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Helena, Montana, claims to be the richest city of its population in the world.

Li Hung Chang says there are millions of people in China that do not know that China had a war with Japan.

Greece has only twelve miles of territory for each mile of coast, while England, which ranks next, has eighty-four and one-half miles to each mile of shore.

In discussing W. W. Astor's chance of espousing a royal princess a European paper recalls the fact that the founder of the Duke of Fife's family was a Scotch peddler, Adam Duff by name.

Ten thousand employes under the War Department have been classified in the civil service in accordance with the order of President Cleveland of May 6 last, which extended the operations of the law to practically all Government employes.

Argentina means to get ahead of the European Powers in taking possession of the South Shetland Islands on the edge of the Antarctic continent. An expedition will be sent out for the purpose this year.

Conservative Yale College is invulnerable to the attacks of women, its doors being still closed against them; the faculty have, however, made a concession in their favor, and have provided for a teachers' course.

It seems that the X-rays, generally regarded as so beneficent in action, are to be pressed into the service of mutilating as well as of mending humanity. A London dealer offers for sale cartridges tested by the oblique Roentgen rays to make sure that they have been carefully loaded.

Mischievous persons in the West, whose idea of fun consisted in frightening timid people by circulating false predictions of approaching tornadoes, have learned that the issue of counterfeit weather predictions is punishable under Federal law.

Lord Russell's visit to America reminds the London Chronicle of an ancient story. It says that during Lord Russell's previous tour in this country with Lord Coleridge he came in contact with many members of the bar, including Ex-Senator W. M. Everts.

Thrift and melody do not seem to go together, exclaims Harper's Weekly. The author of "Kathleen Mavourneen," who died a few weeks ago, had his share of prosperity during his career, but came to want long before the end of it.

Mr. Piercy, who had buttoned on his overcoat and gloves, he came back to the breakfast room, while his wife was putting up the children's school lunches in the pantry.

THE FALL OF THE LEAF

The star of Love in the evening sky, The crescent moon like a silver boat In a sea of rose and gold above it.

The dropping of the autumn tree Is richer than roses in their day, Sweeter than violets in the May.

The star of Love dips low in the sky, The moon's white boat is cast on the hill, The shadows gather more dense and chill.

Give me your hand, Is it growing cold? Let it lie on a heart that is warm; Lean on the strength of a faithful arm.

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THE YOUNG WIDOW.

MRS. PIERCY was not in a good humor that day as she sat at the breakfast table pouring coffee for her husband and dispensing bread and butter to the three plump little Piercys.

"Situations, you know," said Mrs. Piercy, reaching over to the raisin box. "Bridget, you have been at the raisins, as true as I live! There's half of 'em gone since I was here last!"

"No, mam, I haven't!" sharply responded Bridget, who was used to these kitchen skirmishes. "Sure I never lived in a house before where they counted the raisins and the lumps of coal, and if I don't suit, mam, it's a month's warning from to-day, if ye's please."

"Situations!" repeated Plume, half afraid of Bridget's warlike demeanor, or half puzzled at her sister-in-law's words. "Yes," said Mrs. Abel, tartly, paying no attention to Bridget and her skirted.

"I am sorry that I intrude," said Plume, with dignity. "It shall not be for long. I will look at the newspaper at once."

"Yes, that's a deal the best plan," assented Mrs. Piercy, ungraciously. "Of course you won't mention our little chat to Abel. He might be vexed; and after all, I'm only speaking for your good."

Half an hour afterward, when the bell rang, and some one inquired for Mrs. Oswald Piercy, Mrs. Abel nodded her head to the cake she was taking out of the oven.

"Company already," said she; "and gentlemen company, as I live! Well, if this is the way she intends to go on, the sooner she suits herself with a situation the better!"

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

It is said that soft wood under pressure becomes considerably harder than hard wood under pressure.

When the British sparrow hawk is flying toward its dinner it cleaves space at the rate of 150 miles an hour.

An electric boat has been constructed for the inspection of the famous sewers of Paris. It pulls itself along by a chain lying in the bottom.

Four cakes of manufactured ice averaging more than 8000 pounds each were taken from the vats of an Orange (Texas) company.

A method of purifying water is in use in certain continental towns. It is to pass it through revolving vessels containing scraps of iron.

United States Consul Steiner, at Munich, Bavaria, informs the Department of State that a second exhibition of power and labor machines will be held there in 1897.

A recent report of the State Geologist says that the total production of oil in Indiana was 4,350,000 barrels in 1895.

The cause of sound in a steam-whistle is the same as in any form of whistle or organ-pipe, viz., a vibration of the atmosphere induced by a vibration set up in a steam jet directed against the edge of the bell.

A Hydrophobia Hospital, for the cure of hydrophobia, has already been opened near the Crystal Palace, in London.

The discovery of this process is attributed to a French provincial practitioner, who is stated to have been, some fifty years ago, infected with the virus of a mad dog by wiping his hand, on which was a skin laceration, with a towel impregnated by the saliva of the diseased animal.

The prescription of a bicycle and the recommendation to use it wisely and well works like a charm in such cases, and in all the symptomatic ailments which arise from too much "acid" in the system.

Lighting a Cigar With Ice. Recently a prominent lawyer arrived in Washington for a consultation regarding some patent cases.

A Remarkable Man. Marshall Ferguson, who lived in Gwinnett County, Georgia, near Stone Mountain, and who died two weeks ago, was a remarkable man.

Tongue Lost to Save Life. A New York florist recently was stung in the tongue by a small insect. The injury was so serious that a surgeon was compelled to cut the man's tongue out in order to save his life.

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

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

The "Lay By" the Wall—Depended on "Circumstances—Suttle Revenge—A Consoling Feature, Etc.

"You say you got even with that tony relative of yours by giving his toy a bicycle? How is that?" "Don't you see? It'll cost him more to buy the extras than I paid for the wheel."

"Aren't you glad to see it clearing off?" said the cheerful man. "Oh," replied the man who kicks, "I don't. I don't see why we mightn't z well be worryin' 'bout we weather z 'bout hot weather."

"Before I give my consent to my daughter's marriage to you, young man, I want to know what your prospects for the future are."

"There does not seem to be much excitement for you girls down here."

"No," replied the young man, who had to say something to the girl with the poetic temperament; "but it's a good thing for the florist."

"It shocks me awfully to think you took the penny. Remember, it is as much a sin to steal a penny as a dollar. Now, how do you feel, Willy?"

"Know all women by these presents," began a sagacious attorney on a public proclamation.

"That's the result of my early training."

"The present trouble is that there are too many men for the number of jobs," said the amateur lecturer on the situation.

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A GARLAND.

Drizzling heretics, white and blue, Nodding on your slender stalks, Turn her thoughts to where ye grow Mind her of our woodland walks.

Rushes, 'ring before her eyes Marshy morland, boulder strewn Where the long-billed curlews' cry Break the drowsy calm of noon.

Heather, wait the saint to her Of purple-hatched hills Willow branch, bring sound and stir Of innumerable rills.

Aspen-blue forget-me-nots, Asketh thou thy message m'et? Nathless thou full well dost wot What to whisper to my sweet.

"Will you go with me on my wedding trip, miss?" "Eleganda Blatter."

"Is kissing a common or a proper noun?" asked the teacher. "Both," answered the girl with the coral lips.

"Papa, why do they call language the 'mother-tongue'?" "Because the father so seldom gets a chance to use it."

"My son-in-law hadn't a cent of debts when he married my daughter."

"What is meant by 'opaque'?" "Pap!—'There isn't a thing you, teacher, since those 'X' rays were discovered."

"Oh, Nell, I have just heard of your marriage. Did you make a good match?" "I believe that our families have not decided yet."

"Uncle George, when does a woman come to years of discretion?" "When, on making up a luncheon, she leaves out pickles and puts in hard-boiled eggs."

"What is Whiffet's reputation for veracity?" asked Ricketts of Gazzan. "It was excellent until he began to try to make century runs on his wheel."

"What was that noise I heard before Mr. Steady went?" "I don't know, mamma, unless it was the question."

"Can I get anything on this watch?" asked the stolen burglar, as he presented a stately chronometer at the sign of the Three Balls.

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HUMOR OF THE DAY.

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