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Germany is now the best educated Nation of the continent.

South Carolina has passed the most stringent vagrant dog law of any State in the Union.

A Boston dealer says that there is more steel used in the manufacture of pens than in all the sword and gun factories of the world.

Civilization is hurrying Alaskward with long strides. There is a great rush this year to the practically unknown region about Cook's Inlet, in the far North.

It is said in Toronto that the burning issue at the next Canadian election will be independence of England.

England is to try her hand again at the conquest of the Sudan, despite the unfavorable issue of modern attempts by European Nations to conquer the so-called savage tribes which still control so large a part of the African continent.

It would seem to the New York Sun that there is little further conquest possible for the bicycle when it supplants the horse in the esteem of the red man.

The Baptist ministers of New York have determined that they will not undertake to dictate the vote of their congregations by advising them whom to vote for.

An agitation has been started by a number of scientists urging the appointment of a permanent director-in-chief of the scientific bureaus and investigations conducted under the charge of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The New York Tribune says: "Japan is buying her steel rails at the Pennsylvania mills, finding them cheaper than in England, and of a better quality."

London leads the list of cities in its number of women who are either domestic or skilled workers.

American beef in England may now score full recognition of its excellent merits from consumers as well as dealers.

The Speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives and the President of the Senate call the clerk "clerk."

While so many scientific persons are trying all sorts of experiments with the Roentgen rays, how is it, asks the New York Times, that nobody seems to have thought of ascertaining what effect would be produced on the direction of these mysterious vibrations by sending them through lenses made of platinum, aluminum and other more readily permeable substances?

LIFE.

"What is life but what a man is thinking of all day?"—Emerson.

TWO SWAINS AND A MAID.

BY KATHARINE TYMAN.

Y Jane was one of the old-fashioned class of domestic workers.

Well, at last something happened, and the something threatened poor Jane's peace of mind more than ever.

At church Jane made a new acquaintance, a countryman of her own, a clean-skinned, brawny, bright-eyed fellow, with white teeth and a merry laugh.

Time passed, and Jane's new friend, Willy O'Connor, came and went as freely as Fry himself.

The fellow was ugly, shambling, ill-built and ill-mannered.

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world easier to him. "Dian't his fault be was born ugly an' queer."

After that I expostulated no more, and a dead silence fell between me and Jane on the subject of her marriage.

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THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Only This, and Nothing More—Intermittent Lightning—The Difference—A Counter-Indictant, Etc.

Well, the explanation of this remarkable affair was that when Jane had stood up with her oat to be married by Father Dempsey, and when Peter was required to say if he would take this woman for his lawful wedded wife.

Next day I heard Jane singing like a lark, and was not surprised a little later by a shamefaced request that she might have company for tea.

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SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

The Japanese remedy for the leprosy is to be given a trial at the lazar house at San Francisco.

A Chicago traction company will soon experiment with street cars propelled by compressed air.

Professor Alexander Agassiz, of Cambridge, is leading an expedition of scientists to explore the great Barrier reef of Australia this summer.

The French Government has conferred the cross of the Legion of Honor on Professor W. F. Putnam, of Harvard, in recognition of his scientific achievements.

The Austrian Government has now established seventy-six meteorological stations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Sawdust is turned into transportable fuel in Germany by a very simple process.

The deepest water yet known has been found by the British ship Penguin in the South Pacific Ocean.

To be alone in a boat which is in the very middle of a great lake and to have neither oars nor any sort of substitute for oars with which to propel that boat to shore, would seem about as awkward a predicament as could well be imagined.

Among the Chinese the privilege of committing suicide is accorded to offenders of very high rank, and is conferred upon them by sending "the silken cord."

Among the Japanese the upper classes are privileged to perform the harikari, or "happy despatch."

RESOLVE.

He kissed my hand—the hand that holds the pen—

Resolved with her life the moment they were kissed.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

The most dangerous draught to many men—"A sight draft."—Texas Sifter.

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