

"Strike While the Iron's Hot."

Strike while the iron's hot. Strike—and with a will; He is no skilful smith...

her voice was drowned in Mrs. Nash's

her voice was drowned in Mrs. Nash's loud tones. "And pray who else took it, do you suppose? Who else had the chance?"

lucy did was her name. Her mother

lucy did was her name. Her mother had married for the second time when Lucy was twelve years old, and three years ago, when the girl was barely fifteen, had died, leaving her to the protection of her stepfather.

FOR THE FAIR SEX.

Stockings are now made in all the colors and combinations of color that enter into other fabrics. The gold and silver laces follow closely the patterns of the Mechin and turlion laces, and are neither pretty nor becoming.

TIMELY TOPICS.

The Germantown Telegraph says that since the law to prevent the spread of contagious diseases among the cattle of New Jersey was passed by the legislature of that State, little has been heard of the pleuro-pneumonia which at one time was quite prevalent there.

In Dreams.

She comes to me in dreams, Just as of old; With form of fragile grace, The sweet remembered face; Even her garment's fold Is just the same— In dreams she comes to me, Only in dreams.

THE TURN OF AN ACCIDENT.

It was six o'clock of a crisp October morning, and John Boyd, farmer, rousing out of bed with the alert readiness of a man who knows the value of the first hours of the day. It was a warm bed from which he jumped; home and his cares were many miles away; but long legs lay before him, and he washed and dressed briskly, as one in haste, humming a cheerful air, and then, as he became a man who felt himself a good spirit, and had ample reason for doing so, for, he it known, this year had proved the best for farmers since John had been his own master. Harvest had been large, prices high, and he had come by way back from the annual market, carried a sense of freedom and liberation at his heart from the final extinguishment of a mortgage on his farm.

Victoria's Crown.

As described by her majesty's mineralogist, the crown of England's queen is quite a bauble. It was made by Messrs. Garrard & Co. in 1838, with the aid of 112 pearls, between which in front of the crown is a large sapphire—partly drilled—purchased for the crown by his majesty, King George IV. At the back is a sapphire of smaller size, and six other sapphires—three on each side—between which are eight emeralds. Above and below the seven sapphires are fourteen diamonds, and around the emeralds and the sapphires are sixteen diamonds, and around the crown are 100 diamonds. Above the band are eight sapphires surmounted by eight diamonds, between which are eight festoons containing 148 diamonds. In the front is a diamond of the size of a pea, and a Maltese cross, is the famous ruby said to have been given to Edward III., near Vittorio, A. D. 1367. This ruby was worn in the helmet of Henry V., at the battle of Agincourt, A. D. 1415. It is pierced quite through, after the Eastern custom, the upper part of the piercing being filled by a small ruby. Around the ruby, in order to form the crown's arch, are seven Maltese crosses. Three other Maltese crosses, forming the two sides and back of the crown, have emerald centers, and contain respectively 132, 124 and 130 brilliant diamonds. Between the four Maltese crosses are four ornaments in the form of the French fleur-de-lis, with four rubies in the centers, and surrounded by rose diamonds, containing respectively eighty-five, eighty-six and eighty-seven rose diamonds. From the Maltese cross issue four imperials, each composed of oak leaves containing 738 rose, table and brilliant diamonds; thirty-two pearls form a crown, set in cups containing fifty-four rose diamonds and one table diamond. The total number of diamonds in the arches and across is 108 brilliants, 116 table and 559 rose diamonds. From the upper part of the arches are suspended four large pendant pear-shaped pearls with rose diamond caps, containing twenty-four very small diamonds, and the arch stands in the form of the French fleur-de-lis, with four rubies in the centers, and surrounded by rose diamonds, containing respectively eighty-five, eighty-six and eighty-seven rose diamonds. The cross on the summit has a rose cut sapphire in the center, surrounded by four large brilliants and 168 smaller brilliants.

A Female Hat Block.

Her face is her fortune, as many another's has been. The best picture woman in America, writes the New York correspondent of the Boston Herald, not even excepting Maude Brantcomb and Mary Anderson, is a pretty girl at the cashier's desk of a fashionable military establishment in the metropolis. She poses as a hat block before the sales of the most amusing of the fashion world. The fashions shown in the plates are regarded as best illustrating the new styles. This girl, as you see, has what may be called a negative face. Her features are small, regular and without any strong characteristics making a face that is both pretty and commonplace. With such a face, any possible style of hat or bonnet is becoming, and she is recognizable in all the pictures. Her face is her fortune, at least, it is good for about \$10 a week.

A Terrible Duel.

A sickening account of a duel in Morocco is given by a correspondent of the Republic Francaise. Two young men, who were paying their attentions to the daughter of a neighboring chief, and as she showed equal favor to both of them, it was arranged by mutual consent that they should meet in single combat and fight a duel to the death. The conditions of the duel were that they should meet on horseback, each of the combatants being armed with a rifle, a revolver and a hunting-knife. They were placed a hundred yards apart, and upon a signal given by one of the seconds, they set their horses at full gallop and rushed at each other. For a few moments the spectators could see nothing but a cloud of dust, from out of which were heard two successive reports of a rifle, and then a third, followed by the neighing of a horse. When the dust had cleared away, a shocking sight met the gaze of the spectators: one of the combatants, concealed behind his dead horse, was taking aim at his adversary, who still remained in the saddle. The latter spurred his horse and made it rear, the noble beast receiving in his chest the bullet meant for his master. The rider, as soon as he was dismounted, rushed forward to grapple with his adversary, but a second shot fractured his left shoulder. Nevertheless, he retained sufficient strength to discharge two chambers of his revolver, both shots taking effect. A hand-to-hand combat then ensued, the two adversaries, neither of whom was able to stand, sabbing each other repeatedly. When the seconds and spectators at last interfered the two were picked up dead—one with his teeth firmly set in his adversary's cheek, while the latter's hand was thrust into a gaping wound in the other's chest.

The Common Law.

What is called the "common law," is, in the United States, with some modification, the same as the "common law of England." The phrase means, in fact, ancient custom, as declared by the courts. Suits are continually being brought in Washington, and some question of law or equity that has never before arisen. There is no act or statute law that applies to it. The court then decides the matter according to the general principles of justice. The judge, in announcing his decision, lays down a rule that, under certain circumstances, a certain result follows. This decision, if not reversed, becomes a guide and rule for all inferior courts, and usually for those of equal dignity. That such decisions are practically the common law of England. When a lawyer is preparing to argue a case, he searches through the volumes of reports to find decisions upon similar cases. Of course, there are rarely two cases alike, but the lawyer on one side undertakes to prove that the decisions cited do, and the opposing lawyer that they do not, apply to the case on trial. The phrase is usually employed to show that the common-law principle is ancient is "whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary"—that is to say, nobody can prove that at any former time the law or custom was different. The common law governs only when there is no special act. A statute supercedes or reverses common law. Indeed, the statute is usually passed for the purpose of reversing common law. The common law comes into force again. Our fathers came to this country from England, and naturally brought English laws and customs with them. When they separated from the mother country, they retained the old laws, and built the new ones upon them. The New York constitution of 1777 adopted as law within that State the common law of England, and the statutes also as they stood on a certain date, so far as they were applicable to the new State. As our national customs have departed further and further from those of Great Britain, the common law of the two countries has become different. Yet, even now, there are very wide differences and decisions by English judges are often cited in our courts as establishing the law. Countries which do not supplement their legislation with what we call common law, are governed by a "code." This collection of laws and principles, to which all cases, as they arise, are referred. France is governed by the Code Napoleon, which also forms the basis of legislation in a general way in some other European countries. Our State of Louisiana, which came to us by purchase, has always been governed for the most part by a code, which was modified from the Code Napoleon. But the English common law is also in force even in that State. The result of living under the common law is generally satisfactory, because, as a rule, the judges of both England and America have been men of wisdom and justice. But they have not all been of equal intelligence and integrity, and their work is, of course, not all perfect.—Chicago Ledger.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Jail birds are confined in guilt cages. Boston Transcript. A cat recently died in Philadelphia in her twenty-fourth year. Pheasant brown is one of the most fashionable spring colors. A household with a baby is founded on a rock.—New Haven Register. The home stretch—Putting up a clothes line.—New York Times. The jewel for a frilled shirt-bosom is a diamond in the ruff.—Piscataway. Ships are frequently on speaking terms, and they lie to.—Boston Transcript. There's the sickle, the bicycle and the tricycle, but the most worthy of these is the sickle.—Rhinebeck Gazette. Walking boots are all cut high and made of French kid foxing, with fine satinaune uppers, constitute the choice walking boot of the season. When lovely woman hears strange news What form of speech so efficacious To give expression to her views, As the main English—"Goodness gracious!" Mr. Althoff, the retiring traffic manager of the English Midland railway, has occupied his place for twenty-six years, at a salary of \$20,000 a year. He now takes a yearly holiday in Washington, \$1,000 a year, and is present with an honorarium of \$50,000. His family is to receive a service of plate, and his portrait is to be painted. The unseemly haste with which some persons go for the shoes of dead officials was recently illustrated in Washington when Judge Hays died. About midnight a member of Congress and his wife were aroused by a ring at their door. A note was handed to the half-awake member. He reads: "Judge Hays is dead, and his property, apparently what do to secure the place." The answer was: "Better not disturb the President to-night; it would be a little more decent to wait until after the funeral." The Common Law. What is called the "common law," is, in the United States, with some modification, the same as the "common law of England." The phrase means, in fact, ancient custom, as declared by the courts. Suits are continually being brought in Washington, and some question of law or equity that has never before arisen. There is no act or statute law that applies to it. The court then decides the matter according to the general principles of justice. The judge, in announcing his decision, lays down a rule that, under certain circumstances, a certain result follows. This decision, if not reversed, becomes a guide and rule for all inferior courts, and usually for those of equal dignity. That such decisions are practically the common law of England. When a lawyer is preparing to argue a case, he searches through the volumes of reports to find decisions upon similar cases. Of course, there are rarely two cases alike, but the lawyer on one side undertakes to prove that the decisions cited do, and the opposing lawyer that they do not, apply to the case on trial. The phrase is usually employed to show that the common-law principle is ancient is "whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary"—that is to say, nobody can prove that at any former time the law or custom was different. The common law governs only when there is no special act. A statute supercedes or reverses common law. Indeed, the statute is usually passed for the purpose of reversing common law. The common law comes into force again. Our fathers came to this country from England, and naturally brought English laws and customs with them. When they separated from the mother country, they retained the old laws, and built the new ones upon them. The New York constitution of 1777 adopted as law within that State the common law of England, and the statutes also as they stood on a certain date, so far as they were applicable to the new State. As our national customs have departed further and further from those of Great Britain, the common law of the two countries has become different. Yet, even now, there are very wide differences and decisions by English judges are often cited in our courts as establishing the law. Countries which do not supplement their legislation with what we call common law, are governed by a "code." This collection of laws and principles, to which all cases, as they arise, are referred. France is governed by the Code Napoleon, which also forms the basis of legislation in a general way in some other European countries. Our State of Louisiana, which came to us by purchase, has always been governed for the most part by a code, which was modified from the Code Napoleon. But the English common law is also in force even in that State. The result of living under the common law is generally satisfactory, because, as a rule, the judges of both England and America have been men of wisdom and justice. But they have not all been of equal intelligence and integrity, and their work is, of course, not all perfect.—Chicago Ledger.

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