

The Centre Democrat.

SUPPLEMENT, OCTOBER, 17, 1889.

NO 41

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The vast possessions or subjects of Great Britain in the ranch and mining regions of our western states is already well known. But along with the timber purchase in Florida comes the information that a great English syndicate is preparing to buy every American brewery it can lay hands on, for the purpose of manufacturing British ale for Americans. At least we have the word of The New York Sun that it will be a drink half way between the light German beer at present so extensively manufactured in this country and the fiery favorite of England. The same competent authority informs us that the beer at present consumed here contains only 2.3 per cent. of alcohol, which is not a heavy enough drink for winter. Genuine old British ale contains 8.3 per cent. of alcohol, which is too much for our dry, electric climate. Therefore the new product which foreign subjects will manufacture in the United States will be half way between these two in strength and fire.

It is said that twenty of the largest breweries in the Union have already passed into the syndicate's possession, with many more to follow rapidly. It is also whispered that the shrewd German citizens of the United States, who at present own and operate the breweries, are all the more willing to sell because of the rapid progress the prohibition and total abstinence movements are making in the northwest.

The Flag with Forty-two Stars.

Various arrangements have been proposed for the new United States flag when the four additional states come in. The present flag contains upon the blue union the thirty-eight stars arranged in five rows across the field, three rows containing eight stars each and two rows with seven stars each. In arranging the forty-two stars it has been suggested that there be six rows containing seven stars each. Another suggestion is that there be three rows containing eight stars each, as at present, and two rows with nine stars. But this would necessitate changing the proportions of the blue field, which must not be done. A third proposition is to change the arrangement of the stars altogether, and instead of in rows place them in the form of a six pointed star. This is the suggestion of the editor of The Youth's Companion.

The Order of Delphians.

For fifteen years past a great secret society called the Order of Delphians has been slowly growing in this country. Its members are school teachers. Its main object is to advance the financial and social interests of the profession and to raise the standard of efficiency. Good teachers out of a place will be able to find employment through their brothers and sisters of the order. It is claimed that a thorough organization of the teachers of the country will enable the pedagogic profession "to reach that high plane of usefulness the grandeur of its mission demands." The supreme lodge of the United States is at present in Lincoln, Neb. The lodge has been regularly incorporated. Within a few months the order has been increasing rapidly, and teachers all over the Union are forming lodges.

A question that has long been of interest is how much beer makes a pint. If it is sold fresh and foaming, then the measure is filled with foam. If, on the other hand, the vessel is filled with the liquid, then the liquid itself is flat, stale and unprofitable. In this perplexity a brilliant thought has occurred to a number of liquor dealers. They are forming associations in which the members pledge themselves hereafter to sell beer by weight. They fix the price at five cents a pound, probably in accordance with the old saw, "A pint's a pound the world around."

Mayor Grant, of New York, has for a long time been endeavoring to persuade the trustees of the Metropolitan museum in Central park to open it to the public on Sundays. The trustees refuse obstinately. Boston's Art museum is open on Sundays. Saturday is a free admission day to the Boston museum, and nine-tenths of all the visitors attend on Saturday and Sunday. By far the greatest number of visitors is on Sunday. They are largely working people with their families.

Toothpicks and their manufacturers are alike way down in the mouth on account of the low price of the former. Can it be that the American nation is at last wrenching itself from its beloved toothpick? Can it be we are growing aesthetic, and at last recognize that it isn't pretty to pick one's teeth in public; that it is, in short, abominable? If so, what now will become of those who are wont to gouge the insides of their heads out at hotel tables for the edification of their weak nerved neighbors opposite?

Too Much Piano.

Professor Waetzoldt, of Berlin, has discovered that girls practice piano playing far more than is good for their health. Professor Waetzoldt should be enshrined as a benefactor of the race by all city people in their thin walled houses. He says only 10 per cent. of the girls who drum pianos have any talent for music. The others are forced to drum at the expense of their own and other people's nervous systems, often injuring their health seriously. Practice should not be begun till the twelfth year. It is not necessary that the world should have feeble, mechanical pianists, but it is necessary that our girls should be healthy in brain and body. When any part of a girl's education has to be given up on account of her health the professor recommends that it be the piano, in which the rest of the world will agree with him.

Admirable as many things were that the late Allen Thorndike Rice accomplished, he will always be best remembered in connection with the new North American Review. His chief aim was to steer it away from the line of the heavy old English reviews. The last direction he gave before he was to start his post in Russia was this: "Be careful to keep it out of the old and worn academic rut. Let it be what I have made it—a magazine of the times." The last number which his master hand touched was that for June. It covers a wide range of topics of living interest, true to his intent. It seems now, in some measure, a message from the dead.

Many volumes of heavy legal lore have been written on the question of how much criminality is to be imputed to the mere intent to do a deed. But all these heavy arguments must go down before the clearness with which the case is put by a Washington lawyer, with a coal black skin and a deep bass voice. He says:

"De crime—ob labency—consists in de takin'—ob a ting 'fom whar 'tis—an' puttin' ob it whar 'taint. De intent, gemmen ob de jury," he went on, with the most solemn earnestness, "an' whar 'taint makes de crime. Foh instance, yoh looks into a flin—an' yoh sees a horse; yoh says to yoh'self, 'Dat's a nice horse; I'd like to hab dat horse.' 'Taint labency yit. Yoh goes into de flin an' yoh puts yoh han' on de bridle. 'Taint labency yit. Yoh leads dat horse out into de road. 'Taint labency yit. But de fus' ting yoh knows yoh says to yoh'self, 'Tee gwine ter keep dat horse foh mysef an' deprive de ovnash ob him.' Den its labency."

Hammond on Ice Water.

Here are some of the charges the lively Dr. William A. Hammond brings against the deadly ice pitcher: Its contents may cause death if taken when the body is overheated. A big drink of ice water is as bad as a kick in the stomach. Americans have the poorest teeth of any people, and ice water is the cause of it. As to the stomach, a whole chamber of horrors is created in its insides by the ice water fiend. Ice water causes confirmed dyspepsia. But that is the least of its train of evils. It also produces catarrh of the stomach. Nay, there is reason to believe that it originates cancer of the stomach too. Americans are more subject to that disease than other nations are. Ice water lessens the heart's action. It also impairs the sense of taste. And once Dr. Hammond knew a fancy ice cold soda fountain drink to be followed by a terrible case of facial neuralgia. "Ware the ice cold soda fountain!"

The Prince of Wales has made a prodigious hit in that he has outwitted his father in every rule over Great Britain but democratic ideas are making such progress that he doubts if his son will ever be king. Albert Edward always did have more brains than he got credit for.

Some of the city clubs are grappling in practical fashion with the growing and detestable custom of tipping waiters and servants. They pay the servants fair wages, and then make it an offense against the club to offer them anything further. This tipping business is an evil that ought to be taken by the neck and strangled here and now. Slavery and foreign waiters have made it possible in America. Let employers who have any self-respect forbid the custom on their premises. Let those who do not want to see this country like Europe, where one must fee a swarm of beggars every step he takes, be warned, and stop tipping, absolutely and forever.

A few months ago the society notices spoke of "the president and Mrs. Cleveland." Now it is "Mrs. Grover Cleveland and her husband."

A great advance in steel manufacture is noted at the Paris exposition. By means of hydraulic pressure frames for railway engines and cars are cut out of sheet steel.

The Californians have found a new use for peach stones. They are burnt as fuel, and make a brilliant fire that exhales a fine fragrance. The fruit growers get \$5 a ton for the pits.

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FALL AND WINTER

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