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The war cloud in Europe is darkening again. Big railway companies are now the order of the day.

Mr. Gladstone is confident that the Church of England will be disestablished.

The Atlanta Constitution declares that the greatest man this country has produced had the advantage of starting poor.

Fred Douglass, the United States Minister to the Haytian Republic, says that the people of Hayti are black Frenchmen.

England is profiting to the amount of \$300,000,000 annually by the decline in the price of food products.

The people of England are said to be very enthusiastic over the marriage of the Prince of Wales's oldest daughter to an Englishman.

An English Admiral contends that all the big guns of over thirty tons are practically useless in action. Twenty rounds will finish them.

The firms who have been doing business in Philadelphia for 100 years and over have organized an association called the Centenary Firms of Philadelphia.

The duck is the China what the cockfish is to the rest of the world. They eat duck raw, cooked, boiled, fried, baked and every other way, and they worry over the duck crop the same as we do over wheat.

A census of horses is being taken in Paris in order to give the authorities some idea of the animals available for military purposes should need arise.

Misouri is down on trusts, according to the New York Voice. A law has been passed making it a crime to enter into or under standing to fix prices or restrict production.

R. P. McGregor, of Ohio, the deaf mute orator who made the address at the unveiling of the Gallaudet statue at Washington, was accompanied by a reader, and the effect of this simultaneous delivery was extremely striking.

The senior class, graduated from Harvard University this year, numbered 217 members. Five men were made Doctors of Veterinary Medicine and seventeen Doctors of Dentistry.

Noiseless powder is said to be finding favor with military authorities abroad. That will tend to make war much more generally popular, observes the Washington Star.

John K. Moore claims half of the city of San Francisco, or \$900,000,000. "No matter how just his claim may be," asserts the Atlanta Constitution.

During the Arthur and Cleveland administrations the room in the White House where Garfield spent long days of agony before he was carried to Elberon was kept closed and unoccupied.

Says the New York Commercial Advertiser: "The admission of colored men to the jury in the McDow murder trial at Charleston, S. C., is a fact worthy of note."

Strange to say, there are but two purely amateur athletic field sports which have become popular in this country. They are lacrosse and tennis.

Very queer advertisements are at times seen in the daily papers, and a perusal of the "want" ads. will show some interesting opinions on the value of labor.

A SONG OF THE ROAD.

Come, comrades, since the way is long Let's live it by tune and song.

Hurrah for lane and by-way, For distant path and high way.

Tis morning-break; the limbs are strong; Who dreams of crime and guilt and wrong?

Hurrah for lane and by-way, For distant path and high way.

Tis night and low; four thieves have robbed The weak ones here and left them robbed.

Hurrah for lane and by-way, For distant path and high way.

THE PATRIOT FUGITIVE.

Comely Mistress Sally Snydam sat on a low bench beneath the apple-tree in her back yard.

"I am over here on a mission in which it may be God's will that I shall lay down my life, and indeed, the chance for it is so great that I set all store by the boat that is moored in the bay near the mouth of this creek."

"I will never be taken alive," answered Robert, firmly.

"You are a brave man, and I do not doubt your intent, but we are all in the hands of God."

Robert feared to remain in the house, lest he might be surprised by a party of the British dragoons.

"How cotton is picked in the South. A prominent Georgia cotton planter, was seen the other evening alighting himself in the corridor of one of the uptown hotels."

"When does cotton picking begin?" "Not till the latter part of July, but it is just the time that the crop is maturing that we need the best weather."

"How is the picking done?" "Each hand is supplied with a big basket and a bag. The basket is left at the end of the cotton row, and the bag is suspended from the neck of the picker."

"How much cotton can a single hand pick in a day?" "The average picker can make from 250 to 300 pounds of seed cotton a day, but there are some colored people who have become so expert that they can get away beyond this amount."

"But it is not the nature of a colored man to exert himself, even with a prospect of making higher wages, and the majority of them are fond of 'sojering.'"

A Remarkable Cyclone. E. S. Wilson, a blacksmith of Ozark, Mo., has a relic of the Marshallfield cyclone, which occurred on Sunday, April 15, 1880.

The court of Pope Leo is said to comprise 1160 persons, nearly five hundred of whom bear the title of Chamberlain.

Abraham Lincoln was the tallest of the Presidents. His height was six feet four inches.

boat, and a powerful hand gripped the Captain's throat—gripped it with such ferocious energy that it cut off his breath.

"Lord, let death seize upon them, and let them go down quick into hell," ejaculated the pastor, in fervent quotation of the psalmist.

"Men are shot down like dogs by the sentries, who act under orders, excuse thereof being found in the slightest breach of discipline."

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MARVELS OF MECHANISM.

THE MECHANIC'S ART DISPLAYED IN INFINITESIMALS.

Some of the Wonders of the World Which Seem Almost Impossible—Marvels of Human Ingenuity.

The Nurembergers have always been famous for their many ingenious mechanical contrivances, but perhaps the most wonderful is a cherry-stone.

Machines for weight and measures have also been brought up almost to perfection. Sir W. Armstrong, the great gunmaker, had on exhibition in 1878 a machine for taking measurements that did its work so nicely that the millionth part of an inch could be ascertained with as much precision as an inch or a foot.

At the same exhibition one A. M. Oberlong showed a balance so nicely adjusted as to weigh accurately the one-thousandth part of a grain.

Oswaldus Northringens, an artist, who lived during the reign of Pope Paul V., about 1610, is said to have made 600 plates or dishes of pewter, which were of such diminutive proportions as to admit of the whole lot being hidden upon the inside of the stone of a common peach.

Drunkennes among army officers on frontier posts is a common thing, as the records of the service show. Privates are apt to have a hard time under such men.

There is need of further reform in that direction and also greater need of reforming the officers. They should be taught to understand that they are mortals and not a privileged class with whom privateers are not worthy to speak.

How Cotton is Picked in the South. A prominent Georgia cotton planter, was seen the other evening alighting himself in the corridor of one of the uptown hotels.

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HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

WHITENING IVORY-HANDLED KNIVES.

To restore the whiteness to ivory-handled knives, wash with soaped lather and lukewarm water; then wipe very dry.

TO CLEAN THE POTS. The natural color of iron is gray, and a little care will keep iron vessels this color.

CARPETS AND RUGS. The hygienic disadvantages of carpet-dust have been considerably overrated.

FRUITS INJURED BY BLEACHING. Bleaching dried fruits has become quite common, but no good reason can be given for the practice.

CREAMS. Creams are a delicious dessert for summer, being light and refreshing, and have the merit of being very easily prepared.

NEAPOLITAN CREAM—Make custard of a pint of rich milk, the yolks of seven eggs and an ounce of sugar.

COFFEE CREAM—Make a pint of rich custard; dissolve one ounce of gelatine and three ounces of sugar in a small cup of very strong coffee; add the custard and strain.

STRAWBERRY CREAM—Take a pint of ripe strawberries, put them on a sieve and cover with sugar; dissolve two ounces of gelatine; put three ounces of sugar and the juice of a lemon, and set on fire to heat.

ALMOND CREAM—Melt half an ounce of gelatine in a small tencup of boiling water, with half a tencup of sugar; grate four ounces of almond paste into it, and stir over a kettle of boiling water until dissolved.

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"HULLO."

"When you see a man in a way, Walk right up and say 'hullo!'"

Is he clothed in rags? O sho! Walk right up and say 'hullo!'"

Wen big vessels meet, they say, They saloot an' sail away.

Jokes on the sun are too far-fetched. How to remove weeds—Marry the widow.

Colleges try to honor men by degrees. Mail and Express.

The cucumber does its best fighting after it is down.—Siftings.

The photographer is nothing of an enigma, but he is a good deal of a poser.—Bazar.

Wealth and impecuniosity is a mere matter of cents and non cents.—Merchant Traveler.

The tree that George Washington cut was once a cherry. Now it is a chestnut.—New York News.

The section hand may not be much at reputation, but he is great at railway.—Merchant Traveler.

Some reporters become proficient in the giving as well as the taking of notes.—Merchant Traveler.

In Russian society the question "who is who," is always asked. It is always "vitch is vitch."—Bazar.

The Siamese Twins regretted all their days that they could never engage in a single skull race.—Siftings.

"How is it your Tommy is so small for his age, Mrs. Briggs?" "Oh, the little dear always was a shrinking child," exclaimed his mother.—New York Sun.

A Texas horseman, convicted of a capital crime, asked the Judge if he couldn't be hung in his own house, since he was always good on the home-stretch.—Siftings.

Tencher—"Sammie, how many bones are there in the human body; your father's, for instance?" Sammie—"One; he's the ossified man at the museum."—Bazar.

Mother—"Ella, you cannot marry him. He has no money." Ella—"Why, mother, I saw him give \$5 to a beggar!" Mother—"Probably an accomplice."—Doston Herald.

"Did you get that box of cigars I sent you?" inquired the fiancée. "Yes, dear." "And how did you like them?" "The box was very nice indeed," he said, softly.—Times-Democrat.

House Owner—"Have you any placards, 'This house to rent?'" Printer—"Yes, sir. Here are some patent-fibre, woven signs, warranted to wear for two years."—Omaha World.

Bride—"George, dear, when we reach town let us try to avoid leaving the impression that we are newly married." "All right, Ma'am; you can lug this valise."—New York Sun.

Cause and Effect.—"Mamma—"Why, Bobby, you are all over ink. Go and look at your face in the glass." Bobby (proudly)—"Course I am. We've had a winter lesson again this morn'g."—Pleek Me Up.

A Philadelphia freak offers to bet \$1000 that he can eat fifty eggs—including shells—in fifty seconds. The Horri-tors Herald bets him \$2000 that he can't, if he permits it to choose the eggs.—New York News.

Well Advised—"My wife is bound to set up housekeeping and has started me out househunting. I don't know whether to buy or rent—either is bad enough." "Well, of the two evils one should always choose the lessed."—Harper's Bazar.

Judge (to prisoner)—"So you were drunk and disorderly? What have you to say?" Prisoner—"I've a good deal to say, your honor, if you'll only give me time to say it." Judge—"Certainly, with pleasure. Sixty days will be enough, won't it? Our object is to please."—Washington Critic.

Miss Hightone (seeing Rollo, the new Scotch terrier, for the first time)—"Why, Sarah, what have you done with Duke, that lovely little pug?" Mrs. Llewellyn (lately a widow)—"Oh, I've given him away. I like Rollo much better; he reminds me so much of poor dear Alfred, who had such lovely blonde whiskers."—Drake's Magazine.