. If a wife, out of her husband's presence, utters slanderous words against another married woman, the woman slandered may sue the other, and the husband are not responsible. The new law practically places husband and wife on an equal legal footing, except that one provision gives the husband power of attorney in her real property.

## HAD HIS COFFIN MADE.

Dr. James Ford Dies at Wabash, Ind. —Stays Aged Two Months, Altho' Not Sick.

Two months ago Dr. James Ford, the oldest resident of Wabash, Ind., and for many years a successful medical practitioner, took to his bed under conviction that he must die.

He was free from all disease, but declined to leave his bed when urged by relatives. He gradually became weaker, and the other day died of inanition.

Two years ago he went to a furniture factory and announced he wanted his coffin made. He was in fine health and his remark was received in jest. He insisted, however, that he desired to be buried in a casket which suited him. He was measured, and gave minute directions to the men assigned to the work. He selected some good oak, asked to be notified when the coffin was completed, and departed.

He subsequently complimented the work, paid the bill, and had the coffin placed in a corner of the water-cooler to await the summons which came the other day, and his body now reposes therein.

## TO HONOR LINCOLN'S MOTHER.

Funds for a Monument to Her Memory Being Collected from War Veterans.

Funds to go toward the erection of a monument to the memory of Abraham Lincoln's mother will be collected from veterans of the Second Iowa brigade by Gen. R. V. Ankeny, of Des Moines.

He has received a letter from Col. James S. Wright, of Rockport, Ind., on the staff of Brig. Gen. Veach, commanding the noted brigade which was close to the Second Iowa.

The regiments which are contributing to the monument fund are the Fourth, Fifteenth, and Sixteenth Illinois, and the Twenty-sixth and Fifty-third Indiana. Mrs. Lincoln's remains are in Rockport cemetery.

## THE VENERABLE LADY CAREW.

Jane, Dowager Lady Carew, has just entered upon her one hundred and first year. She danced at the duchess of Richmond's ball at Brussels on the night before Waterloo. Two other ladies still living at an advanced age were present at the ball, Lady Louisa Tighe and her sister, Lady Sophia Cecil. The latter, a child of six, had been put to bed, but strolled out in her nightgown and watched the ball from over the banisters. She was a daughter of the duchess.

## TRAVELED A LIFETIME IN A VAN.

Mrs. Ann Smith, of Worcester, England, 110 years of age, has spent over 100 years of her life in traveling from fair to fair in a van. She has had 16 children, and one of her daughters, now 80 years of age, has also had 16. Mrs. Smith eats four meals a day, drinks sparingly of intoxicants, smokes a clay pipe steadily, and attends to all her household duties herself.

## RELATIONS FOR PERSIAN BARBERS.

Persian barbers are legally compelled to wash their hands after attending a customer and before waiting on another. They must use also only nickel-plated combs.

## TIS WAR, NOT PEACE.

Czar's Disarmament Scheme Seems Most Visionary.

Preparations the Powers Are Making to Increase the Effectiveness of Their Armies and Their Navies.

The czar's disarmament scheme receives almost daily a "hit below the belt" in the shape of announcements of the extension of the military and naval forces of the various powers, in one form or other. After the news that the German field artillery will be definitely armed with the new quick-fires by the beginning of the new year comes the announcement that the French field artillery, before the spring, will be fully armed with the new 7.5 centimeter quick-fires, rivaling the British arm.

Serious attention is being given in Great Britain to these important changes, which one authority describes as being "the most portentous military advance in armament since the introduction of magazine rifles, or perhaps since the Germans used breech-loading needle guns in the Austrian war of 1866."

Experts estimate that batteries of the new guns will be at least three times as powerful as the present batteries. Each new French battery costs £2,000 (\$60,000). The rearning thus costs France £5,700,000 (\$28,500,000) in guns alone, while the improved gun will also necessitate the reorganization of the ammunition transport, which will bring the total expenditure up to nearly £10,000,000 (£50,000,000). British artilleryists point out that against these new guns, the British artillery would be swept off the field and they urge that the British field gun be brought to the level of the foreign arm. Great Britain must thus be prepared for an early expenditure of £2,500,000 (£12,500,000).

France will have nine warships building in 1889.

Interesting details have been published regarding the French submarine boat Gustave Zede, which, it is claimed, has just emerged from some successful tests at Toulon. She is said to have torpedoed the French ironclad Magenta twice, once when the latter was anchored and the second time when she was moving. The only drawback, it is pointed out, is that the eddy caused by the boat betrayed her movements at 1,500 yards in broad daylight. The principle of the invention is that the boat is no longer blind, two lieutenants having invented an eye which facilitates submarine progress. Another French submarine boat, the Gymnote, is now armed with torpedoes and a third, to be named the Morse, will be ready in March.

## DOG IN FAMILY BURIAL LOT.

Plush Coffin Provided by an Undertaker for a New York Women's Prize Fox Terrier Spot.

Spot, a fox terrier owned by Mrs. Collins, wife of Dr. Charles Collins of Midleton, N. Y., was killed by a trolley car the other day, and his mangled body was inclosed in a white plush coffin and interred in the grounds adjoining the family residence.

Spot was one of the best educated dogs in Orange county, and a son of Bessie T. Four years ago, when a mere puppy, with his mother and three brothers, he took a \$500 prize in Madison Square garden. He was reared on a bottle by Mrs. Collins, and great attention was paid to his education in all respects.

After he was killed his owner picked up the body and summoned I. D. Osterhout, an undertaker, who placed the body in a beautiful plush coffin. When I saw Mrs. Collins, says the New York Herald reporter, her eyes were red from weeping and her voice choked with emotion.

I suppose the people will think it queer," she said, "but I shall have Spot buried in good style. The dear little creature shall be interred in the yard for the present and later removed to our family plot in the Wurtzboro cemetery. I loved him, and will not allow him to be buried like a common dog."

## WEALTH HIDDEN IN COLLAR.

Charles Sanders, a Negro, Loses \$95, the Savings of Nine Years, by the Straying Away of His Horse.

Somewhere on the West side of Chicago is a stray horse with \$95 hidden in its collar. The money and horse belong to Charles Sanders (colored) 84 years old, and represent the old man's savings for nine years. He had been hoarding the amount to use in placing a tombstone over the grave of his wife, who died in slavery in Monroe, La.

During the world's fair Sanders came to Chicago and engaged in the calcining business at 369 May street. With a small amount of money which he had purchased a horse and wagon, and used the outfit in traveling about the city and soliciting work.

A few days ago Sanders accumulated \$95, and he sewed it in the lining of his horse's collar for safety. The other day the horse strayed away with the collar and the money.

Sanders reported his loss to Sergeant Hogan at the Maxwell street police station.

## KNOWS FRENCH HISTORY.

A curious character in Paris is a man who makes his living by strolling along the boulevards and making wagers at the cafes that he can answer correctly any question that relates to the history of France. He is very successful.

## MOST PERFECT WHISPERING GALLERY.

The most perfect whispering gallery in the world is the dome of St. Paul's in London.

## POKER UNDER THE BAN AT VIENNA.

Poker has been declared a game of chance by the Vienna supreme court and is forbidden in Austria-Hungary as coming under the law passed in 1784 against games of hazard. The judges, before arriving at their decision, discussed the intellectual element in bluffing.

## INDIAN LANGUAGES IN BRAZIL.

In Brazil there are said to be 300 languages and dialects spoken by the Indians.

## MOST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Smallpox is the most infectious disease. Then comes measles.

## FRAUDULENT PRACTITIONER.

George W. Nicoll, of Fabius C. Godbold, a practicing physician, has been convicted of swindling \$10,000 from his patients.

## GAMBLING.

William Thompson, of Thornton, Colo., has been found guilty of swindling \$10,000 from his patients.

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