

RATES OF ADVERTISING. One Square, one inch, one insertion, \$ 1.00. One Square, one inch, one month, \$ 3.00.

The United States is the first nation in the world's history to have three cities of over a million each.

Vessel agents and mariners on the Great Lakes are urging the establishment of a branch hydrographic office on the lakes to look out for the vast maritime interests centered there.

The movement in favor of Roman instead of Gothic type is rapidly gaining ground in Germany, notes the Chicago Herald.

In the course of an interview with a representative of the Paris Bateau, on the opening up of African territory, Mr. Stanley declared that the center of Africa teemed with riches, which, however, could not be utilized before the construction of railways, but this construction would be easy.

Cotton production in the United States has increased 280 per cent. during the last twenty-five years, while the consumption of cotton products throughout the world increased only 117 per cent.

California has a law that is meant to prevent train wrecking, and it seems to be pretty effectual. It provides that any person who places dynamite or any obstruction on any railroad in the State, or does anything with the intention of wrecking any passenger, freight or other train, or attempts to rob a train, shall be guilty of felony, punishable with death.

Labouchere, editor of the London Truth, says in his article on "English Royalty," which he contributes to the Forum, that he does not think that the popularity of the Prince of Wales has permanently suffered from the bacarrat scandal.

Here's another exasperating development in the working of the Chinese exclusion act, discovered by the Chicago Herald. A Chinaman in jail in Tucson gave an explanation of the attempted exodus of Chinese from Mexico into the United States.

The growth of the Argentine Republic in the past thirty years has been remarkable. According to recent statistics the population of the republic is now 4,000,000, as against 1,350,000 in 1861.

Says the New York Mercury: The English exchanges are just now busily engaged in suggesting ways of making village life attractive and keeping rural young men and women at home.

Says the New York Herald: "Copies of the Government weather chart were issued yesterday to the Normal College, the College of the City of New York and to fifteen grammar schools, in order that pupils in the schools of this city should receive some general instructions in meteorology."

A RUSTIC BALLAD.

The pine-tree grow in the wood, Tapering, straight and high; Black-green against the sky, Crowded so close, it sought the bina, And ever upward it reached and grew.

And the Lord of the harvest heard, And he said: "I have use for all, For the bough that shelters a bird, For the beam that pillars a hall; And grow they tall or grow they ill, They grow but to wait their Master's will."

A LOST BABY.

"Well, good-by," said Aunt Jobson, "and come to see us soon. I've had a delightful visit. I bade good-by to grandpa, didn't I? Kiss the baby for me. My good man, that hamper is to go into the carriage. Fasten the padlock, and bring the key to me. Well, good-by again."

Now grandpapa sat reading his paper and no baby was to be seen. Mrs. Jones glanced backward and around; both resting places were empty. She fancied that she knew that one of the family had the child, and a little child ran up her back.

It was really a terrible thing that had happened to the Joneses, and if they temporarily lost their senses who can wonder at it? Meanwhile, quite unconscious of the trouble which had fallen her relatives so soon after her departure, Aunt Jobson was driven to the pier whence the boat she desired to take started daily.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

China is to have a silk-mill. Iron is to be made at Chattanooga by an electrical process. M. Flammarion, the French astronomer, declares that the climate of Europe is growing colder.

Recent researches show that persons having a tendency to gout improve more rapidly by abstaining from fruit. The largest steam hammer in the world is in this country. Its weight is 125 tons, and is used in forging armor plates for our navy.

A Parisian electrician has succeeded in forcing violets by the aid of his battery, and recently sent a bunch of these seedlings only four hours old to the Empress Eugenie. Peter Johnson, of Dassel, Minn., thinks he has discovered the long lost art of tempering copper.

As instances of longevity in birds while in a state of captivity, Nature reports the death of a European crane which had lived nearly forty-three years in the London Zoological Gardens. This is exceeded, however, by the case of a black parrot which died in 1884, after having lived fifty-four years in the Regent's Park.

The monthly bulletin of food and drug inspection of the Massachusetts State Board of Health shows that milk is now alarmingly poor in that State, being fifty-three per cent. below the standard. In 187 out of 298 cases milk dealers were found to have adulterated the product.

A Prussian engineer, it is said, has devised a new plan for building a submarine foundation, which, if it prove effective, will greatly simplify and cheapen one of the most troublesome and expensive engineering operations. His plan is to drive powdered cement by means of a powerful air blast into the mud, or sand at the bottom of the water.

The French are Thrifty. A chiffonier who carries on his curious occupation in the Montparnasse quarter yesterday found among a heap of refuse a small packet containing bonds payable to bearer to the amount of \$2000. Nothing was on the packet to indicate the owner, but the chiffonier is apparently a man of the strictest integrity, and he formulated inquiries in the quarter until he discovered the owner.

ODD LIFE IN GULF WEED.

The Great Gulf current, in its course northward along the Atlantic coast and around the great circuit that forms with its eddy the famous Sargasso Sea of marine grasses, carries along with it an endless stream of life in connection with the Gulf weed which floats upon it in "windrows."

The floating Gulf weed is literally crowded with life. One cannot pick up a piece that does not carry many shrimps or prawns of different kinds as passengers. There are crabs, too, small and bigger, which mostly imitate the grasses in their coloring.

There are lots of curious marine worms among the Gulf weed, such as the "sea centipedes," abundant in the West Indies which have long detachable bristles that sting the hand like nettles when the animal is incautiously grasped.

There are also many of the "sea slug" mollusks, some with shells, and others without any. Among the latter are the "sea slugs," resembling the garden slug, devourers of plants, which are true mollusks also.

A mineral discovery of unusual value is reported from Kamouraska, in lower Canada. It is stated that an entire mountain, composed of silicates, otherwise known as vitrifiable stone, of a purity certified by the provincial engineer to average ninety-eight per cent., has been found.

Until within a few years the cocoa exported from Brazil was obtained exclusively from wild trees in the forests, but recently its cultivation has been systematically begun. The farming of this product is very simple, involving no more work than is necessary to keep down the weeds.

A funny little story was heard on the street the other day. Two small children were standing on the sidewalk, one busily engaged in munching a rosy-checked apple, the other looking on with longing eyes. At length she could stand it no longer, and began: "Say, Mamma, gimme a bite."

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WISE WORDS.

You laugh at some people; others at you. A woman is spoiled after she becomes jealous. The apple you mustn't have always looks the sweetest.

Truth sometimes waits slowly. Falsehood takes long strides. People who have nothing to give are the only cheerful givers. A lie is one degree worse than the sin which it tries to conceal.

When trying to outwit others take care that you don't outwit yourself. We lose the peace of years when we hunt after the rapture of moments. Men philosophize with you in your distress, but it is the women who console.

The longer a man has been dead the less positive his friends are that he is with the angels. How much the men admire a woman who does not expect a man to be better than men can be. Many men pride themselves on being self-made. In some cases the workmen did not know their business.

When a man is near his ninetieth year, like a rattle, the fruit he is liable to fall from the tree of life at any moment. There are too many people in the church who won't march unless they can be at the head of the procession. When an honest man insures the house in which he lives, his insurance is a lottery in which he hopes to draw a blank.

The gathering of the crop generally begins about the second week in September. The bog is lined off into rows with twine, and the pickers, men, women and children of all ages, gather the berries from the vines, working along the bogs on their knees. Most of the berries are picked by hand, but a machine is sometimes used which scoops the berries from the vines.

The sparrows are on the limb of a tree near the fountain in City Hall Park the other noon and twittered. A dozen ragged newboys turned their attention to the lonely little bird. "Hully gee!" said one; "where's me shot. See me pick him now, Socky."

Unless one is actually brought into business relations with the great science of modern warfare, it is difficult to conceive of the terrible power of the latest and largest guns. These engines of destruction, weighing 110 tons, had a projectile of solid steel sixteen inches in diameter and nearly four feet long at a velocity of 2775 feet a second.

BEDTIME.

"Tis bedtime, say your hymn, and bid 'Good night.' 'God bless Mamma, Papa, and dear ones all.' Your half-shut eyes beneath your eye-lids fall.

The family tree cannot be depended on for food.—Indianapolis Journal. "Has he no aim in life?" "Oh, yes; but he's never had a shot at it."—Puck. Solomon was a great jurist, but he didn't believe in splitting hairs.—Epoch.

Denistars are not all farmers, but they live off the acres just the same.—Pittsburgh Dispatch. Hope builds a nest in man's heart where disappointment latches its brood.—Texas Siftings. I have been discovered that music comes out of a barrel organ in staves.—Washington Star.

Although a girl likes to own a man's love, she never likes to own her own.—New York Herald. It is said the Czar never shaves, but most people know he has had many a close shave.—Pittsburgh Post. When they say the bride's costume was a dream do they mean to imply that it was an illusion?—Boston Gazette.

"How's business?" asked one pick-pocket of another. "I manage to keep my hand in," was the reply.—Epoch. Some duties are best performed by deputy. When a man is bearing stocks, he doesn't like to carry them himself.—Puck. Woman uses powder as a defence against Time; but the old fellow isn't scared away by that kind of ammunition.—Puck.

Queer things happen sometimes. An Ohio man recently opened a jewelry store and got six years for doing so.—Cleveland Weekly. "Gunpowder blue" is a new color. The girl who meets her match dressed in that will be sure to go off.—New Orleans Picayune. Character is like the grand old cathedral bell. Reputation is the brass tinnabulum of the loud mouthed auctioneer.—Dallas News.

Purley—"By Jove! What a tall fellow Jones is." Dudley—"Don't see it, old man. He's always short when I meet him."—Boston Bulletin. The barber man that shaved my beard in looks seemed but a duncie; Yet must he be a wonderful man To work two chins at once.—Mercury. Turkey red is made from the madder plant, which grows in Hindostan. It is probable that the madder it gets the redder it becomes.—New Orleans Picayune.

It is proposed in all seriousness to preserve the dead by nickel plating. Should this custom prevail the most plebeian of posterity will be able to point with pride to their polished ancestors.—Mercury. Visitor (in Jones' room at 11 P. M.)—"That young lady in the house across the way sings like a bird." Jones (unkindly)—"Well, rot altogether. You see, a bird stops singing at night."—Detroit Free Press. Jones—"My dear, when I am dead and gone, I do hope you will not wrap yourself in crepes and other black things to show your grief." Mrs. Jelly—"That's just like you, forever darning up in all things, even as to my attire after you have ceased to trouble me."—Detroit Free Press. The following incident occurred in a Medford school: A class in grammar was reciting, and one of the younger boys was asked to compare "Sick." He began, thoughtfully, "Sick," paused while his brain struggled with the problem, then finished, triumphantly, "Sick, worse, dead."—Boston Traveller. Killian Van Rensselaer's house in Rensselaer County, opposite Albany, N. Y., is said to be the oldest inhabited dwelling house in the United States. It is of brick and has a gambrel roof. Two porches, out of which the early Van Rensselaers shot at Indians, pierce the front walls, and a little plate in the rear, set up by the Albany Commemorative Society, shows the edifice to have been erected in 1642.