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RATES OF ADVERTISING: One Square, one inch, one insertion... Legal advertisements ten cents per line each insertion.

Nebraska Populist papers want department stores abolished. Paris florists are already setting out plants so they may sell flowers from the grave of Lafayette to patriotic Americans during the exposition of 1900.

A SMILE AND A FROWN. Only a frown yet it pressed a sting. Into the day which had been so glad...

Says the Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser: In the last twenty years the Southern States have expended \$90,000,000 for colored schools. Nearly every dollar was furnished by the white people.

A BACHELOR'S DINNER. Time is popularly represented as an aged man, with flowing beard and drapery of white, bearing in one hand an hour glass...

The notion that the inhabitants of the South Sea islands are everywhere dying out is not borne out in Nauva, where the German residents made a census of the natives on September 3, 1890...

At length the bell rang and my butler opened the door. It was Carter. He passed through the opening in the portieres that the obsequious Branton had made for him and was seated beside me. After the usual compliments of the day had been exchanged he glanced furtively toward the hall, then whispered: "A new man?"

"But none are quite so fascinating as a certain person you met on your ranch," interrupted my cousin. "A cowboy!" asked Carter, suddenly becoming intensely interested. "A cow-puncher, if you will," laughed the fair girl, "with a revolver, a red shirt, and all the appropriate settings."

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE. STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS. Depths of Humiliation—Equipped—He Had It—Nice to Teach—Hope Springs Eternal, Etc.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL. Professor Huxley says that an oyster is a far more complicated piece of machinery than the finest Swiss watch. Tokio, Japan, has adopted the arch system for the two miles of elevated roadway which it has been decided to build there at a cost of \$2,000,000.

"THEY SAY." "They say"—oh! well, suppose they do! But can they prove the story true? Suspicion may arise for naught. But matric, envy, want of thought. Who counts himself among the "they" who whisper among the they?

The State of Massachusetts has alone and unaided fought the gypsy moth, and has thus far prevented it from spreading beyond its limits. It has within the past four years expended \$450,000, with the result of keeping the pest from spreading and eradicating it in a few localities.

"It is a misconception—a gross misconception," he declared the other night, resting his feet on the handsome brass fender and gazing meditatively into the fire that glowed on the hearth of his library. "Poverty should be represented as carrying in one hand a heart, and in the other, perhaps, a dart."

"Thank you for your kindly interest, aunt," I replied in an undertone. In a louder voice I added, "I am well contented with my bachelor condition." "And who wouldn't be in such a jolly place," cried my cousin, as we were seated, and her eyes scanned the walls, covered with curios that Holwood had gathered from every quarter of the globe.

"I don't think," I answered. "I simply wait." "My cousin passed unheeded this gentle, plaintive remonstrance, and in a stage whisper said: "I found her one day shedding crocodile tears over his photograph—a horrible looking thing, with fringed edges, you know, and a gilt border, and a—"

AN IMPORTANT MATTER. "Just had a talk with Branton, the inventor. He has a big problem on hand now." "What is he trying to do?" "Trying to make both ends meet."

A complete series of photographs of the recent Chinese-Japanese war, taken on the spot, forms a feature of the international photographic exhibition now being held at Berlin. The collection has excited much interest as the most comprehensive photographic record of war yet shown.

HUMOR OF THE DAY. Mamma—"Now, take this, Johnny. You lick sugar, you know." Johnny—"Yes, but pills split it."—Puck.

An impressive instance of patriotic service is presented in the case of President Britton, of the New Orleans City Council, who has directed the Committee on Budget and Assessment to transfer the amount of his salary, \$6000, to the contingent fund, as he does not intend to accept any money consideration for his official services.

"Dear me, no! Never!" my friend exclaimed. "Now don't you think he's a lucky fellow, Miss Mell?" She thought that I was, poor girl, but I did not have an opportunity for learning her reason, for he engaged her attention with an extended account of his idea of my luck. My aunt, however, with a long and earnest glances at the portieres closed behind me, "I thought the cowboy was a joke, but a butler—"

Amber and Its Production. An enormous amount of amber comes from Prussia, where it is mined by what is practically a monopoly. The company controlling the greater part of the output pay to the Government over \$160,000 a year for the privilege of control.

ONE OF THE HUMORISTS. "I have brought you a bag of peanuts, thinking you would appreciate a change," said young Mr. Pompton to Snickers, the humorist. "A change?" replied the humorist, thoughtfully. "Yes, a change from chestnuts, you know."—Life.

THE FLY IN THE OINTMENT. Visitor (in Ruralville): "This is a very pleasant and home-like place, and I cannot understand why so many families should have moved away from it during the past few months, as you say." Native—"You haven't heard our young ladies' brass band yet."

Power of Pedaling. A series of experiments have been made by M. Ponzio, of Paris, says Engineering, to determine the power exerted in propelling a bicycle at different speeds. The method adopted was to take an anamorphic record of the total force exerted on the pedal through a complete revolution. An examination of the records showed, in the first place, that there was no absolute dead point such as occurs with an ordinary connecting rod and crank motion.

Copper Coins for Russia. The Birmingham (England) Mint has just received a huge order from the Russian Government for copper coins. The total number of coins required is over 70,000,000. The coins, which consist of three, two, one, half and quarter kopok pieces, are already being struck off.

A Philadelphia paper gathers a certain amount of comfort from the fact that the "scrapple" of the Quaker City and the baked beans of Boston are to be found on the menu cards of the New York restaurant. It argues from this gastronomic fact that the above alimentary tit-bits have put the three cities on a more friendly footing.

"Why—why—because a poor chap like me had no right even to hope."—New York Sun. "I almost long to be a bachelor—" That was as far as Miss Mell progressed, for as she was speaking her eyes fell upon the butler standing behind my chair. She flushed, then he color left her face and she stared at him, unconsciously. Her confusion was but momentary. She recovered herself and with the greatest composure added: "Yes, it must be jolly to be a bachelor and live like this."

"What a lovely butler you have!" exclaimed Lydia, as he left the room for the third course, the roast he had taken so much pains over, the potatoes I had cut my hands in peeling, the peas he had purchased in a can and boiled or stewed, or something like that.

Wearing Out Needlessly. Many people wear themselves out needlessly; their conscience is a tyrant. An exaggerated sense of duty leads a person to anxious, ceaseless activity, to be constantly doing something, over-punctual, never idle a second of time, soon to rest; such are in unconscious nerve tension. They say they have no time to rest, they have so much to do, not thinking they are rapidly unfitting themselves for probably what would have been their best and greatest work in after years.—The Ledger.

ANNOUNCED. Priscilla—"Jack is the oddest fellow. He took me driving yesterday, and when we were seven miles from home he said, 'If I wouldn't promise to marry him he'd make me get out and walk back.'" Penelope—"Did you walk back?" Priscilla—"No, indeed; but the horse did!"

A Good Judge of Art. Queen Victoria's judgment of pictures has been remarkably accurate, and pictures for which she gave a comparatively small sum a few years ago would now fetch big figures. The value of her pictures by Landseer alone is over \$200,000.

Magistrate—"The gamekeeper says that he saw you taking this pheasant. What have you to say to that?" Prisoner—"I only took it for a lark." Magistrate—"Six months for making such an ornithological error. Consult your natural history in future."—Judy.

The French Minister of Agriculture has instituted an extra parliamentary commission for the purpose of studying certain proposals for the improvement of agriculture. France contains about 15,000,000 acres of uncultivated land, and for some years there have been discussions as to the best mode of utilizing it. The proposals were reafforesting, irrigation, water supply and restocking with fish the ponds and streams. The area of land uncultivated is as follows: Moor and heather, 9,722,500 acres; rocky and marshy land, 4,895,000; bogs and swamps, 820,000, and peat land, 115,000. These figures show that out of every nine acres of land in France nearly one is in an uncultivated condition.

Japan is a country already beginning to suffer from the "disease of civilization," although but a few years have elapsed since it emerged from primitive and comparatively innocent conditions.

Snow-White Cattle. The breed of snow-white cattle which were used in the sacrifices in Athens and Rome from 2000 to 2500 years ago, is still in existence in Calabria, Italy. Great pains are taken to maintain the strain of blood in all its purity, and calves showing a single hair of any other color than white are at once separated from the herd.

On a conservative estimate the apple crop of the United States this season amounts to two barrels for every man, woman and child.

"How matrimony does change a man!" "Hub!" It changes a woman, too. When we were engaged my wife-to-be was always trying to make me save money. Now she doesn't give me a chance to save a cent."—Chicago Enquirer.

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