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Even little Belgium spends every year \$9,000,000 on her army.

Ohio produces fully one-half of the total quantity of iron and steel roofing sold in the United States.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat states that the house property of Australia is more valuable, compared with population, than in Europe.

"It is somewhat of a joke," thinks the Chicago Times, "for bankrupt Spain to talk of building a navy big and powerful enough to stand any show besides those of England or Russia."

The total value of the crops of the United States during 1892 is estimated at \$3,000,000,000, of which the largest item is \$750,000,000 worth of hay.

A consignment of about thirty stallions, broodmares and some trotters for road and campaigning have just been sent abroad, notes the New York World.

Owing to the ruthless manner in which orchid hunters and other Europeans have devastated the fauna and flora of the domains of Sarawak, Rajah Brooke has decided to prohibit the collecting of natural history specimens within his territories.

Sixty per cent. of the Hungarians, more than half of the Italians, thirty-five per cent. of the Austrians and Bohemians, twenty per cent. of the British, eighteen per cent. of the Germans, forty per cent. of the Irish and ten per cent. of the Scandinavians who came to the United States between 1850 and 1890 returned to their native lands in the decade.

In spite of the substantial nature of the buildings of London fires in the great metropolis are not infrequent, observes the San Francisco Chronicle.

The early and deep snows in the mountains of the Northwest are causing a wholesale slaughter of deer. The animals, compelled to leave the hills, are the easiest kind of prey for the sportsman, the pot-hunter and the wanton slaughterer.

A French engineer named Bozin comes to the fore with a scheme for a steamship on rollers or drums. These rollers are to be supplied with paddles, or creepers, and driven by engines, so that the craft will progress more like a street roller or a locomotive than an ordinary ship.

SERVICE AND SONG.

"I am worn with work and watching; My home is humble and lone; Why lift up my voice in singing For no human heart but my own?"

SAVED BY A SNOWSLIDE.

ADDLE-HOSS Pete's record in the mining-camps of the San Juan District was as unsavory as his crouching form was unattractive.

His brain was quick though his physical movements were slow, and he was strong as a bear. His record was that of a tin-lorn gambler and all-round thief.

Nine-tenths of the population had departed before the first storm had come, as was the custom in new camps in the early days before the railroads had broadened the trails and opened the passes through the Rocky Mountains.

Parson Tom knew not how long he had lain there, and, despite the warmer temperature, he was numb with cold when he crawled into his cabin.

Rebuilding the fire, the parson sat down and tried to think—tried to think where he had heard that voice before it demanded his money.

"He plays it pretty," sneered Big Frank; "that's a party good make-up ye've got on yer face. Ye'd ought ter be a performer. There'll be chance fer ye when the variety show opens up in the spring."

Parson Tom stood as still as death. He could not speak. "An' there's another thing ye've got ter prove," continued Bill, as he saw the parson would not reply.

He had been born without speech, while Paymaster Bill demanded that he prove his innocence, and the crowd, led on by Big Frank, sneered at and reviled the accused.

"Gentlemen, I see no hope of establishing my innocence; but still maintain it. That nugget of gold must have been dropped by the robber in our struggle in the cabin. If I could recall the voice I should convince you. It was none of you who did the deed, but one who has once lived here among you, though I can not tell his name.

"The parson has lied," coolly reminded Big Frank, whose faith in the preacher sort had never been strong. "He's an ungrateful robber," Paymaster Bill added.

Quickly the preparations for the execution were made. Two barrels, each of which supported an end of a broad plank, placed under the stanch limb of a great tree, formed the scaffold.

Under the Tibetan system of polyandry, as observed by Mrs. Bishop (Isabella Bird), the eldest son alone of the family marries, and the wife accepts the brothers of her husband as secondary spouses.

"The crowd waited almost breathlessly. 'Quick!' shouted Big Frank, who was leader. 'Saddle—Horse—Pete!' almost shouted the parson.

"Get back at me. Ain't that what you did? I hadn't hardly got inside the door when I heard you say: 'And now chief rebel against the government of heaven. And then you went on describing my character, and putting all failings in the worst light you possibly could. You didn't mention no names, but I knew who you was driving at, and I must say, Elder, that I didn't like the way of—'

It is often remarked that an unaccustomed traveler can get on pretty well if he will keep his eyes and ears open. A native of Ireland landed at Greenock and wanted to take the train for Glasgow.

Swift as a meteor it came, and, like the bursting of a thunderbolt, had spent its wrath; and its dreadful harvest lay scattered far and wide, like dead and wounded soldiers on a battlefield.

Two hundred and eighteen thousand tons of phosphate have been mined in South Carolina during 1893.

A deposit of iron ore has been discovered near Chipman, New Brunswick. Specimens are now being tested with a view to working mines.

The highest pressure used to drive a water wheel is claimed by a valley near Grenoble, France, where a turbine ten feet in diameter has been operated since 1875 with a head of 1638 feet.

Thousands of photographs of lightning have been secured during the last few years, but until last month there was no known record, made in this way, of the globular form of lightning.

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ODD LAPSE OF MEMORY.

CASE OF A FARMER WHO THINKS WITH ONE BRAIN HEMISPHERE.

A MOST remarkable medical case has originated at Keokuk, Iowa, which is giving physicians something to study about. It is what some surgeons call Jacksonian epilepsy.

Formerly the machinery was worked by steam; but electricity has been used, with a trolley system, for the last two months on the Bourgogne Canal.

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VIRTUE.

Sweet day—no cool, no calm, so bright The trial of the earth and sky; The dew shall weep thy fall to-night, For thou must die!

When a real-estate agent begins to go down hill he loses ground very fast.—Texas Siftings.

A man can talk himself out of a job easier than he can talk himself into one.—Atchison Globe.

When told that he was in a hospital his amazement was something surprising. He wanted to know how he got there, why he was there, and in reply to the explanations of the attendant seemed more dumfounded than ever.

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HUMOR OF THE DAY.

Fest colors.—The regimental flag in a cavalry charge.—Lowell Courier.

A small soul has plenty of elbow room in a narrow-minded man.—Texas Siftings.

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