

ELECTIVE AFFINITIES.

Chemists first noted the disposition of a substance brought into contact with other substances to cleave to the one for which it has the stronger affinity, says the New York World.

But it is to artists and the possessors of the artistic temperament generally since Goethe's day that we owe the application of the principle to human beings.

Usually the affinity is kept in the background until the divorce proceedings make her appearance essential to the interlocutory decree.

A very reassuring publication is made by the bureau of Labor at Washington, giving tables of statistics to show that the percentage of increase in the wages of labor is greater than that of the cost of food.

COFFEE FOR BREAKFAST. While I am an earnest advocate of tea-drinking, as against the reckless overuse of coffee, there is one thing about the bean that appeals to my soul, my heart and my imagination.

Automobile slaughter. The number and frequency and fatality of automobile accidents are appalling. Not a day passes without an addition to the mortality record.

BROKEN ARMS MORE REMUNERATIVE. Thirty cents is the amount at which a Chicago judge valued a woman's broken heart in a breach of promise suit recently.

NO OCCASION FOR JEALOUSY. It is said that King Edward has the most remarkable collection of sticks in the world.

That agricultural department employe, who says he has heard birds singing familiar hymns, might as well write out his resignation.

The child that is "Ruled by Love" and the child that has its own way live at the same house.

Cures Woman's Weaknesses.

We refer to that boon to weak, nervous, suffering women known as Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.

Dr. John Fyfe one of the Editorial Staff of THE ELECTRIC MEDICAL REVIEW says of Unicorn root (Helonias Dioica) which is one of the chief ingredients of the "Favorite Prescription":

"A remedy which invariably acts as a uterine invigorator... makes for normal action of the entire reproductive system."

"It is an important remedy in disorders of the reproductive organs of women; constant sensation of heat in the region of the kidneys; menorrhagic flooding; due to a weakened condition of the reproductive system."

Some "philosophic thought" paper has been glorifying the teddy bears because the children's familiarity with them tends to dispel their fear and hatred of animals.

And by and by, in her search for the most beautiful forms of diversion, the little girl, grown bigger, substitutes a live man for both doll and teddy bear.

Some of our innocents abroad appear to be much scandalized by the extravagant style of living displayed by the American Ambassador at the Court of St. James, Whitelaw Reid.

Whose business is it if Ambassador Reid expend his own money lavishly in dispensing his hospitality as American Ambassador?

Japan announces that she will have a World's Fair in 1912. This may be intended to contradict the widespread reports that Japan's finances are so straitened that she has no money to throw away.

Napoleon held that five hours' sleep is enough for men; seven hours for women, children and fools.

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MARRIAGES IN AMERICA.

"Why American Marriages Fail" is discussed by Anna A. Rogers in the Atlantic. As contributory causes she cites the 2,921 courts in this country which are empowered to grant divorces, as against one in England, twenty eight in Germany and seventy-nine in France.

Other reasons are found in the "growing individualism" of woman and her failure to realize that "marriage is her work in the world."

From the "excessive education and excessive physical coddling of young women," their devotion to physical culture and sports, a hybrid feminine has been evolved, according to Mrs. Rogers, who is "a cross between a magnified, rather unmanly boy" and a spoiled, exacting creature who sincerely loves herself alone.

But do American marriages fail in fact? After all, only six-tenths of one per cent. of the 13,000,000 and more American wives are divorced.

From this it is perceived that Fond du Lac is a town which imitates but does not learn. London had the idea of the picture blacklist ordinance in 1903 and discarded it in 1904.

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"PLEASE" ON THE 'PHONE.

The 450 girl operators of the Keystone Telephone Company will not say "please" to the subscribers, and the subscribers have been requested not to say "please" to the operators.

Billions on billions of hours a day could be saved by cutting out all the courtesies of life and reducing everything to the level of the cave-dwellers.

The time-saver of the telephone exchange might better have adopted a rule against expletives in denunciation of the usually venal service.

Dean Swift declared that he laughed only twice in his life. Once was at an incident in the burlesque of "Tom Thumb" by Henry Fielding, the father of the English novel.

Boston has an 8-year-old boy who feeds on higher mathematics, learns foreign languages four at a time and puts it all over his professors.

It has been shown that a well-made watch can be frozen into a cake of ice without interfering with its time-keeping qualities.

PULLING DIFFERENT WAYS. "Be sane," says Leslie M. Shaw. But with G. B. Shaw telling us to be insane, how are we to follow the advice of the whole Shaw family?

ONLY A BARBARIAN. The deposed King of Anam was addicted to boiling his wives in oil. Being only a barbarian, he did not send them to Paris to get divorced and tell the reporters about it.

APPEALS TO THEM. As might be expected, all Philadelphia is watching Professor Koch's experiments on the victims of the "sleeping" disease in Africa.

Why does every doctor say to every convalescent patient: "If it weren't for your vitality—?"

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GRAFT IN ICELAND.

Why can't this grafted country get some immigration from Iceland, where there have been but two thefts in 1,000 years? But is there anything in Iceland worth stealing?

MAIN TRAVELED ROADS. If the preacher who declares there are 40 roads to hell will look around a little he may find people who are traveling all of them at once.

LAUGH AND GROW FAT. Dean Swift declared that he laughed only twice in his life. Once was at an incident in the burlesque of "Tom Thumb" by Henry Fielding, the father of the English novel.

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