

FOREST REPUBLICAN

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France receives about \$80,000,000 every year from the monopolies controlled by her Government.

Medical journals say that the young women of to-day are far better developed physically than the young women of 100, or even fifty, years ago.

Dr. Green's favorite illustration of the vastness of the Western Union Telegraph system, of which he is President, is to say that its wires would make a quadruple line to the moon.

Two hundred and fifty dollars have been offered by the Peace and Arbitration Association as a prize for the best model chapter on peace and war, suitable to be incorporated in elementary readers.

Among the various religious bodies belonging to the Evangelical Confession the greatest increase has taken place, according to the Chicago Herald, in the Presbyterian, Methodist and Quaker communities. These are from three to three and a half times stronger than in 1871.

The days of natural gas are numbered, announces the Boston Cultivator. The supply was greatest two years ago, and though new discoveries have been made since, some even of these have failed within that time. It may be used for a while for illuminating purposes, but it cannot be relied upon to furnish power for factories.

The New Jersey man who claims that he has an electric road over which cars may be run at the rate of two miles a minute has only to demonstrate the feasibility of his scheme, observes the San Francisco Chronicle, in order to gather in a fortune. What the traveling public wants now is speed, and the man who can annihilate distance may command an imperial fortune.

The Boston Transcript makes the alarming assertion that "an insect as dangerous as that which is generated in pork exists in raw sugar. It is called scarus sacchari, and is less than a hundredth of an inch long. Small as it is, it is capable of much mischief in the human body. It is never found in refined sugar, because it cannot pass through the charcoal filter, and if it could it would find no nitrogen or which to live. So do not eat raw sugar or pork."

In a recent magazine article on "Venerable Diet," the author makes the statement that there is an idea that cancer is caused by eating tainted meat—that is, animals brought a distance and being in an exhausted and almost dying condition before they are killed. The writer of the paper also asserts that vegetarians, as a rule, have unusually clear and beautiful complexions, which claim, if it could be substantiated, would probably have more influence, at least with women, than the first statement. Dread of disease does not seem to balance desire for a clear skin.

It is stated in one of the Swedish newspapers, as a comparison between American and European business methods, that a locomotive for one of railways of Sweden was needed in a hurry. It was found that in England or Sweden at least a year would be required for the filling of the order. It was therefore contracted for with the Baldwin locomotive shops, of Philadelphia, where it could be had in two months and a half at a cost of \$5940, delivered, a considerable reduction upon the European price. It is not that American locomotive works employ more men or for longer hours as a rule, the Chicago Graphic explains, but the most improved methods and machinery obtain, and there is closer application during working hours, and more intelligent labor, even in those portions of the work classed as "unskilled."

The collapse of the Panama Canal, the gigantic scheme of De Lesseps to connect the two oceans, seems near at hand. Its overwhelming financial troubles are pretty thoroughly well known the civilized world over, and now they have been supplemented by a serious dispute between the canal company and the Colombian Government. The company, in order to prevent merchants using its channel to carry their lumber and produce to the coast, placed a chain across. The Colombian Government, deeming this an interference with its industrial affairs, ordered the chain removed. Thereupon the company placed the chain across the canal itself. The Colombian Government, it is said, is now seriously considering whether it will not revoke the concession to the company on the ground that the latter has violated the terms of its contract by selling part of its machinery. What the outcome of the matter will be can only be surmised, but whether the concession be revoked or continued the fact remains that the canal scheme is the most colossal of failures.

HOPE.

Blithe portress at the gateways of the soul! Dear syzyphant, that dost so fondly cling To even our worst of sorrows! Bark whose wing Daintlessly voyages to illusion's goal, Heedless if to be shadow, if rock and shoal! White bird that carolst thine unwearied Trobles of song, like those by new-born spring Lured heavenward from some blossomed-tinted knoll!

SAVED BY A PARASOL.

BY OWEN HACKETT.

HAT scurf? You see only the end of it. Fortunately by wearing a high collar I can just conceal it; but it extends from the neck (close by the jugular vein, too, my boy!) down over the shoulder quite to the breast bone. A tiger did that—a royal Bengal—and a beauty he was, I tell you! You can see the skin any day in my married sister's sitting room. But it's a story quite worth telling and it has a funny side, too, that was thought quite worth repetition at the time in the English papers, though though they did not get at the inside facts of the adventure.

It was the period of the hot season stagnation when we were in the consular service at Madras, you know. The English society (including the few Americans there) were doing little else than sleep and yawn to pass the time. But everybody, the men especially, were galvanized into excitement when the news came in that a tiger had carried off first a woman and then a child during the previous week from a station about fifteen miles in the interior, at the foot of the mountains.

In half an hour a hunt had been agreed upon and servants were flying everywhere about the town to arrange the details and secure the accessories, such as teams and wagons, native porters and beaters; and in the cool of the evening fifteen or twenty gentlemen sportsmen were engaged in oiling gun locks, swabbing out rifle barrels and in preparing generally for the morrow's expedition. It was just dawn on the following morning when we started—a curious cavalcade of fifty or more, in which the white faces were largely in the minority. Some were on horseback, some in carts drawn by bullocks, which in that country were very different from what are known as such at home.

Here they use the small and slender gray zebu with its curious hump, and known to the menageries of the west as the "sacred bull of India" and said to be regarded with veneration in the East. There is little to tell of the hunting expedition. We arrived at the station about five or six miles, in which the white faces were largely in the minority. Some were on horseback, some in carts drawn by bullocks, which in that country were very different from what are known as such at home.

True, we bagged innumerable game both feathered and four footed, but of a kind that was only commonplace for Indian sportsmen. It was therefore with acute disappointment that we gave up on the second day all hope of our quest, and early on the following morning turned our faces homeward, calculating to arrive at Madras that afternoon. Of the party big Major Gallanton, of the Madras Fusilier stationed at Madras, seemed the most disappointed. As was this big hearted fellow's wont, he vented his chagrin in a great deal of blustering with his deep bass voice and used much expressive language, in a way calculated to impress a stranger with the belief that words and not deeds were the major's strong point. But in this regard Major Gallanton was an anomaly and a surprise. Loquacious first in times of peace and quiet, in the moment of responsibility or danger, had no word to utter except that of incisive command or wise direction—calm, silent and ready for any emergency. About a mile from Madras there was a little bungalow, commanding a view of the sea, which had become a sort of house of public entertainment, popular with the better class of residents as a resort for tiffins and such little excursions as we would call picnics. The surrounding groves and forests had been improved for a short distance until it was a sort of wild park, and on this little point of land was to be had the full benefit of whatever zephyrs might happen to be wafting over the bosom of the torrid Bay of Bengal.

The major, beside whom I was riding, perceptibly started at the sound and glanced at me. I in turn looked inquiringly at him. "Don't you recognize the voice?" he asked. "No, I can't say I do," I answered. "Surely none of mine host Singh's family have such a sweet trill!" "I should say not, decidedly!" assented the major. "But I must be wrong, if you don't recognize it—I thought it for all the world like Miss Bradford's voice." "I could not help looking quickly and keenly at the major; Miss Bradford was my sister, and the major had certainly been very attentive to her during the few months of their acquaintance. If he could recognize her voice in an Indian jungle when her brother failed to do so, there must be something serious on the carpet.

I therefore had a peculiar interest in the developments of the next few moments. "It is positively cruel of you!" said another and a petulant voice. "You make no allowance for my extremely sensitive organization. But I simply cannot go back over that road—the mere thought of it is killing! Hark! don't you hear something creeping out from the grove?" and there arose a shrill scream which became hysterical as it seemed to diminish, as if the feminine speaker had flown into the cottage. She had doubtless heard us breaking through the thicket; and in an instant the head of our cavalcade came in full view of the place, and there, sitting calmly on a seat before the door under the overhanging boughs, and looking expectantly but undismayed towards us—was my sister!

"You here!" I exclaimed, really surprised. "And Miss Blithedale, too; I need not ask that," I said, glancing at an open parasol of flaming cherry that lay a few feet away on the ground where the fair and nervous owner had dropped it in her flight. That parasol! In defiance of all the scientists from Ben Franklin down, Miss Blithedale must needs import from the west a sunshade of the color which above all others reflected least the rays of that very orb. This she impudently carried, a shining mark for derisive jokes, or, perhaps, as an incentive to well-born suburban bachelors in the arena of love, she the matron and the motherly one.

"How penetrating you are!" was my sister's ironical reply. "Major, you are just in time. Miss Blithedale has just declared that she will not return to town without the escort of the whole garrison—or of Major Gallanton, perhaps." The major looked almost pained at this allusion to the dead set that Miss Blithedale had been making at him to every one's amusement. "And so," my sister continued briskly, "you have had all your hunt for nothing! The royal quarry seems to know something about that movement and strategy as well as your own gallant selves." "Really, I don't understand, Miss Bradford," said the puzzled soldier. "What is all this about escorts and flank movements! Ah, Miss Blithedale, as that lady appeared, apparently nervous again to a welcome encounter with the major; 'this is a most charming coincidence. But, explain, please, Miss Bradford.'"

Then my sister narrated as follows: The two ladies in question bore to death at the absence of the only object of interest—the man—had decided on a little expedition of their own. They had hired one of the "native" jaunting cars," as we call them, with its zebu team and native driver, and stowing a luncheon hamper in the "boot" had driven out before the noonday heat for the "park." Already in sight of the grove they had been horrified to see the sudden appearance of a tiger, who stepped out from the undergrowth beside the road, disclosing his superb proportions and brilliant coloring as he first gazed curiously toward them and then lowered his head and began to stalk after them in long strides. Miss Blithedale uttered a terrific shriek; the driver, turning, saw the beast and, wild with fear, first whipped up his bullocks and then incontinently fled into the jungle.

Meanwhile, in the same moments, my sister had been equally appalled. But Belle, is a girl of pretty strong nerves, as you may know, and though white with fear, she uttered no cry, but silently if wildly looked around for a weapon. There was none, of course—but stay! the cherry parasol! She snatched it from the nervous hands of her companion, opened it with a vicious snap and thrust it sheer into the face of the beast, who was not a few feet away. At the same time she fixed her eyes, from sudden faintness, at recovering instantly she looked up—and—she was gone! She could just see the tail disappearing rapidly as it crawled among the leaves in dire flight. Without an instant's hesitation my sister sprang to the "box," whipped up the slow bullocks, drove the few rods to the bungalow with Miss Blithedale clinging to her and alternately moaning and screaming, as we learned in private. That was five hours before; Miss Blithedale had absolutely refused to return with the cowardly native driver who had arrived before them, and my sister had laughingly vowed that, in that case she would go back alone, asking no better protection than the cherry parasol. "You have revolutionized the tiger hunt for the future, Miss Bradford," said the major, with his eyes full of admiration at the tale which my sister told so lightly and laughingly as to rob it of any trace of egotism. "Hereafter we may expect to see long lines of beaters file through the jungle armed with red umbrellas, and flaming cotton stockings about the villages."

We had been hunting, if for no other reason than to turn the joke against ourselves, the empty handed Nimrods. We started back to town and jokingly made a great show of surrounding the car as a protection on every side. But it turned out to be no joke. When half way back the major and myself riding beside the car) there arose affrighted cries ahead, and the leaders of the cavalcade came tumbling back upon us in the wildest fear. The major and I dashed to the front. There, in the middle of the road, stood his kinship, glaring at the procession with blazing eyes. We flung ourselves from our horses, unslung our rifles and—He had been creeping slowly toward us; now, he sprang at me just as the major's rifle cracked.

The bullet could not stop his advance. I felt a terrific shock as the tiger fell at my feet with outstretched claws. One paw dug into my neck as he descended, and tore down over my breast deep through the clothing and into the flesh, pulling me down with terrific force upon his own body. I sprang to my feet and saw that he lay dead. The major's shot, true to the mark between the eyes, had caught him in mid air. As he lay there the type of ferocious beauty and brute power we all marveled at that such a magnificent beast should have been frightened off by a mere parasol, even though it flamed like the fires of Etna. We were met at the edge of the town by a piece of news that went far to explain this improbability. He had satisfied his hunger on a low caste Brahmin only an hour previous to the road side encounter with the ladies.

The major claimed the skin, and no one thought of denying it to him. But he only wanted it to present to Belle, and as they were married the following year, he got it back again. My sister, however, backed by all her friends, made a demand on Miss Blithedale for the cherry parasol, and she has it yet, as her peculiar trophy. Indeed, Miss B. was quite resigned to parting with it, as she at the same time procured a substitute in a gay scarlet jacket that covered the noble form of Lieutenant the Honorable Algeron Binks, H. M. 97th Fusiliers.—The Argosy.

Sweating of Coins. The Mongolian electricians of California have, according to the Engineering Magazine, developed the art of coin clipping by means of electricity. A consignment of \$60,000 in gold eagles was recently sent to a New York bank from California, which on examination, was found to contain twenty light weight coins bearing the date of 1891. These were apparently new and bright, but on being examined with the lens, showed the surfaces were covered with infinitesimal pores. About a dollar's worth of gold had been extracted from each eagle by electrolysis, and it is to be noted that this offense can hardly be reached by law, even if the offenders were caught, as the law only reaches cases where the operation is performed with fraudulent intent. This would in any case be a difficult thing to prove.

We do not know what has led our contemporary to the conclusion that the deficiency in weight of the coins in question was caused by electrolytic action. It seems more probable that it was caused by the much simpler and more available method of solution in aqua regia, which is a process well known, and alas, too often practiced. This method of extraction of a portion of the metal from coins is termed "sweating." The Engineering Magazine is certainly in error when it states that this offense can hardly be reached by law, even if the offenders were caught, as the law only reaches cases where the operation is proved to have been performed with fraudulent intent. The fact is, that the debasing of a coin by clipping from it, rolling it out, melting it up, or otherwise rendering it unfit as a coin for circulation, is an offense against the United States laws. In many cases there could be no intention to defraud, as in the case of melting up or rolling out of coins, in order to use the metal for other purposes, still, the person convicted of such practice would be amenable to the law although not liable to the same penalty as one who abstracted from the weight with the intention of passing the coin thereafter at its original face value.—Electricity, New York.

Some Curious Lobsters. Visitors to Portland Pier, Me., who happened one day not long since to drop into the lobster house of Mr. Lewis McDonald were favored with a view of a bright blue lobster which was caught off Cape Elizabeth by a Peak's Island fisherman. The color was decidedly different from the green of the ordinary lobster. On the back the blue was of that deep variety that belongs to indigo, and toward the extremities and under parts shaded off to a fainter but still unmistakable tint, and thence into a pure white. The under part of one of the claws is almost a pure white. The lobster is about eleven inches long. One claw is of full size, while the other is very small. It is said that one other blue lobster has been caught in the same season. Mr. McDonald thinks of preserving the specimen. He has also a pure white lobster caught about five years ago and preserved in alcohol. Mr. McDonald thinks it is the only one ever caught. Some of those who viewed the blue lobster recalled other queer lobsters that he has seen in Portland. Not long ago W. S. Trevelyan had a lobster that was half green and half red. A straight, perfectly distinct line ran from head to tail along the back of the crustacean. Upon one side of the line the color was a vivid green and upon the other a bright red. The lobster was sent to Professor Spencer Baird, and is now in the Smithsonian.—Scientific American.

SEEDS FOR THE FARMERS.

THEIR DISTRIBUTION BY THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Collecting and Testing Seeds—A Large Force Employed in Their Distribution—Much Good Done. THE Seed Division of the Agricultural Department, at Washington, annually distributes several million packages of flower, vegetable and tree seeds. John Quincy Adams inaugurated the system when he requested the consuls of the United States to procure and forward to the State Department all such seeds as plants as they thought could be cultivated successfully in their own country. It is only recently, however, that systematic efforts have been made to collect valuable seeds from all parts of the world by the United States Agricultural Department, and to distribute them generally throughout the different States.

To-day the Agricultural Department is of great importance to the country, and its effective work in experimenting with farm crops and issuing valuable scientific bulletins, cannot be over estimated by the farming classes of the Nation. The Seed Division sends out annual reports as to what seed are of the greatest value in certain sections, and then it supplements this advisory work by supplying the farmers with great quantities of pure seeds such as are recommended by their bulletins. The collection of these tons of seeds is interesting. In special cases the Government has its own seed farms, where certain varieties are cultivated and gathered with great care; but the vast majority are purchased by special contract from large seed growers. Responsible seed growers give a guarantee that their seed will reach a certain standard of purity, vitality and cleanness, and the Department reserves the right to reject them if they do not stand the Government test.

The seeds are tested in a patent seed tester first, and then in a propagating box, and finally by the botanist of the Seed Division. If ninety per cent. of them germinate they are accepted as worthy of distribution, and in certain cases of rare plants they simply have to approximate from seventy-five to eighty-five per cent. The Government agents visit the various seed farms in the country, and if their work appears favorable they are allowed to offer a bid for certain quantities of seeds which appear to thrive very well in the farms.

Congress annually appropriates a sufficient sum for the purchasing and distribution of these seeds. The first real appropriation for this work was in 1839, and amounted only to \$1000, which was to be taken from the Patent Office fund. This sum was gradually increased each year until 1851, when it reached \$35,000 a year, but to-day it is \$100,000, which is by no means too much. The distribution of the seeds has always been a matter of difficulty, and with every Administration the question has been brought up for discussion. The method adopted to-day is a somewhat complicated one, but it appears to give satisfaction. The seeds are distributed through Senators and Members of Congress, experiment stations and agricultural colleges of the different States, county and State statistical agents, agricultural societies, and to miscellaneous applicants. Through these various agencies about five million packages of seeds are distributed to the farmers in all parts of the country.

The seeds are sent through the post-office free, and the average weight for the past few years distributed through the mail department has been 200 tons. A force of about 100 men has been required to pack and mail the seeds that have been sent out in this way. The value of the Seed Division is apparent on every side. Nearly all plants that can possibly be grown in this country have been introduced from abroad, and the Government has taken special pains to collect, not only the finest specimens of the seeds but the latest and most trustworthy accounts of their cultivation. From Japan, China, Persia and South America rare and little known fruits have been brought here and are now being cultivated successfully in Florida and California. Our hot-houses and floral establishments are full of rare plants that have never seen upon this continent ten or fifteen years ago. But the good accomplished has not halted in any department. The wheat, corn and vegetable products have been enhanced through the efforts of the Government. Superior varieties of all of these plants have been recommended and distributed by the Government for certain sections of the land and the yield per acre has been increased nearly one-fifth in many States.

We are pre-eminently a land of farmers. Our chief industry is farming, and the co-operation of the Government in forwarding the interests of this work has been a successful experiment. Every spring and summer the seeds of superior merit are planted by the farmers all over the country, and their successful crops prove the efficiency of science and intelligence in farming.—New York Independent.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

A child three years old is half the height it will ever reach. The medusa is a fish so fragile that when washed on the beach it melts and disappears. A tropical moth, called the atlas moth, has a wing spread of one foot. It is gray in color and flies by night. An electrical brush has been invented to kill grass and weeds along the track. It destroys every blade of grass it touches. Carbon is so good a conductor of electricity that, in the form of coke, it is used to make an earth connection for lightning rods. Experiments toward rust prevention are being made in all the Australian colonies, and a conference was held in Adelaide, in March, to report results. There are most beautiful butterflies in the Malay archipelago, of an exquisite blue and other iridescent hues, which measure eight inches from wing tip to wing tip. The "horn" of the rhinoceros is simply a hypertrophied bunch of hair, the horns of lizards and of cattle are morphologically hypertrophied portions of the skin. When ripe, the banana consists of seventy-four per cent. of water, twenty per cent. of sugar, two per cent. of gluten, and the remainder of mineral matter and woody fiber. Every portion of soapstone lost in cutting is utilized in other ways. It gives the dull color to rubber goods, is used in paper to gain weight, and is an excellent article to use in making fire-proof paints.

A remarkable case is that of a man who was stabbed in the heart. That organ was punctured, but yet he lived, and would have recovered had he not become intoxicated before the wound entirely healed. Experiments in Germany show that peat is a good material in which to store potatoes, turnips, onions and other similar vegetables. Potatoes, after eight months, were found in perfect condition without ever having germinated. Several of the higher apes share with man the involuntary habit of blushing. Indeed, they seem to possess it to a higher degree than we do, for the blush of an ape extends over a larger portion of the body than that of a human being. It is claimed by scientists that all the lime in the world has, at some time, been a portion of some animal. The same atom of lime has some time, no doubt, been a portion of many different animals, and possibly of human beings also.

Hellgoland is to be made a harbor of refuge for fishing vessels, and is being fortified heavily. The island is to be a scientific station, the German Government having erected laboratories there for the study of marine zoology, and especially of the economic history of food fishes. The perpendicularity of a monument is, although few may be aware of it, visibly affected by the rays of the sun. On every sunny day a tall monument has a regular swing, leaning away from the sun. This phenomenon is due to the greater expansion of the side on which the rays of the sun fall. In Germany, barrels and tubs are now being made in a single piece by a new system of cutting logs into boards and veneers. The log is steamed and softened, then placed in a machine and rotated against a knife which shaves off a continuous veneer, or board, till the log is consumed. In making barrels, a strip is notched in each edge, and then it can be rolled into cylindrical form, ready for hoops and heads.

Speed of the Pulse. The rate of pulsation depends entirely on the movements of the heart, each representing a contraction of the left ventricle. The normal pulse of the adult male varies from sixty to eighty beats in the minute; the range of individual variation is, however, very great. The range in females is even greater, some having a pulse rate of over eighty, others less than sixty, the majority showing a higher rate than male. In children the rate is more frequent: At birth, 128 to 144; first year, 120 to 130; at sixteen years, ninety. In old age the pulse is usually above seventy-two, but often also between fifty and sixty. The pulse rate is higher in short than tall persons, and also varies somewhat with the time of day, independent of meals and movement—diminishing in the forenoon, rising in the afternoon, sinking during the night and rising in the morning. Habitual pulse rates below fifty-six and as low as forty-six have been observed in healthy adults, but they are rare exceptions. We know of no case on record of a healthy pulse so low as thirty.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Sail Ships Not Out of Date. From the returns compiled by Lloyd's Register of Shipping, it appears that in the year 1891 there were launched in the United Kingdom 641 steamers of 878,253 tons, and 181 sailing vessels of 236,463 tons, or a total of 822 vessels of 1,130,816 tons. These figures do not include warships. Contrary to the more or less general opinion in this country that steamships are destined to completely supersede sailing vessels, the returns show that the number of sailing vessels built, as compared to the number propelled by steam, is relatively increasing year by year, and during the present year it is thought that the increase will be still more pronounced. In December, 1889, ten per cent. only of the vessels under construction in the United Kingdom were "sailing;" in 1891, fifteen per cent., and in 1891, no less than twenty-five per cent. This shows that the building of steamships for the merchant service has simply been overdone, and that there is still a demand for the slower and cheaper sailing vessels.—Boston Advertiser.

Hydrophobia Cured. An experiment, successfully tried by Professor Murri, of Milan, at the Institution for the Cure of Hydrophobia, has awakened the liveliest interest in medical circles in Europe. A man who had been bitten by a dog, and had undergone the Pasteur treatment, was, nevertheless, attacked with hydrophobia. Paralysis had already set in from the waist downwards, and his life was despaired of, when Professor Murri thought of making subcutaneous injections of the virus in its fixed form. Little by little all the serious symptoms disappeared, and the man is now cured.—Pisayane.

LOVES HORIZON.

The sky is like a woman's love, The ocean like a man's; Oh, neither knows, below, above, The measure that it spans! The ocean tumbles wild and free, And rages round the world; On reef and wreck eternally Its ruthless waves are hurled. Its sky has many a gloomy cloud And many a rainy day! Sometimes the storms are long and loud, With wind and lightning-flash, But ever somewhere, fair and sweet, Low stoops the adoring blue, Where ocean heavenward leaps to greet The sky so soft and true. They meet and blend all round the rim; Oh, who can half divine What cups of fervid rapture brim On the horizon lie! The sky is like a woman's love, The ocean like a man's; And neither dreams, below, above, The measure that it spans. —Maurice Thompson, in the Century.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

A fresh skin—The latest confidence game. Beats the world—The impecunious tramp. A woman's will always has a lot of colic to it. Among the goods that "won't wash" is the article known as the small boy.—Truth. Wrinkles on the brow are time's endorsement of the note for borrowed trouble.—Puck. The wonderful check of man sometimes covers three or four aches.—Galveston News. The bundle on the end of a stick is a pretty sure sign of the man who has lost his grip.—Puck. No man is great enough to veto a millinery bill after his wife has O. K.'d it.—Galveston News. Armies are frequently put to flight. Perhaps that is what they have wings for.—Boston Transcript. The new monthly magazine, Good Roads, seems to be on the highway to success.—Boston Herald.

Make friends with your creditors, if you can, but never make a creditor of your friend.—Texas Sittings. Terse: Muldoon—"Oh, I say, old man, how are you financially?" Nablosky—"Awful."—Indianapolis Journal. The world is full of men who have things they want to sell for less than they paid for them.—Athenian Globe. The person who is afflicted with kleptomaniac always feels that he "ought to take something for it."—Washington Star. Pedestrian—"How is it that this street is so much dirtier than the other?" Cop—"The women never walk here."—New York Sun. Hicks—"Digby is a great man to stick to his opinion." Wicks—"And yet he gives it to everybody he meets."—Boston Transcript. "Mrs. Primus is exceedingly neat." "Yes. If she could have the earth she wouldn't take it because it would be impossible to keep it clean."—Washington Star.

Make up your mind to be more charitable for people, and the man you hate most will come in while you are planning where to commence.—Acheson Globe. Jerseyman—"I want to buy a brush." Drug Clerk—"Tooth brush?" Jerseyman—"Now! What would I want a tooth brush for? There ain't no hair on my teeth."—New York News. "Oh, spare me, dear angel, one lock of your hair," a bashful young lover took courage and sighed. "There is a sin to reward so much prayer, so take the whole wig," the sweet creature replied. —Tit Bit. A Boston cynic asks in the Transcript: "What is love?" And this is his frivolous answer: "Two heads with but a single thought, two fools that act like one." Bless their hearts, anyhow.—Buffalo Commercial.

Judge—"What extenuating circumstances can you give?" Counter-iter—"Please your honor, I made the money to pay my board bill." Judge—"Very good; it will pay your board and lodgings for fifteen years."—Princeton Tiger. Railway Director—"We have divided up the work so that each of the directors has a fair share to do. Higginson is Secretary, I am Treasurer, and Prout is my Friend."—"Why, Prout is so deaf that he can't hear himself. What does he do?" Railway Director—"Oh, all the complaints are referred to him." "Several of the leading parishioners have complained to me," said the pastor as he wiped his glasses, "of the lameness of the dresses worn by some of the young ladies of the congregation, but I have refused to interfere in the matter, as I am so deaf that they cause me no annoyance."—Brooklyn Eagle. Insurance Agent—"I came to call your attention to the fact that your policy expires to-day and beg you to renew it." Economist—"Very sorry, but this is the tenth year that I have insured in your company and nothing has happened, so I have made up my mind to try another company."—Pittsburgh Courier. The results of the great Japanese earthquake in Gifu-ken, where the damage was greatest, are thus officially summarized: 4889 deaths, 12,314 persons wounded, 44,203 dwelling houses completely and 21,078 partially demolished, 23,379 damaged, and 1159 burned after collapse, in addition to 1744 other buildings demolished or damaged.

The combined debts of all the Nations in the world amount to more than \$30,000,000,000.