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RATES OF ADVERTISING:

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Hamburg has become the chief port of Europe.

The labor unions of Great Britain favor the proposed permanent tribunal of arbitration.

The late Professor Boyesen, of Columbia, noted that "journalism" is the "leading American mental trait" of the college student.

They phrase matrimonial advertisements very delicately in Maine. One recently printed in Hallowell voiced a want for a "housekeeper in a family of one."

Is Scotland getting steadily madder? To judge by the report of the Commissioners of Lunacy it is. Since 1853 there has been an increase of 142 per cent. in number of lunatics, while the population has increased only 38 per cent.

A proof of the fact that Sedan Day is dying out in Germany, writes Wolf von Schrierband, is furnished by a recent circular issued by the firm of Fred Krupp in Essen. They announce that hereafter the day will not be celebrated and no leave will be granted to their 20,000 employees.

Mr. Freemantle says in his 'Notes on the Rifle' that an ideal smokeless powder has yet to be discovered, and that the heat developed by powders containing nitro-glycerine is so great as to positively melt the surface of the steel, and to vaporize a minute portion of it at every shot, which defect, as regards small-calibre rifles, is fatal to its use by soldiers.

The quota of enlisted men allowed the Army and Navy of the United States is now nearer filled than it has been at any period in recent years, and the officials are assuming that no further trouble will hereafter be encountered in securing all the excellent material either service requires. At present the total strength of the regular army is between 24,000 and the limit of 25,000, and the few men lacking to complete it could, the authorities say, be enlisted in ten days. The strength of the navy's enlisted force is now 11,000 men, with the additional 1000 men added by the last Congress, and of this number there are now enrolled all but 400. This number applies almost monthly at the various recruiting stations, and the entire quota could be maintained without difficulty but for the discharges which follow every week or so.

Ex-President Harrison in writing of the 'Interior Department,' and the distribution of public land in the Ladies' Home Journal says: 'In 1862 the policy of giving to actual settlers thereon a quarter section (160 acres) of the public land, where the lands were rated at \$1.25 per acre, or eighty acres, where the lands were rated at \$2.50 per acre, was adopted by Congress. The settler is required to make affidavit that the land is entered for his own use as a homestead, and the patent does not issue to him until he has resided upon and cultivated the land for five years. In the case of soldiers and sailors the time served in the army and navy, and in the case of those discharged for wounds or disability the whole term of enlistment, may be deducted from the five years' residence required, but at least one year's residence is required in such cases. It was a wise and beneficent law, and if it had come twenty years before would probably have settled the question of the extension of slavery without any further help from our statesmen.'

Bad roads cost in reality more than good ones, according to Colonel Albert A. Pope, the bicycle manufacturer. He says the census returns show that there are in the United States about 15,000,000 horses, over 2,000,000 mules, and 49,000 asses. The annual cost of feed for these animals is about \$1,575,000,000. On the stone roads one horse can haul as much as three horses can haul over the average dirt road of this country. It is estimated that it would be necessary to build about 1,000,000 miles of macadamized road in the United States, in order to have as good a system of public highways as is found in several European States. At \$400 per mile, this would involve an outlay of \$400,000,000. But if one half of the draft animals could be dispensed with by the building of such roads there would be an annual saving of \$788,000,000 in the feed bill. The people, Colonel Pope shows, are actually paying three per cent. on \$50,000,000,000 in order to keep up the present bad roads, while it would not cost one-sixth of that annually to build the 1,000,000 miles needed in order to put this country on a par with France in the matter of good roads.

SWEETEST THINGS OF EARTH.

What are the sweetest things of earth? Lips that can praise a rival's worth; A fragrant rose that hides no thorn; Bitches of gold untouched by scorn; A happy little child asleep; Eyes that can smile though they may weep; A brother's cheer, a father's praise; The ministry of summer days; A heart whose anger never burns; A gift that looks for no returns; Wrong's overthrow, pain's swift release; Dark footsteps guided into peace.

MUNGER'S CAT.

BY MERTHA LEE WALTON.

NAN HAWTHORNE was springing gently to and fro in the hammock, nestled among the pillows, and idly wondering why other people did not make their summer cottages as attractive as her mother had made this one.

The tennis-court across the lawn was empty. By the time he had vanished over the net, and crossed the lawn, the quick color had faded from her cheeks, and she nodded gaily to him as he waved his hat.

"Where on earth did you hail from?" she asked, astonished, as he came within hailing distance.

"From the Etruria, in New York, Monday," he answered eagerly. "How are you, and what are you doing with yourself just now?"

"I'm pretty well. Sit down on that camp stool and let me look at you, Tom Bradley," she said, as she shook hands.

"You're mother must be glad to have you back again," said Nan. "I should be if I were she."

"Thank you, so kind of you," murmured Tom. "Mother and father have taken the Bartlett cottage for the summer, so I came right out here to join them. I thought mother'd eat me up the day I got here."

grow them, I guess," yawned Harry Mil-

ly. "He don't have 'em often." "For all small favors let us be duly thankful. We'll hope he'll postpone his fit until after he's returned," said Tom.

"I might as well take care of it regularly," said Nan with a laugh, as the little girl ran off over the lawn.

"Munger's cat spends most of its time over here as it is, catching birds." "It's not very pretty, is it?" said Tom, regarding the animal dubiously.

"I think he's splendid," said Nan indignantly; "and I'm going to take him in and show him to mother. Don't you want to come, too?" she asked, as Tom rose.

"No, thank you. I've got to go home, as mother doesn't know I'm out. So long, see you later."

Nan stood looking after him for a minute or two, and then went in at the little side door, with Munger's cat in her arms.

"That's your young Bradley, isn't it?" he asked, removing his hat in a languid bow. "I hear he's come back from abroad to go into journalism."

"I found Munger's cat in the woods, Nan," said Tom coolly. "He caught his feet in a trap, and I think they'd be improved by a little witch baze."

on't you call Morford?" he coolly in-

quired Tom. "You seemed to enjoy his society."

"I didn't ask him to, and besides, I don't like him," said Nan, stamping her foot on the grass.

"No, thank you. I've got to go home, as mother doesn't know I'm out. So long, see you later."

"I think you're cruel! Where is the poor thing now?" "Picking nuts on the porch in the shade," said Tom, in a condescending tone.

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THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

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

Mother Goose Bicycle Jingle—Reason for It—Searching for the Future—Overdone, Etc., Etc.

SEARCHING FOR THE FUTURE. At 2 a. m.: Johnson (gloomily)—"I wonder what my wife will say when I get home?"

OVERDONE. Dukane—"I don't know how you came to lose money in that scheme. You told me it was a rare investment."

A GENTLE REMINDER. "I want you to understand," roared Beedly, "that the sun never sets on the British empire."

GETTING EVEN. "I'm putting up a prescription for your wife's milliner," said the druggist to his employer.

NARROW. "It must be possible to sit here and watch the ever-varying throng," said the sympathetic visitor.

HE KNEW ALL ABOUT IT. "My friends," exclaimed the orator in his most impassioned tones, "the great difficulty with the world, the great trouble with mankind, is unrest."

SAID IT TO HIS FACE. Mother (reprovingly)—"Willey, you should never talk behind any one's back. Backbiting is a mean sin."

THE DOORWAY OF THE ROSE.

Over the doorway of the rose Wandered a yellow-banded bee,

If the tips of noon Were to hum a tune, They would hum that drowsy melody,

Fast asleep lay the blushing rose, Lured by the notes of that monotone,

Humor of the Day. Nations move by cycles, says Emerson. Boys move bicycles, too.

Jack—"I suppose her father wanted to know all about your income and prospects?" Bob—"Oh, yes! He was just as inquisitive as Li Hung Chang."

THE REWARD OF VIRTUE. The following story is related of a gentleman who invited a number of Sunday school children to a treat in his beautiful grounds.

DATE OF THE FIRST COINS. It is hard to realize that prior to B. C. 799 there were no true coins.

THE CIVIL WAR IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY A DIFFERENCE IN CLIMATE, and the question is now being discussed whether a hot or a cold climate has the greatest effect on National character.

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