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The Circuit Court of Grand Rapids, Mich., has ruled that a bicycle is personal property, and not subject to execution.

Herbert Spencer, the English philosopher, is opposed to the further spread of the metric system. He holds that a better system would be one based on the number twelve.

Five hundred tons of light steel rails were recently sent from a Milwaukee (Wis.) steel works to Japan by way of Buffalo and New York.

The Latin Nations of Europe—the old blood—are being crowded constantly closer to the wall of extinction, declares the Chicago Times-Herald.

Governor Bushnell, of Ohio, has received a letter from Professor E. D. Cope, of the Department of Comparative Anatomy in the University of Pennsylvania...

The Detroit Free Press philosophizes about the death of Austin Corbin as follows: A grand estate comprising 40,000 acres in the scenic regions of the old Granite State...

A New York paper tells of an incident said to have occurred on the Pennsylvania Railroad, between the city and Trenton. Near Trenton, there is a well-known lunatic asylum.

It was in the zenith period of American shipping in the days of short mizen-masts, single top sails and square sterns and square stern windows...

Of such description was the Athol and her crew, outward bound from New York on a summer voyage to Liverpool with Captain Smith commanding.

The captain appeared and joined the brooding first officer. "Well, Mr. Earp, what do you think of the crew?" "Sir, they're a pretty good lot; don't you think so?"

"No, captain, I can't see it. They're the worst gang of soldiers, farmers and beachcombers I ever saw together. I'm going to work them up; they need it."

FROM A WINDOW.

The tide of life goes surging by, With never ebb, nor lapse; This restless feet, the fevered eye...

command this time, only he had a bad row with old Johnny, who got the owners down on him. My brother used to sail with him in the slave trade. Billings has an ungovernable temper; you will have to look out for that.

At the end of a week the exasperated men were rife for mutiny and murder, which Billings's influence alone prevented. One night as they hauled and panted like overladen horses on the foredeck...

"If the time comes," he said, "when we will be justified in the courts, you'll find me ready to put the after-guard in front of the ship's honor."

But Billings himself was not infallible. Under the outward semblance of calm was the hot resentment of a self-respecting man at the insults, often now, leveled at him directly.

Shot from a yardarm. How many times has this happened in the early days of the century. Billings rolled backward and with limbs extended—straight and stiff, turned slowly over as he fell and disappeared in the water...

Putting his smoking pistol in his pocket, Mr. Earp cut short the chuckle in his throat to roar out: "Red that sail; finish that job, you lubbers." As they were anything but lubbers they finished it. Of what need to describe the munity which followed.

A Western philanthropist who is interested in establishing free traveling libraries in the country where he lives found that many places, especially in small hamlets...

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

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

The Problem of Life—Defined—Doubtless—The Cyclist's Last Wish—Refused, Etc., Etc.

"Uncle Bob, what is a pedestrian?" "Why, he's the fellow who makes a man when a bicycle runs over him."

"Doctor—"The matter with you is that you want to be out more."

"Look here, Bawl Barings, I've a proposition to make."

"Er—that autobiography of mine," said the author, "you couldn't give me something on it in advance, could you?"

"Not on your life!" said the heartless publisher.—Cincinnati Equipter.

"Can I go to-day and bathe, mamma?" "Don't bother me."

"Well, yes, then. But if you go and get drowned, don't venture to come and show me your face again."

Lawyer Quick—"That settles it, Friend Slick, take the witness."

"Lawyer Slick—"Your honor, I see the impression that this plaintiff's testimony has made, but I challenge its truth, your honor, and I believe that I have but to put one question to prove the force of my challenge."

"What's that?" "Why, these witnesses in rebuttal, twelve intimate friends of the plaintiff, each of whom has known him for years, and whose testimony I may or may not be obliged to offer."

"Now, sir (turning to the witness), you have testified that your name is Walton and that you are an expert angler—what was the length of the largest fish you ever caught?"

"Witness (feebly)—"I beg to withdraw the complaint."

"The man in the bicycle suit laughed heartily."

"Very funny," he said.

"What?" asked the man with a large section of skin gone from his nose.

"Why, these 'Don'ts' for bicyclists," replied the man in the bicycle suit.

"Let's see them," said the man who was short of skin.

"The man in the bicycle suit handed him the paper."

"The best one isn't there," said the man with the fantastic nose, shortly.

"If it was, the rest wouldn't be necessary."

"What do you consider the best one?" asked the man with the bicycle suit.

"Don't ride," answered the man whose nose stood in need of grafting, and then he carefully put a large piece of court plaster where it would do the most good.—Chicago Post.

HOW IT STARTED. Pinky—"How lovely! I see you have one of those splendid new Non-such bikes."

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

Rainco cloth is used as machine belting.

A psychological laboratory is to be established in the University of California.

Professor Wiggins says that the electric wires which are strung overhead are the causes of tornadoes.

A balloon sent up from Paris attained a height of 15,000 metres, or about nine and a half miles, before it came down near Calbrat.

The telephone car has developed itself. It is a greater convenience of the left ear from much using of the telephone receiver with it.

The graduates of the Atlanta (Ga.) University are to make an inquiry into the causes of the excessive mortality among colored people in cities.

A Russian medical man has noticed that the human eye naturally winks three or four times less often when reading by electricity light than when a candle is used.

Professor Hebra, of Vienna, asserts that the sun does not produce freckles. They never appear, he says, in children under the age of six or eight years, whether exposed to the sun or not.

The Italian professor, Angelo Celli, declared at the international congress of hygiene, in London, that Italy was centuries behind the English standard in all that safeguards the public health.

It is stated that the workers in the acid rooms of the sulphide pulp works soon notice that their beards and hair becomes very black, and remain so for several weeks. At the same time they are apt to become bald.

An acute musical ear will detect so slight a difference in tone between two notes as the one-sixth of a semitone. This means that in the eleven octaves that the human ear compasses there would be at least some 8000 or 9000 consciously different notes.

The owl has no motion in the eye, the globe of which is immovably fixed in its socket by a strong, elastic, hard, cartilaginous case; but, in order to compensate for the absence of motion in the eye, the owl is able to turn its head round in almost a circle without moving its body.

The physician and hygienist Sir B. Richardson recently expressed his decided opinion that if men and women in general properly understood and steadily obeyed the laws of their being—physical, intellectual and moral—seventy per cent. of them would live to 110.

Sir John Lubbock says that the housefly, which produces the sound F, vibrates its wings 20,100 times a minute, or 335 a second; and the bee, which makes the sound of A as many as 36,000, or over 430 a second. On the contrary, a tired bee hums on E, and vibrates its wings only 300 times a minute.

An Ape's Strategy for a Meal. In the Transvaal some of the fruit gardens are much exposed to the ravages of large monkey apes, and a good guard has to be kept, or the results of long labor would be lost.

In some of these gardens grow certain shrubs which are much affected by wasps, the insects liking to attach thereto their nests. These wasps, though small, have a very venomous sting. Baboons have often been noticed eyeing with envious glances the fast ripening fruit in one certain garden, but feared to gather for fear of attracting the assaults of wasps.

One morning the farmer heard terrible cries, and with the aid of a good field glass he witnessed the following tragedy: A large, venerable baboon, having secured a nest of wasps, was sitting on it, and was being stung by the wasps.

During this part of the performance the baboon uttered the most frantic denials occasionally to throw fragmentary remains to some female and young baboons a little further off.—Westminster Budget.

The Ring California Gave Pierce. One of the most curious as well as most valuable of American rings was presented to President Pierce in 1852 by the citizens of California.

It is of massive gold, weighing upward of a pound; the circular portion is cut into squares, which are embellished with beautifully executed designs, the entire group presenting a pictorial history of California.

The seal of the ring is really a lid, which swings upon a hinge, and is covered with the arms of the State of California, surmounted by the Stars and Stripes. Underneath is a square box divided by bars of gold into nine separate compartments, each containing a pure specimen of the varieties of ore found in the country.

On the inside is the following inscription: "Presented to Franklin Pierce, the fourteenth President of United States."

Uses for Ozone. Ozone is becoming an important industrial agent. It artificially ages liquor, removes the smell of oily beans in coffee and improves tobacco.

In its late application to the rapid seasoning of wood for sounding-boards and musical instruments it increases the resistance of the wood to temperature and moisture and adds to its acoustic qualities. It thickens linseed oil for linoleum in a few days, whereas the old method of oxidation often took several months.

It bleaches linen in less than a third of the time required by sunlight. It is also valuable in chemical and technical processes, especially in purifying starch derivatives from undesirable color, odor and taste.

Caterpillars That Secrete Wax. It has been found that certain caterpillars secrete wax. Thus the cells of the leaf-feeding Tortrix formed of resin are lined with wax, as on dissolving away the resin with alcohol, Dr. Kung found a slight film of wax; also a secretion of wax has been detected in the larva of a butterfly.

A SUMMER SHOWER.

A deepening veil obscures the blue, A low murmur sweeps the trees, And dead leaves from some lifeless bough Dance merrily in the breeze.

The plaintive cry of timid bird, As swiftly hounded as they soar, Resecond from afar is heard, Amidst the noise of heaven's roar.

At last the misty curtains creep, And o'er the woodland verdant green, Like haunted visions slowly sweep, Leaving earth resplendent soon.

Oh! joyous mood! Oh! happy shower! What bliss to life thy visits bring. Thy touch is magic to the flower, Burns on fairy wing.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

Never write lead pencil comments on a borrowed book. The owner may rub them out. Use ink.—Life.

We may be led into temptation the first time, but after that we can generally find our own way.—Life.

She—"They must have quarreled yesterday." He—"What makes you think so?" She—"He's so attentive now."—Chicago Record.

A man never realizes how insignificant he is until he attempts to describe to his wife the dress worn by another lady.—Texas Sifter.

Mr. Willie—"It takes lots of money to send you to the seaside every summer." Mrs. Willie—"Yes? What a blessing you must think money is!"—Truth.

"Johnny!" said the nervous mother, "I want you to dry up right this minute!" "I can't," wailed Johnny. "Bill just soaked me."—Indianapolis Journal.

She—"They say he married Miss Wrinkles for her money. Has she got much?" He—"She must have lots of it. Have you never seen her?"—Harlem Life.

"But, waiter, if this is a spring chicken, where is its wishbone?" Waiter—(equal to the occasion)—"It was too young to wish, sir."—Detroit Free Press.

He (earnestly)—"Am I the first man you ever kissed?" She—"Of course you are. How stupid men are! I never knew one who didn't ask that."—New York Herald.

"Debler's poster didn't win a prize!" "No; he forgot to paint in the customary girl and the judges had nothing to divert them from criticizing his work."—Chicago Record.

"Can you give me change for five dollars?" inquired the usually impetuous friend. "Certainly," was the unguarded answer. "Then lead me three."—Washington Star.

Lawyer—"Do you think that you are capable of filling the position, young man?" Boy—"Capable! Why, my last boss said I know more than he did. That is why I had to leave."—Vanity.

Aunt—"Why did you stare at that gentleman so rudely, Ethel?" Little Ethel—"Oh, he's a dreadful man; he never goes to church or nothing. I heard father say he was an acrostic."—Judy.

Howland—"I understand Scorch and his wife have quarreled and separated." Davis—"Yes; he precipitated affairs by telling her the coal-bird rode a wheel half as well as his mother did."—Philadelphia North American.

Millie—"It looks as though the bicycle would drive the horse out of existence." Leavitt—"Not a bit of it. The more bicycles there are the more they will need horses." Millie—"What for?" Leavitt—"Amputations."—New York Herald.

Mr. Hoy Polloy (extending his hand)—"Howdy do; don't you remember me—Hoy Polloy?" Mr. Haulton—"Oh, er, yes—Polloy—unusual name—that stuck; but your face is such a common one it really escaped me, you know."—Harlem Life.

Tramp—"Madam, do you speak French?" Lady of the House (suspiciously)—"No." "Do you speak German?" "No; what do you—?" "Then, madam, I fear that I shall have to ask you for something to eat in plain English."—Chicago Record.

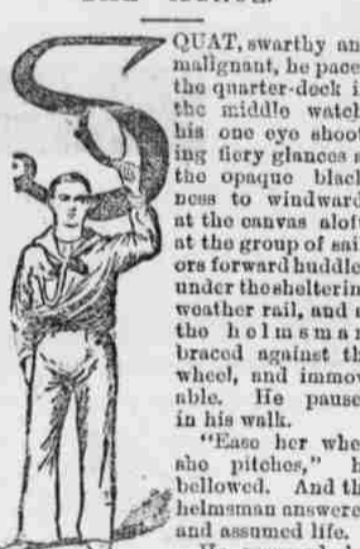
A Neighboring Revenge: "Isn't Mrs. Davis an agreeable neighbor?" "No; she's horrid. I gave a luncheon and didn't invite her and the man creature loaned me a lot of spoons over after when we were only in the second course."—Chicago Record.

The mendicant stood before the wayfarer with outstretched hands. "Please, sir," he said, "I have seen better days." "Well, that's no affair of mine," said the wayfarer. "Make your complaint to the clerk of the weather if you don't like this kind of a day."—Tit-Bits.

What He Found Among His Owl Seeds. Look over your seed. One of the enterprising farmers in the town of Paris recently bought some "specially pure" Western seed oats. They were no full of foreign material that he had to pick them over. From one pound here is what he got besides oats: 1422 grains of barley, 1286 grains of rye and wheat, 1160 grains of mustard seed, 28 grains of flaxseed, 1440 seeds which he cannot name, the numbers of the different kinds being, respectively, 602, 97, 73, 16, 12, 10, 9, 4, 3, and five of 1 each, and a quantity of chaff straw, etc.—Augusta (Me.) Journal.

Caterpillars That Secrete Wax. It has been found that certain caterpillars secrete wax. Thus the cells of the leaf-feeding Tortrix formed of resin are lined with wax, as on dissolving away the resin with alcohol, Dr. Kung found a slight film of wax; also a secretion of wax has been detected in the larva of a butterfly.

THE TROUBLE ON BOARD THE ATHOL.



QUAT, swarthy and malignant, he paced the quarter-deck in the middle watch, his one eye shooting fiery glances at the opaque blackness to windward, at the canvas aloft, at the group of sailors forward huddled under the sheltering weather rail, and at the helmsman, braced against the wheel, and immovable in his walk.

"Ease her when she pitches," he bellowed. And the helmsman answered and assumed life. He resumed his walk and commencing, his mind going back to the fight in the slaver's hold ten years ago. Again he fought that terrible duel with sheath-knives. He thrust, parried, dodged, advanced and retreated, watching the steely blue of the enemy's eye, feeling again the excitation of boiling blood, the initial tingling of the hair roots, heard again the shouts, oaths and encouragements of his lawless shipmates, and once more buried his knife in Billings's shoulder and received the cut on his cheek in return. Again he succeeded and the knife was transferred from the wounded right hand to the left. He had him now. He rushed—and Billings slipped in his own blood. On to the prostrate form he pounced—one stroke would finish him. Billings had dropped his knife and he had raised his own. But it came down slanting; the stroke was futile. The wounded man had encircled his neck; his cheek was pressing the warm blood on his enemy's shirt, and—he felt it now—the insertion of the thumb, the smarting pain and blinding, burning sheet of fire that marked the going out of his left eye—forever. And the strange weakness which overcame him and enabled Billings to throw him to his feet and follow, and plant that pile-driving bit blow that sent him so near to eternity. And all over a sick blackbird, too, that Billings wanted to nurse. Billings might have killed him. It was his right. Yet—but he had gouged, and no man who is a man will do that. He had said he would even up, and he would. This ship, in which he was chief mate would finish the voyage one man short.

It was in the zenith period of American shipping in the days of short mizen-masts, single top sails and square sterns and square stern windows; when the American sailor was American born, his proudest title, Able Seaman, yet, feeling within him the potentiality of quarter-deck duty—quick to resent ill-treatment, to conspire and even mutiny. Officers carried arms in those days, crews were trained to the use of cartridges, pirates watched for and slave trading companies as a slight lapse from the conventional—a little out of date and style.

Of such description was the Athol and her crew, outward bound from New York on a summer voyage to Liverpool with Captain Smith commanding. George Earp chief mate and one John Billings in her forecabin. The captain appeared and joined the brooding first officer. "Well, Mr. Earp, what do you think of the crew?" "Sir, they're a pretty good lot; don't you think so?"