These short serial stories are copyrighted by Bacheller, Johnson & Bacheller, and are printed in The Tribune by special arrangement, simultaneous with their appearance in the leading daily journals of the large cities).

explosion would occur; beyond all, to the torpedo. realize that every instant brought the catastrophe nearer, was maddening. carnest. One wanted to hitch on a Where were all the electricians and the catastrophe nearer, was maddening.

the Albanians, besides the oweners out.

other nearby towns, flocked in great out.

other nearby towns, flocked in great out.

'if did not ask your assistance, genwhich now inclosed the circle swept by



The Mayor and the Scientists.

the balloon. They pre-empted the stoops of private residences, ate their meals thereon, and rang the door bells at intervals to demand ice water or the loan of a cup of milk. One man from New Jersey brought some carpenters and tried to erect a "grandstand" in the neighborhood of Central park, but he was mobbed by the neighborhood before he had sold snough seats to make the enterprise temunerative. Another person drove a thriving business in selling pieces of smoked glass wherewith to look at the balloon; which the farmers bought instinctively. The peripatetic telescope men fairly coined

This had not gone on long, when heavy rain clouds began to gather in est, and then a new fear arose. Would the storm hasten the falling of the dynamite? Suppose the balloon should be struck by lightning!

Meanwhile the urgent appeals which had been sent out by the mayor to all the scientific people had resulted in an imposing gathering of professors in the Forty-fourth street boarding house. Each having answered the call under the implicit conviction that all the others had been summoned for the express purpose of hearing his particular views on the matter in hand, an air of reserved dignity and gratified condescension pervaded the company as it followed his honor up the creaky stairs. and into the attic room where the safe

"I need not say to you, gentlemen," said the mayor, tersely, "why you are here. You perceive the danger. Can it be averted? Suggestions are in or--prompt and sharp, please."

No answer was returned, although several scientists looked disconcerted and were seen to replace in their pockets sundry bulky manuscripts.

"I-ah-I-would suggest," said one professor, rising ponderously and looking over his spectacles, "that we cause the safe door to be opened, and the voltage of the generator therein de-termined, and-

safe door will blow up a torpedo withread the mayor from the potice over the safe. The professor sat down abruptly.

individual. "Let us construct another balloon, let it silde up on the cable and | tirely deserted save by the policement carry some one who will remove the on guard. Since his interview with

certainly fall," again read the Mayor, in a weary sort of way. "At the same infliction of any reasonable variety of professor, if you will agree to go

"No, sir; no, sir; quite impossible; life too valuable to the cause of science.

The chorus of coughs and poohs Throughout the city there was a feel- which greeted this last remrak ceased ing of helplessness, not unmixed with exasperation. To see that balloon up to cut the cable, the advantages of there, placifly swaying to and fro, to which plan he was about to argue know that within a few hours it might when it was pointed out that nothing release its frightful burden, to feel the would more certainly break the curuncertainty of where the inevitable rent and thus cause the dropping of

engineers and the chemists and the in- a proceeding certain to disorganize the ventors generally? Was it possible that electromagnetic mechanism in the balthe much-boasted national ingenuity loon and release the pitcher. Another had recoiled, conquered and humiliat-ed before such a problem as this? So cable, and let the balloon float over talked the angry people in the streets. some other place to do its mischief; but Meanwhile the news of the peril of this, leaving out the ethical question metropolis had spread over the involved, would, of course, put in more country, and, singular to say, its prin- resistance in the path of the current, cipal effect upon the suburban popula-tion was a burning desire to witness up the load. Another wanted to fire the big explosion, as it could do them | bullets at the pitcher, and cause the no harm. Consequently, the Philadel-phians, and the New Havenites, and out that they would be much more the Albanians, besides the dwellers in likely to hit the balloon and let the gas

on the morning trains with their themen," said the mayor somewhat children, and their much baskets, and sarcastically, "to devise means for bivouacked in hordes in the uptown dropping that torpedo. The balloon streets, just outside the police cordon will do that of itself the started as he clanged at his watch)-in about five hours. Experiment is out of the question We cannot risk fallure. Can no one suggest any certain means of re-

The scientists breathed heavily but said nothing. They could see the balon-now ruddy with the reflected ays of the setting sun-poised over the reat cathedral. The threatened storm and passed over, leaving, however, the breeze steady. The chances were then that the torpedo would do its fearful work in the fairest portion of the metropolis. From this locality the police. low reinforced by the militia, had driven the people toward the rivers. The danger lines had been drawn at Fifty-ninth street and at Madison phare. It was a strange sight to see Fifth avenue, above Twenty-third street, descried as far as the eye could each; the gently swaying globe being the only moving object in the long perspective. Outside the danger lines the people clustered on the housetops like

The scientists, still silent, looked at the mayor with dismayed faces. The mayor grimly looked back at the scien-

"And this is all?" said the mayor. Several of the younger scientists presnt moved uneasily in their seats. One of them went to the safe, passed his hands helplessly over the exterior, sighed and sat down. Another gazed fixedly at the balloon. Another became

twin cable Meanwhile there had come into the om two other men who had seated themselves beside the mayor. The official turned to them and whispered something. They nodded promptly. "I will not detain you further, gen tlemen," said the mayor to the scient-"I thank you for your assistance. I can only regret that the cir-

cumstances make it unavailing." The philosophers solemnly walked out of the room, and maintained stillness until the street was reached. There they would have at once embarked in a heated discussion had not the police on guard insisted on their mmediate repair beyond the danger

One of the two men beside the mayor appended his name to a check for one bundred thousand dollars. His sig amture would have been honored for five hundred times that sum. The torpedo would fall directly on his The other impressed a stamp on the face of the check and dashed mulck scrawl over it. The Chemical bank of New York had now guaranteed its payment. The mayor put it in his pocketbook with a sigh of disappointment, and his visitors withdrew.

The man called Julius sat in the captain's room in the Thirtieth street police station calmly smoking and reading the latest extra evening news paper. If the populace had known where he was, he would probably have "The slightest attempt to open the also listened-though with equal imperturbability-to the howls of a raging mob in the street outside. But that information had been carefully with held even from the reporters, and con-"Mr. Mayor! Mr. Mayor!" suddenly sequently the street, being within the remarked a small and somewhat jerky danger district, so far from being the scene of an incipient riot, was enthe superintendent, the police had 'If the pitcher fastening is in any burned with a mediaeval desire to ex tampered with, the pitcher will tract from Julius the knowledge which he claimed to possess, by the prompt torture. Carried away by the enthusiasm of the moment, the police captain in whose care he was placed con ceived the brilliant notion of sending him, in charge of two stalwart patrol-

loon as it moved around. But the designated guardian promptly rebelled when Julius pointed out to them that they would be just as liable to declined of his own volition to repair to the threatened localities alone, the captain reconsidered the project and locked him up until some less objectionable plan could be matured.

Julius was deep in a lurid biography of himself (where he learned, for the first time, that he was a Russian exile of anarchistic antecedents, and that his personal appearance was truly represented by a worn-out woodcut of



The Peripatetic Telescope Man Fairly

Mr. Chauncey Depew, duly decorated with bushy hair and a straggling beard), when the captain entered the room, snapped the nippers around his wrist, gave him his hat and told him to "come along" The captain was not communicative, and Julius asked no questions, so the pair proceeded in silence through the deserted streets to the Forty-fourth street boarding house, and up to the attic room.

(To Be Continued.)

THE JOKE GERM.

The Prevalence of Risibilities Among the American People on Purely Pathological Grounds.

From the Philadelphia Record. Despite all the Nineteenth century rlumphs of the bacteriologists, the Joke Germ still remains undiscovered. "Quid rides?" inquired the gentle Horace long ago, and truly why do we laugh in preference to crying? If we

deeply interested in the surface of the

akin to that of the nostrils must affect lips. A superficial study of the risorial muscles does not reveal any latent jocus bacilli, and they probably attack suddenly and produce the disease symptom of laughter immediately. Nor have the bacteriologists identified or isloated as yet any of these joke germs in their natural element of conductivity, the newspapers and magazines, and even London Punch-a somewhat rarefied medium in which the germs are evidently greatly weakened. Nor do they attack all persons with equal force. Some persons vigorously resist all attacks, which leads us to think that the effect of the joke germ depends altogether upon the condition of one's blood, and that anyone may be rendered completely immune shall be sufficiently inoculated with the serum of asses.

The Joke Germ Classified.

Those persons, in whose risorial muscles these mysterious joke germs find successful development, betray varying symptoms of the affliction. The severity of the attack ranges, according to careful diagnosis, all the way from the smile (Jocus genialus) to the hysterics (jocus Aristophanicus). In lay language, these Seven Ages of mirth are the Smile Perforce, the Smile Persuasive, the Grin, the Titter, the Giggle, the Guffaw Convulsive and the omic Hysterical. The Smile Perforce is a strange variant; for, while the Smile Persuasive seems full of the milk of human kindness, the Smile Perforce seems to be that same milk soured. It has been accurately depicted in the pathological plates of Dr. Aubrey Beardsley. The lip curls, but the risorial muscles appear as though in rigor mortis. This phase may be denominated the Risibilus Contractus. The Titter and Giggle are unfeminine germs. When, however, all the various Jocus bacilli shall have been identified and isolated, the Modern Joke germs can be separated scientifically; the offensive microbes-such as the Mother-in-Law and Old Man's Foot germs—can be deadened by means of neutralizing lymphs; and the less harmful joke germs can be cultivated under the

most congenial conditions. VON MOLTKE'S VACATION. The General Took One and Put It to Very

From the Youth's Companion A story which has lately come to light in the German press illustrates the extent to which a great military chieftain, the late Count von Moltke, rendered his military knowledge a mat-ter of absolute certainty. In May, 1870, Moltke asked of King William a eave of absence from his post.
"You are tired, Herr Count?" asked

men, to be kept directly under the bal- the king. "Very well; by all means go and take a rest for a fortnight."

Moltke bowed and retired. A few days afterward the minister of war, Count you Roon, presented a report on "I should like to hear what von Moltke says about that," said the king.

"We will find him and bring him in, sire," said the minister. But attempts to find the general were quite vain. Telegrams were sent in every direction, but he could not be

however, he presented himself to the "Where have you been, Count?" asked King William. "Ten days ago we were searching the kingdom and all Germany for you in vain."

found. At the end of his fortnight,

"I was in France, sire!" said Moltke. "Ah, amusing yourself in Paris?" "Not at all, sire. I was at Metz and Belfort. We have very good plans of the fortification there, but I wished to see with my own eyes their strong points and their weak points, and so I went over there."

Two months later, in the France Prussian war, Moltke put to very good purpose the information he had peronally gained during his "vacation."

HAVE A SHOE-HORN.

How to Take Care of Shoes When They

Get Wet. From the Philadelphia Press.

Never try to put on a low shoe unless you have a shoehorn; you will be sure to stretch it out of shape in the back and make it Ill-fitting. Keep the buttons sewed on your shoes and good strings in your laced boots, uteless you want the most face of the strings in your laced boots, uteless you want the most face of the strings in your laced boots, uteless you want the most face of the strings in your laced boots, and the strings in your laced boots in your laced boo want themen to say you area "slouch." Have a paste patch put over the first sign of a break in your shoe, and they will keep in shape and last twice a long. Buy good shoes if possible. Cheap shoes and cheap gloves are snare for the unwary. They get out of shape, are ill-fitting, and do not wear well. It is false economy to buy cheap foot or hand shoes.

A woman hates to get her nice, ne shoes wet because it spoils them so, but with care the wetting will not hurt them much. As soon as you can re-move the wet shoes do so, and rub tham well with a soft rag, to get some of the dampness out, and to take off all the mud; then rub them with a cloth saturated with kerosene. Get as much of the oil into them as possible and then fill them as full of dry oats as you can and set them aside for a few hours, when apply another coating of kerosene. The stiffness will have disappeared, and the shoe will be in good shape when you want to don i

KNOWLEDGE IN JOB LOTS.

can only be compelled to pay by a suit, which should be conducted by a lawyer. The current is the 27th presidential term in the history of the United States, Tweny-three men have held the office of chief executive. The length of the Chinese wall is 1,250

miles: height, 20 feet: thickness at base. and at the top 15 feet. It was built 220 B. C. Corporations are not required to deduct

he income tax of the shareholders from their dividends, but they pay tax on their

"Not in it" probably owes its origin to Euripides, who lived 484,506 B, C. He said: "Cowards do not count in battle; they are there, but not in it." When a man dies without issue and without a will his wife gets half of the real estate for her life only. Half of the per-sonal property goes to her absolutely.

The seven wonders of the world comprise the Egyptian Pyramids, Mausoleum of Artemisa, Temple of Dianna at Ephe-sus, Walls and Hanging Gardens of Babylon, Colossus of Rhodes, the Statue of Jupiter Olympus and the Pharos or Watch Tower of Alexandria.

The coldest place in the world, according to Professor Wild, of St. Petersburg, is Werchoyanck, in Siberia. He found the mean temperature in July 13 above zero, in January 53 below, and for the entire year 19.3 below zero centigrade).

The term "Uncle Sam" was an out-growth of the war of 1812. Elbert Anderon, a New York contractor, immediately after the breaking out of hostilities, visited Troy, on the Hudson, where he purchased a quantity of provisions. The in-spectors of these articles at that place were Ebenezer and Samuel Wilson. The latter gentleman, invariably known as Uncle Sam, generally superintended in person a large number of workmen, who on this occasion were employed in over hauling the provisions purchased by the contractor of the army. The casks were marked "E. A.-U. S." The work of marking fell to the lot of a facetious fel-low in the employ of the Wilsons, who on being asked the meaning of the mark, said he did not know, unless it meant "Elbert Anderson to Uncle Sam." The term stuck, and is to the United States what John Bull is to England.-Philade

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CHAT 1.—Do you wish to keep posted on the finan-

CHAT 2.—Have you ever heard of the celebrated

CHAT 3.—Another feature of that handsome, end-

CHAT 4.—Masculine America is vary properly concerned just now in healthful, blood-

cial question which is just now under

general discussion in this country? Then,

of course, you will want to read Charles

Emory Smith's reply to Charles Heber Clark. It will be printed tomorrow.

Crystal Palace-one of the modern won-

ders of the world? Then, of course, you

will want to read the charming descrip-

tion of it which Miss Sadie Kaiser has

written for tomorrow's 12-page Tribune.

of-the-week issue will be an entertaining

letter from Constantinople by Miles Tracy

Hand, telling of some of the picturesque

street scenes to be witnessed in the capi-

strengthing, out-door sports. The de-

partment of sporting news and gossip

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time winner." In fact, every day we

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and to all that lot of land situate on Madison avenue, in the Ninth ward of the city of Scranton, county of Lackawanna, state of Fennsylvania, and known and distinguished on the map of plot of Lewis Jones' addition to the city of Scranton as lot No. 8 in square or block No. 219. (In mortgage 216). Said lot being rectangular in shape and 49 feet wide in front on said avenue, and 159 feet in length to an alley in the rear, with the right to enclose and use 19 feet in front of the front line of said lot for yard, vault, porch, piazza, shrubbery, cellarway or bay window, but without the right to erect any building thereon. Being the same premises which Lewis Jones and wife by an indenture dated the 15th day of July, 1878, and recorded in the office for recording deeds, etc., in and for Luzerne county, in deed book No. 212, at page 408, etc., granted and conveyed to the said Daniel Bartholomew. Coal and minerals reserved with the right to mine and remove the same. All improved with one two-story frame dwelling house, one frame barn and outbuildings thereon.

Selzed and taken in execution at the suit of kennedy, Wiling & Co. vs. Daniel Bartholomew, Debt. \$1,289.89. Judgment No. 50, May T., 1835.

March T., 1855. Lev. fa. to May T., 1855. Also at the suit of Henry Hollinger vs. Daniel Bartholomew, Debt. \$1,289.89. Judgment No. 58, March T., 1855. Lev. fa. to May T., 1855.

WATSON & DIEHL, HANNAH, Att'ys.

ALSO

No. 4. All the right, title and interest of the defendant in and to all that certain lot, piece or parcel of land in Jones, borough of Archbaid, Lackawanna county, in block No. 6, and fronting on Miller street, being sixty (60) feet in front by two hundred (200) feet in depth, according to a map entitled "Allotment of part of Miller Farm." Coal and other minerals reserved. Being the same premises converted and taken in execution at the suit of Kennedy. Willing & Co. vs. Daniel Bartholomew of the suit of Henry Hollinger vs. Daniel Bartholomew. Debt. \$1,289.89. Judgment No. 25, Nov. T., 1894. Al. fi. fa. to May T

ter's land one hundred and fifty-nine (139) feet and two and one-half (2½) inches to Richter street; thence south fifty-six degrees west fifty feet to the place of beginning, being lot No. (8) eight on the aforesaid map of Richter's, being part of the I land conveyed by Edward Steindel and wife to August Halfman and Charles Eberhard by deed dated the fifth day of March, 1889, and recorded in the recorder's office of Lackawanna county, in deed book No. (8) page 173, etc., and conveyed by Charles Eberhard and wife to August Halfman absolutely by deed dated the 28th office for recording of deeds for Lackawanna county in deed book No. (8), page 185, etc., and is subject to all exceptions and reservations mentioned in said deed. All improved with a two-story frame dwelling house, barn and outbuilding thereon.

Seized and taken in execution at the suit of German Building and Loan association, No. 7 vs. August Halfman. Debt, 880, Judgment No. 339, May T., 1895. Fi. fa. to May T., 1895.

ALSO

No. 7 all the right ditle and interest of the defendant, John M. Brown, in and to all that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate in the city of Scranton, county of Lackawanna and state of Pennsylvania, on Walsh and Hoban's addition to said city, being lots number (13) thirteen and (14) fourteen in block number three hundred and two-feet in depth and rectangular in shape, said iot fourteen being seventy-three feet in front on safd avenue, two hundred and two-feet in depth, forty-seven and two-tenths feet wide in the recar, and a trepezoid in shape, with right to enlose, occupy and use ten feet in front of said lots, on said avenue, for vault, porch, piazza, bay window or shrubbery, but for no other purpose. Excepting and reserving therefrom, however, all coal and minerals beneath the surface of said lots, with the sole and exclusive right to mine and remove the same by any subternanean process without thereby in-ALSO

No. 2. All the right, title and interest of the defendant, Daniel Bartholomew, in

Judgment No. 285, Nov. T., 1894. Al. fi. fa. to May T., 1895.

WATSON & DIEHL, HANNAH, Att'ys.

ALSO

No. 4. All the right, title and interest of the defendant, Mary Mullen, in an to all that certain piece, parcel or tract of land situate, lying and being in the Fifteenth ward of the city of Scranton, county of Lackawaman and state of Pennsylvania, and known and distinguished in Alfred Hand's addition to the borough of Hyde Park, known as Park Hill, as lot number, twenty-six (26) and situate upon the street called and named South Hampton, upon the town plot of said addition to the borough of Hyde Park intended to be duly recorded as by reference to which plot thus recorded will more fully appear; said lot being sifty-flue (55) feet in front and one hundred and thirty-three (125) feet in depth. Coal and minerals reserved. Improved with a single two-story frame building and outhouses thereon.

Selved and taken in execution at the suit of John H. Fellows, assigned to John H. Kelly, et. al., trustees of Silurian lodge, No. 763, I. O. O. F. of Pennsylvania, vs. Mary Mullen, Debt, \$635,43, Judgment No. 28, May T., 1856. Fl. fa. to May Term, 1855.

No. 5. All the right, title and interest of the defendant, William Lewton, in and to all the ceunty of Lackawanna and state of Commonwealth Building and Loan association, of Scranton, Pa., vs. John F. Werner. Debt. \$400, Judgment No. 276, January T., 1852. Fl. fa. to May Term, 1855.

No. 5. All the right, title and interest of the defendant, William Lewton, in and to all the two lots, pleces or parcels of land, both situated in the borough of Waverly, in the county of Lackawanna and state of the defendant, William Lewton, in and to all the two lots, pleces or parcels of land, both situated in the borough of Waverly, in the county of Lackawanna and state of the defendant, William Lewton, in and to all the two lots, pleces or parcels of land.

TAYLOR & LEWIS, Attys.

ALSO

No. 5. All the right, title and indeersted of learn special content of the court for common, is seated out of the court of common, is seated out of the court of the court for common, is seated out of the court of common, is seated out of the court of common, is seated out of the court of the court for common, is seated out of the court of common, is seated out of the court of common, is seated out of the court of the court for common, is seated out of the court of common, is seated out of the court of common, is seated out of the court of th

story frame dwelling house and outbuildings.

The third thereof being a lot of land in the city of Scranton, county of Lackawanna and state aforesaid, being lot No. 7 in square or block F on a certain plot of lots situate partly in the city of Scranton Lackawanna county, Par, known and described as North Park, which said lot is intended to be duly recorded in the office for recording of deeds in said Lackawanna county, said lot being 50 feet in front on Electric avenue and 143 feet in depth, together with all improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereto. Coal and minerals reserved by the grantees of said defendant.

Seized and taken in execution at the suit

fendant.
Seized and taken in execution at the suit
of John C. Hughes vs. Frank J. Johnson,
Debt, \$144.63. Judgment No. 678, June T.,
1893. Vend. ex. to May T., 1895.
HOWE, Att'y. All of which will be sold for cash only. FRANK H. CLEMONS, Sheriff. heriff's office, Scranton, Pa., May 3, 1895.

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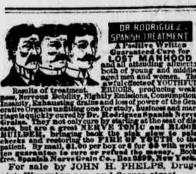
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AUSED the following telegram to be sent to the Branch House of Johann Hoff, at

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