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The American system of ambulance service has been introduced in Paris.

The Michigan University has hired a professor to teach the students the art of dramatic writing.

During the last fifty years the climate has so changed that a man can now live at an altitude of a tenth of a mile higher than before.

Governor Waterman, of California, will not permit paid attorneys to appear before him in the interest of those seeking pardons.

The rate of mortality among the Indians increases about ten per cent. a year. The more they are civilized the faster they die.

The whole number of Christians in China is now over 32,000, while those in Spain are over 19,000. In each country 100,000 were added during 1887.

It is not an uncommon thing for emigrants to land at Castle Garden, New York, with families of nine or ten children, and recently a husband and wife, with thirty-two children, disembarked there.

There is said to be one house in Chicago which maintains seventy commercial travelers in a single State, and whose yearly expenses were made \$10,000 after the passage of the Interstate Commerce Law.

The interest taken in art in France shown this year by the crowd of people present at the so-called private sale of the Salon. So great was the curiosity not to miss the spectacle that the people gained admission.

Chicago police justice has made a legal blunder. He has built a case on another man's lot, and the court will neither buy it nor let him remove it. The surveyor got the wrong side of the owner of the property by playing a word.

The organization of the New Creation Society, three years ago, has had 100 members incinerated—100 males and 37 females. Interested persons declare that creation is gaining ground, and this New York society has begun to pay expenses.

Discussion is going on among some of the Eastern papers as to what flower should be chosen as our national emblem. The Chicago Herald thinks that the blossom most emblematic of modesty, the distinguishing trait of American womanhood, is undoubtedly the sky and morning violet.

After all, Buffalo Bill's visit to England was not without substantial results, and the Atlanta Constitution says that he introduced pop corn into that country, and it is now very popular. At one of Buffalo Bill's exhibitions the royal family munched this delicacy.

Emperor Victoria, of Germany, has an inventor, remarks the New Orleans Times-Democrat. She drew plans for a machine which enables the Emperor to write whether lying in bed or standing up. It is available in any position, and the mechanism employed is so simple to be intricate and remarkably effective.

M. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu, a French scientist, gives figures showing the quantity of tobacco consumed in the different countries of Europe. The rate per 100 inhabitants is, according to him, as follows: Spain, 110 pounds; Italy, 123 pounds; Great Britain, 133 pounds; Russia, 182 pounds; Denmark, 224 pounds; Norway, 329 pounds; Austria, 373 pounds.

Proceedings in the New Mexico courts of justice are usually conducted in the Spanish language, records the New York World, and it very often happens in a trial, it is said, that not a single juror can speak English. The two lawyers who stand at the head of the criminal bar in the Territory owe their success almost entirely to their fluent command of Spanish.

The Chicago Herald remarks that Pennsylvania is said to have been the first State to break over the old and well established custom of hanging murderers only on Friday. Many other States, Illinois included, now depart from it. There was never any good reason for it anyway, and as there are few States that do not need a hanging every day in the week, it is well to do away with it altogether.

An experiment in co-operation will be tried by the Knights of Labor of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, and will be watched with interest. A tract bordering on Grand river is to be settled and turned into farming land, where fruits and vegetables may be raised. Canning works and other enterprises are to be established in time. The colony will pay its officers no salaries, and all disputes are expected to be settled by the decision of the Board of Arbitration without going to law.

AN OLD SWEETHEART OF MINE.

As one who sits at evening o'er an album all alone, And looks on the faces of the friends that he has known, And I turn the leaves of fancy till in shadowy design I find the smiling features of an old sweetheart of mine. The lamp-light seems to glimmer with a flicker of surprise As I turn it low to rest me of the daze in my eyes, And I light my pipe in silence, save a sigh that seems to sigh Its fate with my tobacco, and to vanish in the smoke.

SEVILLE'S BLUNDERS.

BY JERITHA BERTON. A SCRAWL, of "not available," across the top of a prim looking sheet of manuscript, and it was refolded and passed to the left hand of the table, with an air that bespoke its final disposal; then the young editor gave his attention to a more interesting subject. That literary men, especially editors, should have time to devote to sentiment and love-making, would hardly be supposed, when one takes into consideration their arduous duties, and as Herman Seville sat in his cosy sanctum with a formidable pile of bulky packages before him, while at his side, and gazing like a hungry young robin, stood the capacious and suggestive waste basket, no one would have suspected that he was penning a tender little note, most carefully worded, and literally brimming with sentiment and fervor.

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

The Art of Fish Cookery. Boiling.—Many cookery books instruct the uninitiated to lay the fish in cold water, and then bring it to the boil; this is a mistake—nay, more; it is opposed to all the laws of common sense. So here, in a nutshell, is the whole secret of how it should be done. Wash your fish well, but quickly. Have ready in a shallow vessel some boiling water, and to each quart or so add an ounce of salt, a tablespoonful of vinegar, and half a dozen peppercorns. Have only just enough water to cover the fish; too much robs it of flavor. Cook it at simmering point until done. Then take it up immediately, or it will break and soak up the water; in a word, it will be spoiled.

THE WOOD BUFFALO.

There still remain some of the wood buffalo. This is an animal larger than the American bison of the plains. They are larger, coarser-haired and stronger-horned. I mention this peculiarity of difference in the horns because it is believed that the shape and the broken and the crooked nature of the horns of the prairie buffalo has been caused by the habit of digging into the gravel, whereas in the more northern species they are to be counted in other conditions, where straight horns would be of more use, for instance, they use them there for clearing aside their path-way at least 150 pounds more than the buffalo of the Saskatchewan plains.

WHY A BASEBALL CURVE.

Lovers of baseball may find it convenient to keep in mind this explanation of the pitcher's curve from Mr. R. A. Proctor: If the ball is advancing with spin, or is spinning on an axis, along its course, the cushion of compressed air carried forward by it is conical—or rather conoidal—and therefore resists the progress of the ball equally on all sides, affecting only the velocity. In the case of the curve, where the ball is spinning on an axis, square to its course, the air in front of the advancing cape of the spinning surface cannot escape so readily as if there were no spin, and escapes more readily on the other side. Hence the resisting cushion of air is thrown toward that side of the ball where the spin is forward and removed from the other side, and the ball is deflected from the region of greatest resistance.

COURTSHIP AMONG BIRDS.

THE BILLING AND COOING SEASON IN THE FEATHERED KINGDOM. Grottesque Wooing of the Crane.—Aerial Lovemaking of the Bustard—Queer Nuptial Antics. Among a large class of animals the wooing season is one of merry-making and the performances are often in the highest degree grotesque. In some of the tribes of South America, the suitors must prove his right to acceptance by an exhibition of his strength before his fair one. He rushes to and fro, leaps high in the air, contorts his face, then rolls at her feet and awaits her decision.

FAIR CHARMER AND SWEET PITY.

Her silken gown it rustles And she goes down the stairs, And in all the place there's a glow And one-half, one-half so fair, But oh! I saw her yesterday— And no one knew 'twas she— When a little child looked up and smiled As she sat on my lady's knee.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

Hum, sweet hum—The beehive. Loud shoes—Those that squeak badly. News of the weak—The hospital reports. The latest thing out—Generally your match. The home stretch—A nap on the lounge. Two for a scent—A pair of blood-hounds.

HOW THE BRAKES WORK.

Said a railroad man one day: "I'll bet not one in a hundred of the people who travel on railroad trains understand how the pressure of air is used to apply the brakes to the train. When the air brake was first invented the air was turned into the cylinder under each car when the car was to be stopped, and the pressure was exerted to force the brakes up against the wheels. But at the present day the brakes are held against the wheels by springs, and the air is turned into the cylinder to push the brakes away from the wheels, so that air is in motion. When it is desired to stop the train the air is let out and the springs apply the brake and stop the train.

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HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

The color of the jelly is spoiled by boiling too long. Put very little lard in your bread if you wish it to be white. Never pat and smooth down mashed potato, as it makes it heavy. Do not fill the soup plate. A half-ladleful is generally enough. In putting the covers on fruit cans do not wait till the cans are cold. The nicest thing to scour knives, brass, tinware, etc., is sifted hard-wood ash. Sweet milk or cream is excellent for sunburns or chapped feet on the little boys. Egg shells crushed and shaken in glass bottles half filled with water, will clean them quickly.

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