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California has just adopted the golden poppy as the State flower.

On the Belgian State railways fares are lower than anywhere else in Europe.

Seventy-five per cent. of the enlistments in the regular army last year were of Americans.

Something like a boom is reported in the gold region in the North Carolina foothills. The field is like that of Georgia's.

Lord Roseberry thinks that the "new Eastern question" is one of the gravest that England has ever been called to consider.

Professor Frank Parsons asserts that in New York City it costs a man from \$30 to \$100 a year for the same amount of transportation he gets in Berlin for \$4.50.

Cleveland, Ohio, the city of bridges, is to have the first bridge operated by electricity and compressed air. The bridge will be poised on huge stone piers, and give a clear channel over the river of 115 feet.

A league has been formed in France to assert the rights of pedestrians against bicyclists. The members agree never to get out of the way of a bicycle; they think that in case of collision the cyclist is sure to get the worst of it.

A girl baby was born at Kokomo, Ind., the other day who is the fourteenth daughter of a fourteenth daughter, a record which is thought to be unprecedented. The New Orleans Picayune maintains that she ought to be a witch, if there is any truth in tradition.

The big statue of William Penn which surmounts the tower of the Philadelphia City Hall faces the old Penn Treaty Park. This displeases the citizens who get only a rear or profile view of the statue. So, to please everybody, J. Chester Wilson has proposed to put the statue on a revolving pedestal, which will be turned around once every twenty-four hours by means of clockwork.

The Popular Health Magazine observes: "The desire in a child for candy and sweets is a natural one and should not be stifled. Good candy and sweets in moderation, if that point can be found, not only do no harm, but are actually beneficial. Too much sweet upsets the stomach and spoils the appetite, but candy in moderation if it is not taken before a meal is a food which children crave naturally."

The hansom cab will, in the opinion of members of the cab fraternity, eventually give place to the bicycle, except that in this case the bicycle is to be a tricycle, states the Chicago Times-Herald. The vehicle will have two seats, one for the driver and one for the passenger. This will save the expense of keeping a horse and give the cabman needed exercise. It is conceivable that two sets of pedals might be provided and reduced rates given to sturdy passengers who would help push themselves.

One of the strangest coffins ever told of is that for which the British War Department is said to be responsible. The story is that a workman engaged in casting metal for the manufacture of ordnance at the Woolwich Arsenal lost his balance and fell into a caldron containing twelve tons of molten steel. The metal was at white heat, and the man was utterly consumed in less time than it takes to tell of it. The War Department authorities held a conference and decided not to profane the dead by using the metal in the manufacture of ordnance, and that mass of metal was actually buried and a Church of England clergyman read the service for the dead over it.

Exit Sir Philip Francis in the role of "Junius," exclaims the New York Independent. Mr. W. Fraser Rae, in a letter to the Athenaeum, introduces new and convincing evidence that Francis could not have been the author of the "Letters of Junius," as he has discovered in the London Morning Chronicle of August 23, 1774, a hitherto unnoticed letter of Junius, published nearly five months after Sir Philip had sailed for India, and referring to current political events which he could not have known. There is concurrent testimony of several leading statesmen of the time that they knew who Junius was, and that it was not Sir Philip Francis. His vanity, however, encouraged people to attribute the letters to him.

MABEL ON THE FOURTH.

"You light two crackers thus," she said. "That's yours, and I'll take this, and now, if you should go off first, why, you can claim a kiss."

A FRESH AIR FOURTH.

It was during the hottest hour of the hottest day this far of the season that a small boy presented himself at the office of the Secretary of the Fresh Air Fund Society. He seemed weak, as if ill from the intense heat.



"A REGULAR PICNIC."

The Secretary answered that nobody wanted boys yet. This boy limped in and out on a crutch, for one of his legs hung withered and useless, but his limb was briek despite the heat and his evident weariness. But he stopped when out hearing, and one hand slipped furiously up and dashed a tear or two away.

Willingness to entertain a girl or boy for a week. The society paid for the transportation of the children to and from the country. "It's a good notion," commented Mr. Joplin.

facod, skippy little fellows—but even face ashine with eagerness. While Mr. Hallett had been issuing the invitations the giver of the potlatch had been equally busy. He had strode hither and thither, made purchases and sent telegrams.

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS. Knew When to Keep Silent—No Dissembling—Only One Way—More Deadly—Sarcastic, etc., etc.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

German sanitarians have pronounced against American dried apples. The latest achievement in photography is taking a picture 500 feet under water.

LOVE.

Love makes the path of duty sweet With roses of the May. Though winter rains around it beat And winter winds are gray.