

WALTER SCOTT'S FIRST BRIEF.

One of His Best Feet was the Sound Advice of a Lawyer.

Mr. Walter Scott had his share of curious experiences in the same connection shortly after being called to the bar. His first appearance as counsel in a criminal court was at Jedburgh Assizes in 1798, when he successfully defended a veteran poacher. "You're a lucky scoundrel!" Scott whispered to his client when the verdict was given. "I'm just o' your mind," returned the latter, "and I'll send you a maulkin (namely, a hare) the morn, man." Lockhart, who narrates the incident, omits to add whether the "maulkin" duly reached Scott, but no doubt it did.

On another occasion Scott was less successful in his defense of a house-breaker, but the culprit, grateful for his counsel's exertions, gave him, in lieu of the orthodox fee, which was unable to pay, this piece of advice, to the value of which he, the house-breaker, could professionally attest: First, never to have a large watchdog out of doors, but to keep a little yelping terrier within; and secondly, to put no trust in nice, clever, gimcrack locks, but to pin his faith to a huge old heavy one with a rusty key. Scott long remembered this incident and thirty years later, at a judges' dinner at Jedburgh, he recalled it in this impromptu rhyme:

*Yelping terrier, rusty key,
Was Walter Scott's best Jeddart fee.*

Cream Candies.

The Canadians make the most delightful cream candies of maple sugar, cream and butternuts.

Melt a pound of new maple sugar with a cup of thin cream and boil the syrup to a creamy ball, but not until it "cracks." When the syrup has reached the proper state, scatter butternut kernels evenly over sheets of buttered tin and pour on just enough of the syrup to cover them. Crease the sheets of candy into small squares and break them apart when the candy has become cold.

How to Serve Macaroni.

Macaroni served in the Italian style means simply boiled macaroni over which a highly-seasoned brown gravy is poured, grated cheese being sent round with the dish. The gravy is easiest made by cutting up in two-inch pieces some lean, juicy beef from the round and simmering in a little water into which a fried onion is put. Strain and thicken, adding half a dozen chopped mushrooms.

A New English Tire.

A new tire which attracted great attention at the recent bicycle shows in England is likely to be on the market here before long. This tire has no inner air tube, but is a single tube, which opens so that it may be repaired from the inside. It is almost identical with the outer cover of an ordinary clincher tire, except that one of the edges laps inside the other one, the air pressing them together and keeping it prisoner.

Dog Remembered It Well.

George F. Barton, who died at Green's Hotel on November 1, leaves a \$20,000 estate and provides in his will that his executors shall "find a good home for my dog 'Gay,' pay his board and at his death place his body in a box and have him properly buried." The residue of his property is left to relatives.—Philadelphia Ledger.

All Kinds of Dogs.

A New Breed—Dog Fancier—Yes, madam, I have all kinds of dogs here. Is there any particular breed you wish?

Old Lady (who reads the papers)—Oh, anything that's fashionable. I'm sure see an ocean greyhound.—New York Weekly.

Knew Where He Was.

A little four-year-old occupying an upper berth in the steamship cabin awakened in the middle of the night. His mother asked him if he knew where he was. "Tourse I do," he replied. "I'm in the top drawer."—New York Sun.

How It Happened

"Grippeck has got his appetite back again."

"How did he do it?"

"Got caught in a washout, and the railroad had to pay his board for a week."—Chicago Tribune.

A Cigarette Holder.

"Hear about that American young woman paying a million dollars for a cigarette holder?"

"Get out!"

"Fact. I believe it also had a title or something."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

The Essence of Caution.

"Schynser's awfully afraid of germs."

"Is he?"

"Yes. He never writes a letter without first boiling the ink."—Chicago Record.

Two Birds and One Stone.

An impressionable Paris banker, the owner of immense riches, died of grief on hearing that he had lost everything in the world except \$20,000. His pauper brother on inheriting that sum from him died of joy.

An Awkward Predicament.

Father: "What, sir, you want to dishonor my name on the stage?"

Son: "I will take an assumed name."

Father: "Then, if you succeed, I'd like to know how people are to know I'm your father."

In Brazil, at the funeral of an unmarried woman, the mourning color is scarlet. The coffin, the hearse, the trappings of the horses, and the livery of the driver are all scarlet.

FIRE INSURANCE.

Owing to a variety of causes, such as demoralization of business, political and social unrest, disturbances of finances, and others too numerous to mention, a popular outcry has arisen against trusts and corporations of all kinds which seems to have spread over the whole country. It is not the purpose of this article to defend combinations and trusts, which are avowedly injurious to the public interests, but to direct attention to the injustice of classing them with Fire Insurance Companies, the aim of which is to benefit the people.

As a starting point in our investigation, the question should be asked, "What is the Fire Insurance Company?"

It is an "aggregation of individuals who subscribe their money and unite for the two-fold purpose of protecting the community from undue loss by fire, and securing for themselves a fair return for their investment. If the objects be truly stated, it would seem mere justice to inquire to what extent these companies have fulfilled their two-fold purpose.

As to the protection of the people, we need only refer to the great fires of 1866 in Portland, 1871 in Chicago, and 1872 in Boston, on account of which the insurance companies paid \$100,000,000, which, practically, saved the inhabitants from bankruptcy, and in the additional fact that in the twenty years which have elapsed since that time the enormous sum of \$1,370,000,000 has been disbursed for these much-abused corporations for the protection of their fellow-citizens.

In an indirect way, they have encouraged and urged the improvement of building laws, as may be seen by a comparison of the cities and towns of twenty-five years ago with those now existing. They have encouraged the formation of paid fire departments, and have urged the improvement of the water facilities. They have cheerfully borne the grievous burdens laid on them through onerous and unjust laws. They have paid the heavy taxes required of them by the States of the Union as good citizens. They have made their bricks without straw, but still the opposition continues without abatement.

Reasonable and thinking men would say that if such be the purpose of these corporations, and such their record, every encouragement should be extended to them to unite together for the purposes of establishing and maintaining proper and reasonable rates of premium, and that in place of obnoxious laws there should be generous support extended to them in their business, which is, at best, an uncertain one.

To the question, "Have they succeeded in securing a fair return for the capital invested?" the answer is, undoubtedly, "No." The companies which have failed or retired since 1860 number 827, with assets of \$192,000,000, which is a large sum to be withdrawn from the business. The average profit to the surviving companies has been 3 1/2 per cent. for a very long period, or 3 1/2 cents on every dollar, and if it were possible to obtain the statistics of the 827 companies which have gone out of business, instead of the paltry 3 1/2 per cent. gain there would undoubtedly have been a large percentage of loss.

We cannot do better than quote from the very able report of Mr. James R. Waddill, late superintendent of the insurance department of the State of Missouri. He writes as follows:—

"The early months of my administration were unfolding revelations of the magnitude, the vastness, of the interests involved in what is commonly termed 'Insurance business.' I am of the opinion that there is no business or science of such large and vital moment to all the people about which so little is known or understood, even by the intelligent and educated. Outside of insurance circles, insurance—as a science or business—is a terra incognita. Many business men do not even read their policies; many legislators—intelligent men and informed men in the general affairs of life—come to the State Capital to discharge their legislative duties with the idea that an insurance company is simply a corporation, and, therefore, an enemy to the people, to be fought and legislated against. They seem totally oblivious to the fact that hundreds of their constituents are looking to these corporations for indemnity in case of loss by fire—in fact, are dependent upon them in such an emergency to replace the shelter and homes for their families; that many of their merchant and business constituents have indemnity on their merchandise and other property in these corporations, and in many cases are saved by them from bankruptcy in the event of fire loss; that hundreds of others of their constituents have their hope and stay in this class of corporations, and have made provision in them, as the breadwinners of their families, to feed and clothe and shelter their dear ones after they themselves are dead and gone; and that therefore scores of thousands of the constituents of the State legislators

are interested in the solvency and stability of these corporations. Many legislators seem to forget, or not to know, that every unnecessary burden involving the interests of these corporations is a divided burden among their policy-holders in the State; that the hindrances and expenses that they put in the way of insurance companies increase the cost of insurance to their Missouri policy-holders.

"These things I call to the attention of men who represent the people of Missouri in the State legislature, in order that they may reflect on this subject of insurance corporations from a different point of view from that which many of them have seemed to act in the past, and that they may look to the other side of the question, which many seem never to have considered. Millions of dollars are paid annually to the citizens of Missouri by the varied and different classes of insurance companies doing business in this State. They pay also in taxes and fees to the State of Missouri fully a quarter of a million of dollars every year. Therefore, while I am keenly alive as any citizen of the State in requiring of insurance companies that they shall strictly comply with our laws, and deal with absolute justice to our citizens, it behooves men who have to do with legislatures and make laws, to look deeper into the interests involved, and note how closely allied and identified are the interests of these insurance corporations with the interests of our own citizens. The want of thought and investigation along these lines (and I have thrown out these thoughts and suggestions with the hope of inducing investigation) is one of the fruitful sources of the many crude, ill-digested and disaster-threatening measures that are introduced into our legislature involving insurance interests."

Troubled Several Years.

"I was a great sufferer with salt rheum on my limbs. It had troubled me for several years. I was so that I could hardly do any work and I obtained a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla. After I had taken two bottles of this medicine I was completely cured." OLIVER L. C. EDEN, 2108 E. Somerset St., Philadelphia.

Hood's Pills are the favorite cathartic and liver medicine. Harmless, reliable, sure.

A FAMOUS HOSTESS.

Frau Emma Hollenshamer, Who Keeps an Alpine Hotel, Was a Friend of Longfellow.

Frau Emma Hollenshamer, known to fame in the international touristic and Alpine climbing world as Emma d'Autriche, has just celebrated the eightieth anniversary of her birth at her winter hotel (Hotel Munchen) at Meran in south Tyrol. "And who is Frau Emma?" the uninitiated are pardoned for asking. Well, she is the hostess of the gasthaus or inn at Niederdorf in the Pusterthal, where during the summer months crowds of travelers congregate, bound for the Dolomites or bent on exploring the savage beauties of nature lying up the Ampezzo valley and the Alpine prospects ahead of Cortina. To her English and American guests the good old soul was always particularly partial, and she numbered among her distinguished friends the poet Longfellow, the historian Howitt, with Mary, his wife, and Sir Humphry Davy. Once upon a time a New Yorker, desiring rooms at her inn, yet ignorant of its name, directed his letter to "Emma d'Autriche" with no further address, and it reached her. Of this letter the octogenarian hostess is proud beyond measure, confirming as it does her world-wide popularity.

If a small bottle of Shaker Digestive Cordial does you no good, don't buy a large one.

"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." It's not good for everybody, only for the thin, pale, sick, weak and weary. For those who are starving for want of digested food. For those who cannot get fat or strong, because their stomachs do not work as they ought to.

These are the people, millions of them, whom Shaker Digestive Cordial will cure.

Food makes strength, muscle, brain, blood, energy—after it is digested. If not digested, it will do you no good at all.

Shaker Digestive Cordial helps your stomach to digest your food and cures indigestion permanently. When you've tried a small bottle, you can tell.

Sold by druggists. Trial bottle 10 cents.

CHICAGO DRINKING LESS BEER.

A Difference of 175,000 Barrels Already This Year.

For the first five months of this year 175,000 barrels less of beer were consumed than in the same period last year. The number of saloons is 650 less than a year ago. These facts were brought out at the annual convention of the several liquor dealers' organizations in Chicago.

THE SNUFF FAD.

Fashionable Young Men in Washington Indulge in the Habit.

"I first noticed the beginning of this snuff taking fad here in Washington about a year ago," said a tobacco dealer to a Washington Star reporter. "I had heard several months previously that the thing had broken out in London, and then in New York, but I did not take much stock in the reports. But when a procession of young fellows with nothing to do but to keep from thinking began to stroll in here and ask for all sorts of snuffs that I had never even heard of to set me to thinking. I was unable to fill their orders, for I only had in stock a small quantity of the ordinary Scotch snuff that is once in awhile called for by old persons. The daily demands for different kinds of snuffs continued unabated for some time before I finally sent for some snuff catalogues. I was astonished to find that nearly 200 different varieties are manufactured, ranging in price from 80 cents a pound to \$20 a pound. When I began to fill my snuff customers' orders, they came here in scores, and I now do almost as big a business in snuff and snuff boxes as I do in cigars. All of my snuff customers, except the old men and women who have had the habit of taking snuff all their lives, are young men who go a good deal into society, and as always seems to be the case when people of the modern world adopt an old habit, many of them carry the snuff taking practice to extremes, and use such great quantities of it as to injure their health, although these tell me that they feel themselves powerless to throttle the habit they entered into so lightly. Used with a moderate degree of discretion, snuff does not hurt a man, but when it is used to excess it throws the victim into a sort of lassitude that makes him always look tired of life."—Washington Star.

Personally-Conducted Tours via Pennsylvania Railroad.

That the public have come to recognize the fact that the best and most convenient method of pleasure travel is that presented by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's personally-conducted tours, is evidenced by the increasing popularity of these tours. Under this system the lowest rates are obtained, for both transportation and hotel accommodation. An experienced tourist agent and chaperon accompany each tour to look after the comfort of the passenger.

The following tours have been arranged for the season of 1897:—

To the north (including Watkins Glen, Niagara Falls, Thousand Islands, Montreal, Quebec, Au Sable Chasm, Lakes Champlain and George, Saratoga, and a daylight ride down through the Highlands of the Hudson), July 27 and August 17. Rate, \$100 for the round trip from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, covering all expenses of a two weeks' trip.

To Yellowstone Park on a special train of Pullman sleeping, compartment, and observation cars and dining car, allowing eight days in "Wonderland," September 2. Rate, \$235 from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington; \$230 from Pittsburgh.

To Niagara Falls, excursion tickets good to return within ten days will be sold on July 22, August 5 and 19, September 4 and 16, at rate of \$10 from Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington. These tickets include transportation only, and will permit of stop over within limit at Buffalo, Rochester, and Watkins on the return trip.

Two ten-day tours to Gettysburg, Luray Caverns, Natural Bridge, Virginia Hot Springs, Richmond, and Washington, September 28 and October 12. Rate, \$65 from New York, \$63 from Philadelphia.

New Ruling on Pensions.

Assistant Secretary Davis, of the Interior Department, has rendered a decision that will affect many claims for pensions. He reversed the action of the Pension Office in the case of Catharine Geronzin (a widow of a soldier in the Ohio Infantry), which rejected the claim for pension because there was no proof of the death of the soldier.

Geronzin left home in July, 1866, since which time nothing had been heard from him. The Assistant Secretary holds that further inquiry should be made concerning the man, and if nothing is thereby developed throwing additional light on the case, death may be presumed under the act of March 13, 1896, making seven years' absence from home, without intelligence of his existence, sufficient for a presumption of death.

Not many business houses in these United States can boast of fifty years' standing. The business of Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass., whose incomparable Sarsaparilla is known and used everywhere, has passed its half-centennial and was never so vigorous as at present.

Walter Baker & Co.'s BREAKFAST COCOA

Absolutely Pure—Delicious—Nutritious. Costs Less than One Cent a Cup.

Be sure that you get the genuine article, made at DORCHESTER, MASS.

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DEALERS IN Cigars, Tobacco, Candies, Fruits and Nuts

SOLE AGENTS FOR Henry Maillard's Fine Candies. Fresh Every Week. PENNY GOODS A SPECIALTY.

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Sole agents for the following brands of Cigars: Henry Clay, Londres, Normal, Indian Princess, Samson, Silver Ash

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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,
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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.

W. H. Moore.
CORNER IRON AND MAIN STS.

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.

THE PROFESSIONS.

The kingdoms of Norway and Sweden have 219 professors. The teachers in the public schools of France number 136,800. There are 10,800 teachers in the diminutive kingdom of Belgium. The dental colleges graduate every year 21 per cent of their students, or one-fifth of the whole number. In all classes of engineers, civil, mechanical, electrical and mining, there are 43,115 men and 127 women. In the district schools of this country the birch is industriously and successfully wielded by 245,230 women, aided and abetted by 96,581 men. When the eleventh census was taken, 1,235 ladies and 87,060 gentlemen were exercising the functions and performing the duties of the pulpit. The proportion of clergy to the population is over 1 to 1,000. In China, government appointments are determined by the literary attainments of the applicants, and numerous instances are known of men spending many years in preparing for the government examination.

Just try a 10c. box of Cascarets, the finest liver and bowel regulator ever made. 4-1-1Y

Mere Mention.

Farm Journal calls attention to the fact that in New Jersey men who use wide tire wagons are given a rebate of \$1 per wheel per annum on their taxes.

Farming on vacant lots within the Greater New York has proved a success.

Last year at Cornell university it was found that frequent surface tillage with weeder and cultivator increased the potato crop both by con-

serving moisture and rendering the plant food of the soil itself more available.

As a rule it does not pay to grow kafir corn where Indian corn does well.

The fifty-seventh annual New York state fair will be held at Syracuse on Aug. 23-28.

Alfalfa is a most excellent soiling plant, but is not prized highly for pastures in the north.

Hand picking of the mature insects and destruction of the egg clusters seem a tedious way of combating the squash stink bug, but it is the surest method, says Professor Slingerland.

NEVER WORRY—Take them and go about your business—they do their work whilst you are doing yours. Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills are system renovators, blood purifiers, and builders; every gland and tissue in the whole anatomy is benefited and stimulated in the use of them. 40 doses in a vial, 10 cents. Sold by C. A. Kleim.

Shake Into Your Shoes.

Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It cures painful, swollen, smarting feet and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age. Allen's Foot-Ease makes tight-fitting or new shoes feel easy. It is a certain cure for sweating, callous and hot, tired, aching feet. Try it TO DAY. Sold by all druggists and shoe stores. By mail for 25c. in stamps. Trial package FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y. 6-10 4td

Send for a copy of Tasker's Beautiful Song "Gone Forever". The very latest. Pronounced by critics to be the prettiest song ever written. Price 20 cts. At music stores, or sent upon receipt of price by David J. Tasker, Bloomsburg, Pa.