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RATES OF ADVERTISING:

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The only bicycle patents now in force are those covering specialties.

It is estimated that the population of the Argentine Republic has increased thirty-five per cent. in the last twelve years.

New York has found out that a geography used in her schools has a good deal to say about the greatness and importance of Chicago, and is making a fuss about it.

It is about time, writes Walter Wellman to the Chicago Times-Herald, there was a statue of General Grant in the National Capitol.

Biltmore, the new North Carolina estate of George Vanderbilt, is a wheelman's paradise. There are 95,000 acres in the estate...

The American propensity to leave money to educational institutions seems to Harper's Weekly to be spreading across our northern border.

The Atlanta Constitution says: After a careful study of the situation the cotton men of New England have decided to compromise the issue between the cotton mills of that section and those of Georgia, Alabama and other Southern States...

Commander J. W. Miller, of the New York Naval Militia, calls attention in the Forum to the fact that the "system developed by large corporations has given powers of command and habits of obedience to numbers of citizens, and has trained employees to much stricter methods than obtained formerly in the regular armies and navies of the world."

The Atlantic Monthly remarks: Of the pauper and criminal classes the Scandinavians have a smaller proportion than any other alien element except the British. The Danes, Norwegians and Swedes are particularly free from other than traditional ties binding them to the mother countries.

Much rye bread was eaten in this country in the beginning of the century, and much rye and Indian—a healthful compound that disappeared when starch-spermeated the huge brick oven in which the maize ingredient was rendered digestible by being cooked all night.

SPOKEN AT SEA.

All men go down to the sea in ships With a trembling hand and faltering lips, We spread our sails on the deep unknown, Each for himself and each alone.

NUMBER FIVE.



HAUNCEY WARD was a confirmed bachelor. All his friends and acquaintances and he himself admitted the indictment.

Several times during the next day or two did the sweet voiced telephone operator assist Ward in his efforts to communicate with distant friends and customers, and it may safely be imagined that his delight in hearing her melodious repetition of his own words was so great that his convalescence was consequently delayed.

He had never played more brilliantly, and he was therefore disappointed to find, as he ended his rhapsody and went to the telephone, that no word of acknowledgment came for his efforts to please his unseen friend.

There was now a sound of tears in the voice that so gently replied, "There are several who are depending upon me." "Please, Miss or Mrs. Lester, I don't care which it is, do not be offended with me, but I must say what is in my thoughts, you are too weak to be permitted to go home alone.

"I am not married," she answered. "And now one more kindness. Let me see your face?" Without a word she raised her veil and disclosed a pale, thin face, which even in health lacked elements of beauty, and yet which bore, even in illness, traces of modesty, intelligence and sweetness of disposition.

the tones of the unseen girl rang in his ears.

"That sweetest voice in speech I ever heard," he mused. "I wonder how she looks. She must be blonde; no brunette could speak so softly."

It will be surmised from her friend's admiration of blondes that he himself was a brunette. His reveries were interrupted by another call through the telephone. This time it was from a young friend who was in the hospital suffering with a broken leg.

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spouse came the words, "That's all, good-bye."

It was but a few days after this that Ward again attempted to open a conversation with Miss or Mrs. Lester, but could obtain no answer. His call for "Number Five" was responded to in the shrill feminine tones with which shop girls generally call "Cash, cash," and which are such a terror to a sensitive ear.

It was early in September, and Chauncey Ward was beginning to think of his semi-annual visit to New York, when one day Smith at the telephone began to eary on a conversation with some one without asking his employer what to say.

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to put him in possession of her history and present circumstances.

Her father was a disabled soldier, with a limp pension, her mother a frail invalid, and there were several younger children; and all were largely dependent upon her exertions for support. The father did such light work as offered itself, suited to his strength. The mother could do nothing but keep the children out of mischief.

Then she quietly said that she was well now, and needed not to further impose on his kindness. "But I want to do it," she persisted, adding that it would only place her in an embarrassing position in the eyes of her neighbors, whose good opinion she highly prized.

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THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

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

Somewhat of a Mystery—In the Street Car—Hard Luck—Endless—Crazy—Force of Habit, Etc.

She is just as sweet as sugar, This girl I have in mind; But, alas! too much I fear me, That she's the powdered kind.

"Do you let your wife have the last word?" "She never has any last word."—Boston Courier.

IN THE STREET CAR. "What is meant by being on the 'anxious seat,' pa?" "Being afraid you will have to give it up to a woman."—Truth.

VERY NATURAL INQUIRY. Pastor (reading notices)—The standing committee will please remain after the services. Edith (aged six)—"Mamma, doesn't that committee ever sit down?"—Judge.

WHY DO YOU THINK WOMEN ARE FRIVOLOUS? Merritt—"Because when a girl makes an enemy of a man for life she always tells him that they can still be friends."

CRAPPY. He—"Nice dog; have you taught him any new tricks since I was here last?" She (sweetly)—"Oh, yes; he will fetch your hat if you whistle!"—Boston Globe.

WHY DOES BATES INSIST ON CALLING THAT WHITE HORSE OF HIS CREAM-COLORED? "Because he used to be a milkman and still cling to the tricks of his trade."—Detroit Free Press.

QUESTION OF SEX. Teacher—"Now, here is an example in mental arithmetic. How old would a person be to-day who was born in 1868?" Tommy—"Please, mum, was it a man or a woman?"—New York World.

DEPRESSED. Jones—"Brown seems to be out of spirits. What is the trouble?" Smith—"He met with a severe disappointment on Saturday. There were two ball games at Rector's Park, and he could only get off in time to see one."—Pack.

MOST OF THEM DO. Teacher—"What does k-a-m-m-e-r spell?" Tommy—"Don't know, ma'am." Teacher—"What does your mother drive nails with, stupid?" Tommy—"A stove lifter."—San Francisco Wave.

REASON ENOUGH. "What is the matter with Jenkins of late? He seems worried." "Stage fright." "Why, I didn't know he was ever on the stage?" "His wife is developing into a society amateur."—Pack.

NOT THE NAME. Wife—"George, didn't you say you were the heaviest batter in the nine last summer?" Husband—"Yes, dear." Wife—"Well, would you mind beating a carpet for me about half an hour?"—Texas Sittings.

GENTLE WOMAN! Mrs. Bingo—"I think if you are looking for a good servant, the one I have at present would like the place." Mrs. Von Blumer—"You'd stay with you?" "No; she complains that she has too much silver to clean."—Pack.

FORTUNE TELLING.

When on the grain was summer's gold, And blue was summer's sky, We went to have our fortunes told, A winking maid and I.

Then into Sylvia's slender hand I saw the gypsy peer, And words I longed to understand Were whispered in her ear.

It takes an effort to be mean, and then you will never enjoy it.—Adams Freeman. "Is your father very rich, Miss Turnip-top?" "Rich? Every inch of barbed wire on the farm is gilded."—Chicago Record.

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