THE COLUMBIAN, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

HINTS FOR CYCLERS.

Some Suggestions Regarding the Care of the Wheel.

common cause for the The most "buckling" of steel rims and the cracking of wooden ones is loose spokes. Spokes become loose without apparent cause. Steel and wood may be never so well treated in manufacture, but they cannot be made entirely insensible to natural laws. The best of material in a wheel will shrink and expand under changes of weather. Again, steel spokes even those made of hardest plano wire and "cold swaged," which means drawn out from the center and, buttened, will stretch, and will with usage wear into wood rims where they are fastened. When these things happen and spokes are slack of their proper tension a wheel is out of true. After the recent changes of weather every rider should go over his spokes, testing their tension with his fingers. A good way is to snap them as you would harp strings, and notice whether they give notes of the same key, or nearly the same. Especially is such attention required on the part of those who keep their machines in a warm room at home and let them stand in disuse for weeks at a time.

Truing up a wheel by tightening the spokes is a piece of fine work, which, as a rule, should be given to a master hand. For those of mechanical bent, who are willing to give the care and patience, and prefer doing it themselves, it is advised that they proceed very slowly. After drawing up the spoke, which seems necessary, by turning the nipple at the rim, try the wheel again, and so go on, retesting the wheel after tightening each speke that is indicated by the pencil markings. Tighten very little at a time. Usually a half or threequarter turn of the nipple is about all It is safe to give. The nipples of some wheels are made with flat sides, or shoulders, so that a small wrench or a pair of pliers can be used for tightening. Where this is not the case, a clamp or "key" specially made to fit the nipple

can be bought of the maker. Something that is not taught in bleycleschools, and which comparatively few riders have learned to use, is the ankle motion. It is employed by keeping only the toes and ball of the foot on the pedal, bending the foot at the instep with every revolution, and following the pedal around, so as to keep a constant pressure on it. The pressure will not be even in every position, but it should be sufficient to help lift the pedal through its backward motion from the bottom to the top of its periphery. By using this ankle motion the muscles in the calves will get more exercise, and the muscles of the thighs will be relieved.

A pump that wheezes and does not work properly has a washer on the pis-ton that is dried up or worn out. Unscrew the top of the pump, and put enough oil on the leather washer to swell it.

It pays to invest in a foot pump for home use, but on the road the small band pumps are most convenient.

Experienced repairers say that the majority of the jobs brought to them can be attributed to the fact that the owner has been riding with tires not properly inflated. A heavy rider should have much more air in his tires than a lighter man, because the former causes them to flatten more when riding. Tires pumped very hard are less likely to puncture than those which present a broad, soft surface of contact with the ground, because of being only partially inflated. In wet weather, cyclists should have much more care where they ride than in dry weather. Rubber cuts much easier when wet, and rainy day punctures are plentiful.-New York Times.

Remarkable Case.

An interesting fact which will

A SMART WOMAN.

flow She Frightened Away a Persistent Tramp.

was alone in her house recently, a tramp knocked insolently at the door

sufficient," she answered. "Well, if you don't give me some thing I will stay here all day," and the

hobo coolly sat on the stoop. The lady got an alarm clock and wound it up. Then she went into the front room where her voice could be munity will be apt to commend to heard by the tramp. Causing the alarm charity authorities next spring the to ring, she shouted: "Hello, central! Give me police stat

tion, please." The tramp was all attention. Then

he heard the following counterfeit con- city lots on which men and women versation:

"Is this the police station? Please send an officer to my house at once. There is a tramp here who refuses to leave the yard. What? Yes; he ought choose. In Detroit, in New York to be in prison. All right."

Gen. Custer's Check.

The tragic death of Gen. Custer and his gallant men at the hands of the Sloux Indians in the massacre of Ldttle Big Horn was recalled the other day at Bismarck, N. D., says a recent dis-patch from that town, by the forward-ing to Mrs. Custer of a check for \$1,500 drawn to the order of Gen. George A. Custer, in 1876. The check is dated June 25, and is signed by B. L. Smith. will work and those who will not. at that time assistant paymaster of the army. It was on June 25, 1876, that the massacre took place. The check is still unpaid, and solled and tattered though it be, constitutes a valid claim against the government for the amount represented on its face, which was no doubt intended as part payment of Gen. Custer's salary as an officer of the United States army, Where the check has been all these

years no one knows, least of all Michael Francis, who found it in the street at Bismarck, last February, and who has retained it in his possession until now. When Francis picked up the bit of paper it was almost as legible as when it was drawn, but three heavy creases in it showed that it had been worn through. The parts were joined together by narrow strips of paper pasted on the back, and the edges were some what solled, as though the paper had at one time been dropped in the mud.

No endorsement appears upon the back of the check and the face shows the mark of no cancellation stamp, demonstrating that the check has never been presented for payment. The check was, no doubt, forwarded to the northwest before the news of the Custer mas. sacre reached Washington. Had it reached those in charge of the dead soldier's effects it would have been sent back at once in order that one payable to the heirs could have been sent in its place. It has evidently been under shelter somewhere, and the chances are that it was lost last February and swept out into the street where it was found by Mr. Francis.

Women as Magnets.

"You don't believe these stories about women being human magnets, do you?" Dora asked.

"Some of them are mighty attractive," David said, looking at her keen-

Dora blushed.

"I don't mean that," she said; "I mean their doing such great thingslifting half a dozen men and all those tricks. Do you believe it?" "Well, I don't know," David reflectively answered; "I saw a woman to- condensing nebulæ.

Those Who Are Always With Us. Once more the cities, great and While a woman of New Brunswick small, and the country townships and

districts have on their hands those and demanded refreshments. who must be subsisted on charity. "I'm looking for work," he said, "and The number is not diminishing, but who must be subsisted on charity. I want something to eat at once or I want something to eat at once or "I have fed three big, strong fellows like you to day, and I think that is control to the some trouble." ported, will have to be provided for as may be the present winter.

The ever increasing number of these unfortunates and the ever in creasing burden they entail on a complan inaugurated by Mayor Pingree of Detroit—namely, that of asking property owners to donate vacant who have no means of support can plant gardens and raise vegetables for sale or for their own use, as they may city and elsewhere this system has The tramp started for the street in been so successful that it will doubt double quick time .- Jewelers' Review. less be more and more widely adopt ed. Some charitable aid is needed in the beginning to carry out the idea successfully, such as buying seeds and tools, but this expense is not great and can easily be met by appropriation from the public charity fund.

One of the best results of the system is that it very quickly draws the will work and those who will not. Among those who raised garden vegetables on the lots donated by William Steinway on Long Island last summer were numbers of men who had been once well to do, some of them being college graduates .- Ek.

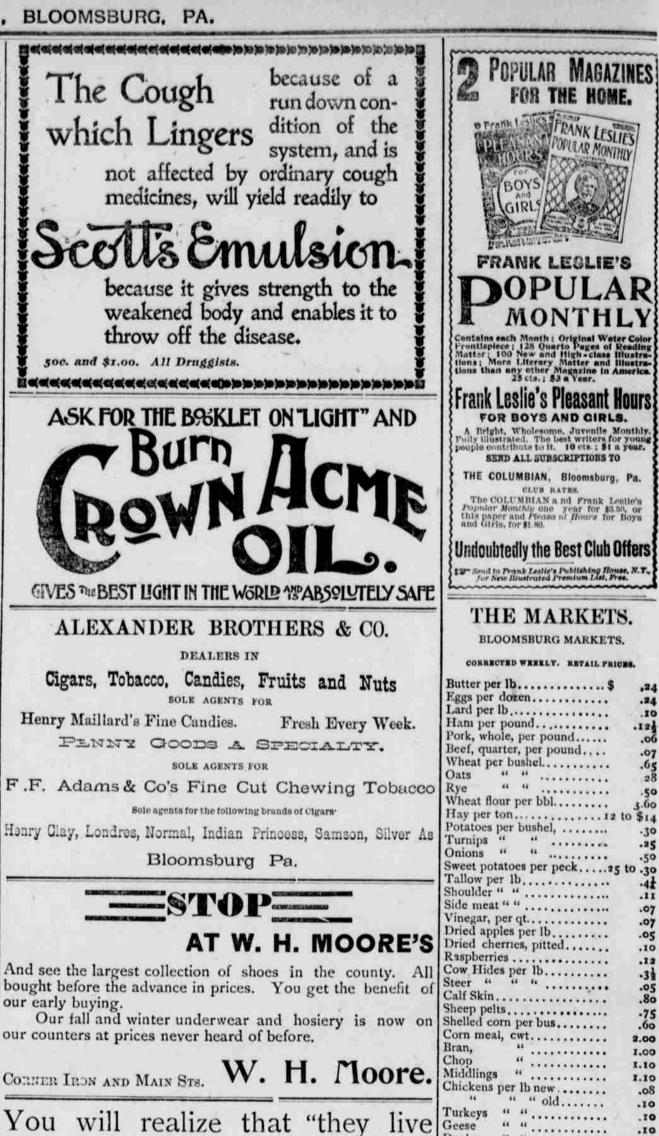
Tried to Abduct Hum.

More About Soloman Dirk, of Pine Township .-- He is Now in Jersey.

By a forced drive from Trevorton to Shamokin Solomon Dirk was placed on the Reading 5 o'clock morning train and taken to Newton, N. J., a day or two ago. A pretty and faithful young niece, Miss Susan Dirk, accompanied the persecuted old man, who has not been able to walk a step since the battle of Spottslvania, at which time he fell to the ground with a rebel bullet in his body, and was a few minutes later run over by a cavalry horse, which broke the soldier's back. Since then he received \$75 a month pension and owing to alleged cruel treatment by his wife and family, he left them in Columbia county to end his days in Trevorton. Numerous times since the family tried to take him back and control some of the property, but he managed to stay where he was until news of a wellplanned plot to abduct him reached his ears, when he foiled the conspirators by making the sudden flight to Jersey .- Sunbury Item.

The First Days of the World.

When geology took up the world's history, in early Archaian days, three hundred millions of years had already passed since the molten rocks of the sun like earth had formed from the



illustrate how money travels, was related to a Cataract representative a few days since Some seventeen years ago, Mr. R. A

Shuyler, at present employed on the local customs force received in change a half-dozen bright new Canadian halfdollars. Just previous to the time Mr. Schuyler had had made a steel stamp bearing his name and to test it, stamped on each of the coins the word "Schuy-' Of course he never expected to see any one of them again, and he gradually disposed of them until the last left his possession. After that Mr. Schuyler entirely forgot the occurrence, but it was called to his mind some five years ago by Mr. Frank Lawson, who at the time was running an elevator on the Canadian side of the river. One day Mr. Lawson asked Mr. Schuyler if he had ever stamped his name on a Canadian half dollar, mentioning the date, and the latter's mind at once reverted to the occasion some twelve years before. Lawson then told him he had that day received from an Englishman a half-dollar bearing the mark "Schuyler." The Englishman had received it at Liverpool and Mr. Lawson valued it so highly as a curiosity that he refused to sell it to the former possessor whose name it bore.

Mr. Schuyler thought no more of the marked money until some days ago. when he was quite surprised to find among the money paid in at the custom house a half-dollar bearing his name and without a doubt one of those marked by him. This he received and now prizes it very highly .- Niagara Falls Cataract,

Electricity for Women.

A new electric device for women's use is an artistic little heater by which crimping trons and curling tongs may be heated without the dangers that often result from using kerosene or alcoholic lamps. Electricity is also soon to displace the hot water.

The means employed will be a flexible wrap of silk thit can be applied to any part of the body and heated at once with a current of electricity to any temperature desired. Instead of the hot water and steam Turkish baths, we are to have a down comforter charged with electric heat, and a Turkish towel charged in the same way, with which to dry the hair after it has been washed. In any house where electric lights are ased these conveniences are available. Inside of each is an arrangement of extremely flexible wires that will con-form to any folds given the material in which they are placed. They are con-nected by a silk-covered wire, also flexible, at the end of which there is a metallic plug to make electric contact with the lights in the room. There is said not to be the slightest possibility of receiving a shock or of fire from their me, as all the details have been carefully worked out .- New York Post,

day-she wasn't more than five feet high, and slight at that-I saw her just lift a finger-it was right in the street, crowds of people around her-she raised her finger and-and-'

'Well, for pity sakes, what?" exclaimed Dora, impatiently, "Don't be so long about it."

"I don't go so far as to say she had electrical powers," David pursued, calmly; "I won't undertake to explain what it was, but this much I can vouch for, for I saw it with my own eyes-the moment she raised that little finger -it had a dainty pink nail on it-a heavily loaded street car that was pasing came to an instant stop." But Dora, with heightened color, de-

clared that if ever another woman lived who was married to so mean a man, all she had got to say was that she pitied her .- New York Recorder.

Just as a Favor.

The man who knows it all had been talking, and in his superior way had settled every question that had come up until the quiet little man was moved to speak.

"Will you grant me one little favor?" he asked humbly, as became a man who realized that he was addressing one who knew it all.

"Certainly," replied the other. "What is it?

"Well, will you kindly permit me to know something about one or two sub-jects in which I am personally interested if I will concede all the knowledge of everything else to you?"

And after that there was a lull in the conversation that seemed to indicate that permission had been given.-Chicago Post.

A Query About Brains,

An Irishman was at work at a stone quarry, pulling up loads of broken rock out of a shaft with a windlass. The windlass was exposed to the sun, and the labor was very hard, but the man

Irishman, "aren't you afraid the sun thereby helping himself. will injure your brain?" Pat paused in his work, and looked steadily and wonderingly at his ques-

tioner. "Brain!" said he. "Me brains is it" 'An' do ye think that af I had any brains I'd be turnin' this windlass?"

This Will Please the New Woman.

He-The serpent knew what a wo man was when he entered the Garden of Eden She-Yes, he knew woman and man,

You remember the story, I see. He-Of course.

She-Yes. He tempted Eve through her reason; she tempted Adam through his stomach .- New York Weekly.

The cooling of the exterior had gone forward with remarkable slowness, but at last it was hard, solid rock : the thick, heavy vapors had begun to condense, and waters, hot and acid, covered the world, or at least its greater part.

Over the continental region the sea was more or less shallow, and the breaking and grinding of the ocean's bed laid the nucleus for future land.

A triangular island slowly appeared above the waste of waters, in what is now the Hudson's Bay region; there appeared, too, a narrow strip which in centuries to come was to be the Highlands of the Hudson; there was also a coast line in the broad atea covering the Rockies; small Islands dotted the great northern seas where Norway and Sweden now stand As time passed, the waters slowly became cooler, and at last life, lowly

life, appeared in some structureless plants and animals. A warm and equable climate covered the land, and a clouded skys in a short time. tempered the rays of the sun; but No such oppo

the rocks were yet bare, and no sounds filled the air save those of a lifeless and voiceless nature,-the surging of the waters and raging of the tempest. But a gradual change was taking place; the seas adjoining these primordial islands became shallower; corals and sea-lilies filled the bays; mollusks and crustaceans had begun, and for ages mollusk life reigned supreme in this embryo world.—Harvey B. Bashore, in February Lippincott's.

the labor was very hard, but the main is a straw hat from It is one of the beautiful compen-sations of this life that no one can sincerely try to help another without It is one of the beautiful compen-



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