

NEW YORK LETTER.

Mayor Strong recently celebrated his seventieth birthday. He doesn't look it. With the exception of an occasional attack of rheumatic gout, His Honor is as strong and vigorous as a man of fifty.



"Few men have been blessed with such a mother. I owe all I have and am to her." She died a few years ago at the age of ninety-four years.

Mayor Strong has accumulated a large fortune. He is interested financially in many institutions, and at the time of his election to the Mayoralty he was the president of the Central National Bank.

"A male baby, about four weeks old was found last night near the Fifth Avenue entrance to Central Park by a mounted policeman, who took the infant to Bellevue Hospital.

Such items as the above are frequently seen in the columns of the newspapers, and the question naturally suggests itself—What becomes of these foundlings, deserted and cast adrift on the world?

Besides these, there are about two thousand infants of very tender age abandoned every year by their parents to the mercy of the city and the various charitable societies organized to care for them.

This little army of foundlings appears to be on the increase from year to year, and the number of instances of the crime of infanticide is at the same time apparently decreasing.

When a policeman, on his rounds finds a bit of humanity, with a lingering spark of life in its body, hidden in some out of the way corner, he at once sends to Bellevue Hospital and notifies the Department of Charities.

The great work of the care and distribution of these little unfortunates is done by the founding hospitals. From them the children—usually when about three years old—are sent, through agreement of adoption, all over the land, many reaching the farms of the Far West.

The result is frequently learned from the children themselves, who write to their alma mater and state the positions they have reached in business and social standing.

The greatest of these institutions in this city is the New York Foundling Hospital, at Sixty-eighth street and Third Avenue, a Roman Catholic organization, which, however, does not discriminate.

THE 1897 BICYCLE.

While Apparently Unchanged, the New Wheel is a Much Finer Creation.

The 1897 bicycle, while showing no marked departure from its predecessors in mechanical principles and general appearance, marks a great advancement in simplicity of construction, combined with lightness and strength.

The wheel, like other inventions, began a complicated and cumbersome thing. Now the minimum of weight with the maximum of strength and speed is apparently very nearly approached.

We notice, first, in the 1897 models, the increased use of nickel steel of the five per cent grade, which, weight for weight, has about ten times the endurance of twenty-five per cent carbon steel.

Then we notice the saving in weight, the increase of strength and the addition of grace by the adoption of flush joints. This is a marked improvement in the new wheels.

Another very notable feature of the new wheels is a reduction in the number of pieces. This is seen in every portion of the wheel, and has the result of dispensing with many nuts, bolts, screws and clamps.

It is particularly noticeable in the cranks and axles. Instead of five pieces, some of the new wheels have only two.

There is also a new adjustable chain, into which links can be inserted at will, without tools and without delay.

There is also shown a new chain adjustment, easily and accurately operated by means of a thumb screw that adjusts the chain evenly on both sides and allows of any desired tension.

Then there is noticeable improvement in the protection of all bearings from dust. This is particularly to be seen in the axles, where an inner brass tube, fitted with felt washers at its ends, keeps in the oil and excludes the dust.

Many wheels also show an increase in the size of the balls, the standard five-sixteenths of an inch, being increased to three-eighths of an inch. These large balls wear better and cut less.

There are also valuable features contained the provision for oiling, cleaning and flushing the bearings without disturbing the adjustment or removing any of the parts of the bearings.

A screw in the sprocket flange or crank axle, permits the application of oil directly on the balls, the same result being effected on the opposite bearing by means of an oil hole in the adjusting cone.

The forms of oiling device differ in various makes, but in all the improvement is in the direction of ease and comfort without the necessity of removing parts.

So far as speed is concerned the dog, of course, has the advantage, but for keenness of scent, for the instinct of finding edible plants and hidden water, and as a sentinel against every kind of danger, the baboon is unequalled.

Le Vaillant, an African traveller, gives an account of a tame baboon which accompanied him on some of his journeys. "By his cries," he says, "he always warned us of the approach of an enemy before my dogs discovered it.

The dogs were so accustomed to his voice that they used to go to sleep, and I was at first vexed with them for deserting their duties. When he once had given the alarm, they would stop to watch for the signal, and on the least motion of his eyes, or the shaking of his head, I have seen them all rush forward to the quarter where his looks were directed.

She: "My face is my fortune." He: "I am sorry. I could never marry a woman whose fortune was all settled on herself."

Credit For Farmers.

We have lately given some account of the operation of agricultural banks in Europe, which have done very much for the farming class by making it possible for it to secure loans on such security as farmers can offer.

The farmer is especially in need of credit, for the interval must always be considerable between the preparation of the soil and the harvesting of the crop.

He must spend money a long time before he can get any back. As to most of his products, he may be said to be carrying on a business where the stock is turned over but once a year.

Furthermore, as a crop matures all over the country at the same season, and generally within a period of a few weeks, it is particularly important to the farmer that he should not be compelled to realize on his harvests immediately.

While the farmer more than almost any other producer needs credit, he cannot generally offer commercial security, and real estate is not a good security for ordinary banks of discount to take, and it is unlawful for our national banks to accept it.

The result is that the farmer is usually compelled to sell his produce at an unpropitious time or to get credit of merchants and private bankers for which usurious rates are obtained.

It is singular that in our own country no effort has been made to afford agriculture in the general capital it needs for the improving of land and for carrying on farm operations during the long intervals between the annual marketing of crops.

The changed conditions of the times make it imperative that farming must be conducted upon more scientific principles so as to get out of the land more than it has heretofore produced, and that necessity leaves no alternative but either to afford the farmer enlarged credit facilities or to leave the present landholders to be frozen out by insolvency.

When, therefore, arms of offense and defense were introduced and replaced teeth and fists, it was the right hand that wielded the sword and lance, while the left held the shield and buckler before the region of the heart.

The enormous difference between the use of the right and the left hand in our present civilization has this very simple origin. In the first place, the superiority of the right over the left hand was only brought into evidence during a combat, but it soon spread and became universal.

Since the introduction of lethal weapons the right hand became naturally accustomed to the manipulation of the lance, the sword and the knife, and the nerves of the right side soon became more flexible and more under the control of the will than the muscles of the left side.

No small objection which young folks had to the old-time spring-medicines was their nauseousness. In our day, this objection is removed and Ayer's Sarsaparilla, the most powerful and popular of blood-purifiers, is as pleasant to the palate as a cordial.

The Danville Insane Asylum report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1896, has been sent out. The total number of patients admitted since the beginning of the hospital is 4,873—2,773 males and 2,100 females.

Restored, 475 males, 329 females; improved, 414 males, 323 females; stationary, 705 males, 595 females; died, 664 males, 342 females; not insane, 1. The ratio of deaths to all admitted was 23.94 per cent of males, 16.28 per cent of females; total, 20.64 per cent.

The financial condition of the institution Sept. 30, 1896, was as follows: Assets—Due by State for maintenance, \$10,539.05; due by State for land, \$3,000; due by poor districts, \$12,569.74; due by private patients, \$2,072.75; due by individuals for products purchased, \$422.96; \$38,605.50. Liabilities—Due treasurer, \$1,347.88; accounts payable, \$374.24; total, \$1,722.12; balance, \$36,883.28.

BLEEDING PILLS, ITCHING PILLS.—Dr. Agnew's Ointment cures Piles in all forms—Itching, Bleeding and Blind. One application gives quick relief; three nights will cure most cases; six nights will cure most stubborn cases. The best and surest cure for any and all skin eruptions. 35 cents.

The great favor in which Ayer's Pills are held all over the world has been well earned. They are easy and even pleasant to take, and for all complaints of the stomach, liver, and bowels, are the safest and most thorough medicine in pharmacy.

Every dose effective.

THE FROZEN BREEZE.

A Strange Phenomenon Observed by a Lover of Nature.

Did you ever see a frozen breeze? You might have seen one if you had gone with me into the country one winter morning, says the Country.

This was the way it came to be frozen: All night long the air had been laden with mist. Over the fields, in the hollows, all through the woods, even on top of the hills, the fog hung heavily. All that time the wind blew steadily, but not fiercely, from some northern quarter.

At nightfall the mercury fell below the freezing point, so that this mist, as it drifted through the trees, was frozen upon their branches and twigs. The elms, the oaks and the other leafless trees took their ice coating quite evenly, but the thick, impenetrable masses of the needled of the pine trees were covered noticeably only upon the sides toward the north or northwest, from which the wind came.

The strong, steady breeze bent the branches to leeward while it was icing them, and when the wind came down in the morning they remained just there, leaning to the southward, iced and frozen to immobility, but looking just as if the wind were still steadily blowing.

Even in the afternoon, when the rain began to fall and the wind came from quite another quarter, that north wind of the night before still remained white and frozen over the piny woods, the pale, rigid corpse of a thing once keenly alive.

A course of Hood's Sarsaparilla taken now will build up the system and prevent serious illness later on. Get only Hood's.

Why We Are Right Handed. Primitive man, being naturally an aggressive animal, defended himself against wild beasts with his fists and nails. He fought for his food and his womankind, which his enemies were always trying to take from him.

The first movement on being attacked is to endeavor to protect the most exposed and vulnerable part of the body. For the boxer and the fighter the heart is undoubtedly the most vulnerable place.

A hard blow in that region may easily kill a man, and consequently primitive man used the right hand to fight with and the left to protect the heart and to ward off the blows directed to that region.

When, therefore, arms of offense and defense were introduced and replaced teeth and fists, it was the right hand that wielded the sword and lance, while the left held the shield and buckler before the region of the heart.

The enormous difference between the use of the right and the left hand in our present civilization has this very simple origin. In the first place, the superiority of the right over the left hand was only brought into evidence during a combat, but it soon spread and became universal.

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How the Greeks Sleep. Fastidious People Find No Conveniences at the Hotels. In Greece the hotels of the interior follow on general type—the Italian. There is no common sitting-room, says the Atlantic Monthly. Why should there be? There is no office, but that does not seem to interfere with the presentation of bills.

The ground floor is given up to a cafe or restaurant, if the innkeeper goes into that kind of business. Very often, however, the master of the Apollo has only rooms to let. The sleeping apartments on the floor above are often approached by an outside stairway, and, as is to be expected in a southern clime, they are scantily furnished. Overfurnishing is a vice anywhere. Under a southern sky it is a crime of which the Greeks are not guilty.

There is usually a mirror, though that tribute to human vanity is sometimes lacking, and, like the Turk, the solitary Turkish towel bears no brother near his throne. The bedstead is invariably of iron. As in primitive United States within my memory, single rooms are rare. Two, three, four, five beds are put in one room or strung along the corridors. A fastidious person who desires to occupy a room alone has to pay for all the beds therein. In some places special charges are made for sleeping in the daytime, and there is a fixed rate for sleeping on the floor.

NOT A QUARTER.—But just 10 cents, and 40 doses in a vial of Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills. No pain, pleasure in every dose—little, but awfully good. Cure sick headache, constipation, biliousness, nausea, sallowness. Sold by C. A. Klein.

There is a Class of People Who are injured by the use of coffee. Recently there has been placed in all the grocery stores a new preparation called GRAIN-O, made of pure grains that takes the place of coffee. The most delicate stomach receives it without distress, and but few can tell it from coffee. It does not cost over 1/2 as much. Children may drink it with great benefit. 15cts. and 25cts. per package. Try it. Ask for GRAIN-O.

Her Hidden Treasure Gone. Mrs. Dougher Died Leaving \$3000 in Gold Buried—Probably Stolen. There was grim disappointment at Wilkesbarre, on Saturday, when heirs of the late Mrs. Margaret Dougher failed to find \$3000 in gold hidden under the cellar steps of her home. On her death bed, after executing her will, she confided to James Harrington her secret concerning the buried gold.

Though the diggers searched vigorously Saturday, they found no gold. They think either that Mrs. Dougher, in her sufferings, forgot where she had hidden the treasure; that she had changed its locality and forgotten about the change, or that certain parties learned about the burial of the money in the cellar, and, after the recent burning accident, which resulted in Mrs. Dougher's death, carried it away.

Important Notice! The only genuine "Baker's Chocolate," celebrated for more than a century as a delicious, nutritious, and flesh-forming beverage, is put up in Blue Wrappers and Yellow Labels. Be sure that the Yellow Label and our Trade-Mark are on every package. WALTER BAKER & CO. Ltd., Dorchester, Mass.

ALEXANDER BROTHERS & CO. DEALERS IN Cigars, Tobacco, Candies, Fruits and Nuts. SOLE AGENTS FOR Henry Maillard's Fine Candies. Fresh Every Week. PENNY GOODS A SPECIALTY. SOLE AGENTS FOR F. F. Adams & Co's Fine Cut Chewing Tobacco. Sole agents for the following brands of Cigars: Henry Clay, Londres, Normal, Indian Princess, Samson, Silver Ash Bloomsburg Pa.

Prices Low and Good Work. For the finest and best stoves, tinware, roofing, spouting and general job work, go to W. W. Watts, on Iron street. Buildings heated by steam, hot air or hot water in a satisfactory manner. Sanitary Plumbing a specialty. I have the exclusive control of the Thatcher steam, hot water and hot air heaters for this territory, which is acknowledged to be the best heater on the market. All work guaranteed. W. W. WATTS, IRON STREET, Bloomsburg, Pa.

SHOES SHOES We buy right and sell right. OUR SUCCESS IS BASED ON THIS FACT. Honest trading has won us hosts of customers but we want more. We are selling good shoes, so good you ought to see them. Drop in and we will make it pay you. CORNER IRON AND MAIN STS. W. H. Moore.

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF CARPET, MATTING, or OIL CLOTH, YOU WILL FIND A NICE LINE AT W. H. BROWER'S 2nd Door above Court House. A large lot of Window Curtains in stock.

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Do not wear impermeable and tight-fitting hats that constrict the blood-vessels of the scalp. Use Hall's Hair Renewer occasionally, and you will not be bald.