

THE WHIP-POOR-WILL.

Do you remember, father— It seems so long ago— The day we fished together Along the Pocono? At dusk I waited for you, Beside the lumber mill, And there I heard a hidden bird, That chanted "Whip-poor-will!"

German School Children.

Home Study Makes the Hours of Work Appear Longer. In Germany the law requires that every child attend school from the age of six up to fourteen. Parents are compelled to pay a fine in court if their children are absent from school without good cause, and the child must make up the time lost by just as many extra days at the end of his course as he has been absent. Children are called by their last names from the very first of their school days. Their teachers are men almost without exception. The hours for attendance in the winter are from eight to twelve in the morning, and from two to four in the afternoon; and in the warmer months from seven to eleven and from two to four. These hours are shortened for the younger children. On Wednesday and Saturday afternoon the schools are closed. What seems strange to us is that all studying is done out of school. A class not having a recitation, therefore, is sent home, and so it happens that few children are all of the six hours a day in school, as the above hours would seem to indicate. The very little ones, for instance, may be in school from eight to nine, from eleven to twelve, and from two to three, the interesting time being spent at home at play or study. In consequence of this out-of-school study, all books, pencils, and stationery are taken home at the close of the morning and afternoon sessions. This has given rise to the use of knapsacks by both girls and boys. These knapsacks are made of leather, either dressed or with the hair on. If a boy intends to carry his education beyond that afforded by the grammar school, he is expected to enter the high school at the age of nine or ten years, where his lower-school studies are continued in languages he commenced in simple way. Girls in like manner go to a higher school. The studies pursued in German schools are much the same as in our own.

Consumptives in the Open.

A Camp for the Treatment of the Incurable. On Ward's Island, New York, there is being conducted an experiment in the treatment of consumptives which is being closely watched by the health authorities as well as the medical fraternity generally. Here according to the New York Tribune, are 400 consumptive patients from the eastern division of the Manhattan State Hospital for the insane, and it is asserted, if a consumptive can be cured, or even find improvement in his condition, when insane, physicians argue that it should prove many times more successful for the sane. In snow storm and thaw, in rain and shine, the campers, through the perseverance of their attendants, eat and sleep in the open air, with only a single sheet of canvas to shield them from the elements. Two immense stoves take the chill from the interior air. The tent system for the tubercular insane of the eastern division of the Manhattan State Hospital was established by Dr. A. E. Macdonald, its superintendent, in June, 1901. The immediate treatment of these cases was given to Dr. G. Floyd Haviland, who has made a special study of this particular disease. Of 81 cases, 55, according to Dr. Haviland's observations, have shown increase in weight, while 24, of whom 19 died, have lost in weight. The average gain for the former was six and a half pounds. The average loss of the latter was four and one-third pounds. As the capacity of the camp is limited to 400, only the worst cases are sent here, which naturally militates against the best results. Those that died were in a far advanced stage when they came to the island. Even under such conditions 12 have been returned to the wards, apparently without any symptoms of the disease. The women patients of the western division of the hospital that are afflicted with tuberculosis are also segregated, but instead of being placed in tents they live in a house, along the side of which is built a wide, two-story porch, inclosed in glass. The eaves of the glass are on hinges, so as to permit a free circulation of air, and the more favorable cases sleep there at night, as well as spend their time in the sun in the day time. The results obtained, however, are not as good as in the tents of the men. Although there are more than twice as many women under treatment as men, the number of improved cases is the same for both. "The greatest benefits," Dr. Haviland said recently, "are an increased appetite and an increased ability to assimilate food in the body and a quicker perception, and cleared understanding in the mind. Diet is a most important feature. Four meals are served daily, breakfast of cereals, milk and eggs, an 11 o'clock meal of meat, vegetables and other similarly substantial food; an afternoon meal of cocoa, beef, chicken broth or milk, with crackers and biscuits, and in the evening a supper as simple as the breakfast."

Cuba's Newly Built Railroad.

And the Promising Country that it Opens Up. Cuba enjoys, says the Scientific American, a through line of railways, communicating from one end of the island to the other, running through the very heart of the country. There are also several branch lines—some in course of construction and others in contemplation. The most important branches soon to be opened are those running across the island, connecting Santiago de Cuba with the Bay of Nipe and Jazuro with San Fernando and two smaller lines forming a connection with Sancti Spiritus at one end of the trunk line and Helguim at the other. The railroad is of standard gauge, and its bridges are of steel and masonry; its equipment will be similar to that of the best American railways, and it is intended to run through sleeping cars between Havana and Santiago de Cuba—a distance of nearly 900 miles. The main object of this new railroad is stated to be "the development of the eastern and larger part of the island of Cuba, by establishing direct connections between Havana, Sancti Spiritus, Puerto Principe and Santiago de Cuba, and to open up a new and vast extent of attractive country for settlement and cultivation." The new line will also add largely to the attraction Cuba offers to tourists, for it will make many important and interesting places and districts easily accessible, which have hitherto been difficult to reach and which have rarely been visited. Along the main line are to be found great areas of land of the richest description, well watered and in most cases well wooded, suitable for sugar cane, tobacco, Indian corn, cotton, coffee, cacao and all of the fruits of the tropical and sub-tropical regions. Other districts are peculiarly adapted to cattle; indeed cattle do well everywhere, for the grasses are luxuriant and highly nutritious and there is usually an abundance of water. Excellent harbors, and it is reported and believed that the unexplored part of the island contains much hidden wealth. The interior, which is sparsely populated is comparatively level, and largely covered with hardwood timber, and while the soil of the different districts is generally of extraordinary fertility, some places are more desirable than others, both in this respect, and in regard to healthfulness. On the whole, the climate, is for the tropics, a tolerable one, and the island will soon be rendered more healthy by foreign irrigation, drainage and an improved system of sanitation. The northern employees of the Cuba Company have, as a rule, been free from illness of any kind, notwithstanding their employment on railway construction under conditions not always favorable to health. Unlike many of the West Indian islands, Cuba is entirely free from poisonous reptiles, and has fewer mosquito, and similar pests than any other southern region. There are no obtainable government lands in Cuba; practically all of the lands are held by individuals and in the eastern half of the island they are usually held in large areas. No systematic land survey has been made and the largest are mostly in irregular forms, and their boundaries are difficult to define and trace; land titles in the unoccupied and newly settled parts of Cuba are in many cases defective and need strict investigation: though the government has recently taken steps toward the perfection of titles. Not the least important and remarkable feature in connection with this modern Cuba railway enterprise is the combination of influence and new settlements, and in many cases the combination of existing interests on the island, and has already produced unmistakable evidence of a very promising future for Cuba, commercially, politically, socially and generally.

Go to War.

Feeling on Balkan Situation Drops Out in Open Expressions of Minister. Russia Turns Down the Appeal from Bulgaria. The chamber of deputies at Rome debated recently the military estimates. In the course of the discussion reference was made to the defeat of the Italian fleet by the Austrian fleet at Lissa in 1866, and Vice Admiral Morin, minister of marine, said: "We have worked 36 years preparing for the day of trial." This remark caused a sensation, the members of the left shouting, "Do you want war?" "Yes, we want a war," retorted the deputies of the center. Minister Morin continued that, while Italy did not want war, she was prepared. He opposed a reduction in the navy owing to Italy's geographical position. The minister pointed out that Great Britain, France, the United States and other powers had almost doubled the expenses of their navies, while Italy had cut down her naval expenditures by \$2,200,000. The utterances for war are regarded as especially significant in view of the activity of Italy in the Balkan dispute, in which she, with Austria and Bulgaria, will be mixed. BULGARIA WEAKENS. It is semi-officially stated that the mode of procedure in informing the ports of the intentions of the signatory powers with regard to reforms in Macedonia will be the presentation of a note by each ambassador to the porte. The notes, if not identical in terms, will be so in effect. They will state that the powers join in the Russo-Austrian proposals. In explanation of the somewhat sudden change of attitude of the Bulgarian government it is reported that Russia has replied to the Bulgarian note protesting against Turkey's mobilization, saying that Russia cannot intervene at Constantinople more particularly as the porte is only following Russia's advice to prepare for every eventuality. GERMANY TO USE INFLUENCE. It was semi-officially announced Thursday that Germany had instructed her ambassador at Constantinople to endeavor to persuade the porte to execute the Austro-Russian program of reforms proposed for Macedonia. The action of Bulgaria against the Macedonian revolutionary committees, it is said here, is regarded as the outcome of a determination on the part of Austria and Russia to maintain peace in the Balkans. The latest reports from Macedonia, however, say that the situation is becoming worse. Many arrests are being made, and the police and military are continuing their search for arms in the houses of the Bulgarians throughout the country. Justice Shiras Quits Bench. Formally Tendered His Resignation From Supreme Court to the President. Justice Shiras, of the United States supreme court recently presented to the President his resignation as a member of that tribunal, to take effect February 24th. Former Secretary of State William R. Day, of Ohio, has been selected as the successor of Mr. Shiras. Justice Shiras announced some time ago his intention to quit the bench, having reached the age of retirement, but no formal action was taken until last week. At the time he indicated his intention the President offered the place to William H. Taft, governor general of the Philippines. This was following the arrangements made between President McKinley and Judge Taft, at the time he agreed to go to the Philippines. Judge Taft, however, declined, there being an earnest protest, partly by people living in the Philippines, natives among them, at his quitting the islands just at a time when he is needed, owing to the bad conditions prevailing there. The place was then tendered to Judge Day, carrying out another wish of President McKinley that his old time friend and former secretary of state be elevated to the supreme bench. While Justice Shiras will probably continue to live in Washington he will likely spend much time in Pittsburg, his old home. How to Get The Dogs Taxed. A Valuable and Practical Pointer to the Assessors of Centre County. A Somerset county assessor has adopted a sure method of seeing that all dog taxes are paid. He carries a gun with him while on duty and when the owner of a canine denier that the dog in question is his, the assessor comes to the conclusion that it is not owned by anyone and shoots it. In nine cases out of ten the party who ought to be assessed admits the ownership of the dog before a shot is fired. Here is a hint to the assessors of the community in which dog tax is levied, and to the people and body owners half of them—at least when the assessor is making inquiries. The above might suggest to the assessors of Centre county to adopt some method of collecting something nearer the correct number of dogs and place them on the assessment lists if they would stop to think where the tax on dogs goes to, as the damages, through loss of sheep killed by dogs and horses, cattle and hogs bitten by mad dogs have been paid and two hundred dollars retained in the county fund to meet similar damage expenses, the balance in Belleville goes to the public library and that of the boroughs and townships should be distributed among the various school districts in proportion to the number and value of dogs assessed, so that the school authorities in the boroughs and townships and those in charge of the public library should interest themselves in having the assessors see to it that not only a few dogs are assessed, as has been the case heretofore, but that all dogs are assessed for the tax upon the same goes to a needed and worthy object. Aid for Consumptives. Forestry Commission Suggests State Reservations as Sanitariums. Forestry-Commissioner J. T. Rothrock has received from the State Printer his annual report, which shows that 572,722 acres of land in twenty-seven counties have been purchased for forestry reservations. A careful survey must be made at once of the State's holdings, which amounted to but 18,804 acres when Gov. Stone took over the office. Commissioner Rothrock says general superintendents and foresters have been engaged by the State, and fires do not occur so frequently as under former conditions. He suggests that a class of forestry apprentices could be formed from the boys of adjacent regions. Dr. Rothrock also refers to the use of the reservations as sanitariums for consumptives and for fishing and hunting grounds for the people.

NOLAN, DOLAN AND ANOTHER.

After a day of drenching downpour—an unrelenting plunge of rain, which began in the gray of morning and lasted till the gray of sunset—it was pleasant enough to come to camp at last; to find tents, fire dry clothing, food and drink. It was less pleasant to learn that, in the opinion of those most competent to judge, that fraction of the British army to which we had just attached ourselves was in a particularly tight corner, and that there was a practical certainty of battle against overwhelming odds in the morning. Hunger and thirst being appeased, and some faint sensation of returning warmth being apparent, Nolan, Dolan, and I, who occupied the same tent together, sat down to a discussion of the situation. Expected reinforcements had fallen upon our side, a fanatical enemy had trodden in numbers, and it was long odds against any of seeing to-morrow's nightfall. We became very grave in a while, and we sat down to write home letters in case any should happen. Nolan and Dolan had testamentary dispositions to make, and in the case of each I acted as witness. I said nothing, but each composed in particular to whom to say good-bye, and I had finished my unimportant little scribble much sooner than either of the others. We arranged among ourselves that if any one survived the hazard of to-morrow he should transmit the letters to their several destinations, and there is no doubt that on that anxious night each composed with care were made about the camp. Men who had long known each other exchanged surprisingly intimate confidences for the first time and men who were almost strangers admitted each other to heart secrets which would have been forever unrevealed but for that shadow of imminent death which overhung us all. We had whiskey in great plenty, and we drank pretty freely. Not so much, I think as to make any cue of us in any degree irresponsible, but enough to assist the natural emotions of the time toward freeing our tongues and opening our hearts. It was Dolan's first experience of war. He had so far never seen a shot fired in anger, and he was naturally more perturbed by the prospect of the morrow than his two war-hardened comrades. He was a fair-haired, blue-eyed, handsome lad of about five-and-twenty, and gave one a general idea of having lived a clean and wholesome life, and of being generally unspotted by the world. But that night he made a confession. "I want you fellows to treat this," he said, "as if you were just a couple of old priests and as if I were at the confessional. Here's Clive has got charge of all our letters, and if we pull through to-morrow he'll hand 'em back to us, and if we don't, and he does, he'll see that they reach their destinations. In case he should pull through and either of us should survive, the same thing holds."

Found Wife Dead of Burns.

New Castle Man Discovered Home-Ablaze and Children's Lives Imperiled. Mrs. Emily Baxter, wife of John Baxter, of New Castle, Pa., was burned to death Friday night while alone in the house except for her two sleeping children upstairs. Her injuries were caused by the explosion of a lamp, but nothing was known of the affair until her husband returned home some time later and found the interior of the kitchen enveloped in flames. Rushing in through the stifling smoke, he found his wife lying unconscious beside a doorway leading to the second story. He carried her to the home of a neighbor, and hurried back to rescue his children, whom he found sleeping peacefully above. Mrs. Miller was dead when found, her body having been terribly burned. It is supposed that after putting her children to bed, Mrs. Miller had gone down stairs and was working there when the lamp exploded. The husband found her kneeling before the stove door, which had been set aside from her burning garments, and was partially burned through.

Correct in One Sense.

Representative Kyle never neglects an opportunity to give a sly slap in Ohio. He relates this incident, which he avers occurred in Pickaway county: "There is in the county a certain cross-road, where a patient teacher struggles daily with the development of the young idea. One morning she was giving the school a lesson in geography. "What is a cataract?" she asked. "There was an aboutness in response and she explained the meaning of the word. "What is a cape?" "That is a cape?" "What is better. One of the children knew it was a point of land jutting out into the water. "What is a strait?" "Over in a corner a hand went up. 'I know teacher,' said a small boy. "Well, what is it?" "It beats three of a kind," was the triumphant answer.—Blackboard.

The Modern Battleship.

An English writer has recently described a battleship as the last word in mechanical genius, naval construction, and cash payment on say in aggressiveness. From fighting-top to double bottom, from ram to sternpost, she is the most complicated machine in the mind of man ever conceived. There is scarcely a trade or an art that is not represented in her building. She is a house that must be lighted, ventilated, drained, and, last but not least, painted, and it is an astonishing fact, that to paint a battleship requires 150 tons of paint. She is a fort that must carry guns of heaviest calibre for fighting other battleships; guns of medium size for piercing the comparatively thin protection of armored cruisers; scores of rapid fireers for protecting herself against torpedo-boats, and even a battery of small coils for picking off sharpshooters and exposed men. Above all, she is also a ship to be taken to sea, to take passengers from port to port and long ocean voyages. Moreover, she is a hostelry in which there are 700 men who must be clothed, fed and housed, and for whose use there is provided an immense plant having a capacity of three tons of ice per day, and a power that can carry guns of 16,000 gallons of fresh water; there is also a bakery and an enormous kitchen for cooking. Besides the ponderous main engines of more than 16,000 horse-power there are nearly one hundred auxiliary engines and about the same number of electric motors. The boilers with their 45,000 square feet of heating surface, must not be forgotten, nor the coal bunkers, which in the Oregon, for instance, have a capacity sufficient to steam that vessel a distance of 5,500 miles without re-coaling.

Woman Frozen to Death.

The body of Miss Sarah A. Keithley, of Elk Neck, near Elkton, Md., was found Sunday morning with the face buried in a snowdrift in the woods two miles from North East, Cecil county. Coroner Nelson went to the scene and held an inquest. The testimony showed that the deceased had come to her death by exposure, and the jury rendered a verdict to that effect. Miss Keithley was seen Saturday night passing through North East on her way home. It is supposed that she lost her way and wandering into the woods perished.

Hot Water Applications are most satisfactory for reducing inflammation.

Hot water applications are most satisfactory for reducing inflammation. The water should be at a temperature of 100 to 110 degrees Fahrenheit. It should be applied to the affected part for 15 to 20 minutes, three or four times a day. This treatment is especially beneficial in cases of rheumatism, neuralgia, and other conditions involving inflammation. The heat helps to relax the muscles, improve circulation, and reduce pain. It is a simple and effective method of self-treatment for many common ailments.