

Notice is hereby given that the following... Confirmation Notice. A darkened ball, outlined against the sky...

The solid fortunes of the world are those based upon real estate.

It costs \$8.57 to raise an acre of wheat in South Dakota, which is less than in any other State.

The annual increase of the German Nation during the last five years has been more than five times as much as that of the French.

Notwithstanding the progress of British hydrography, the last Blue Book of Rear-Admiral Wharton reports as many as 209 rocks and shoals dangerous to navigation discovered during the year 1896.

It is a pleasure for the Chicago Times-Herald to note that even the highest class music is now within the reach of all.

A writer in the Frankfurter Zeitung points out that since the separation of the sexes in elementary schools has been carried out in Prussia, there has been not an improvement but a distinct deterioration in the manners and conduct of the pupils.

General Lew Wallace says that after a diligent search for a short name for the hero of his great book, he came across the name "Hur" in the Book of Genesis, and by adding "Ben," which means "the son of," he obtained a name both short and odd.

Cyprus, once the abode of the goddess of love, is turning to a baser worship, notes the New York Sun. It has been found that the island produces black truffles not to be distinguished in taste or perfume from those of Perigord.

St. Louis people were treated one day to the odd sight of a gang of bricklayers walling in the tenth story of a new building when the brick work from below had been carried up only to the eighth floor.

Il Progresso Italo-Americano, of New York City, in an editorial on the immigration question says that if a bill excluding illiterates were passed it would exclude three-fourths of those who would naturally come to this country from the dominions of King Humbert.

Five million dollars represents the value of our average monthly exports of live cattle, dressed beef and beef products during the past eleven months, a substantial gain over a year ago.

The American Agriculturist remarks: The English co-operative congress, which has been in session this month at Perth, brought out more forcibly the astonishing success of co-operation in this country.

Mr. Bunker, an affable old gentleman, was more than gracious to Bob, who did not seem to enthusiastically receive his information.

THE HEARTSEASE.

A beautiful golden panny blossomed sweet in a garden-bed, competing with all the flowers...

BOB ACTON'S LOVE CHASE.

ANNIE was the smartest and best-tempered waitress in the Morning Star Quick Lunch restaurant.

Bob never could look any woman straight in the eyes as gallant men can, without crimsoning from ear to ear.

Bob had noticed of late that Fannie was growing thinner. Her cheeks were more brilliant, but feverishly and she seemed not quite as sparkling as of old.

When he asked her one day quite anxiously whether she was not a little ill, she replied quickly that she had never felt better.

Bob was an eminently practical business man and held a fairly paying position as salesman in a foreign china-ware house.

At the time of reading, Bob had not looked at the meaning of "distraught," which word never in any connection had come to his acquaintance in the china business.

Mr. Bunker, the house does me too much honor—I shall try to earn it in the conduct of the matters you wish to intrust to me.

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

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

A Puzzling Problem—Lapses Lingens—In Flagranti—Lop-Sided—Equivoque—Changed Female Ways—Through Test—Pretty Good Guessing, Etc., Etc.

He had confided a minimum of his secret to a fellow salesman with the injunction to watch for any response that might come to his advertisements.

He had scarcely the courage to open the letter. He had never seen her handwriting before and yet it seemed familiar.

He was her fault if he had to leave without seeing her and bidding her farewell—at what a sweet, sad, tender one it should have been!

Dear Mr. Acton—I do not know whether I should answer your personal or not, which I happened to see by some unheeded chance.

But it was noon before he could get away from the office. His first nervous rapid steps brought him to a florist's, where he purchased a few roses, only just so many as he could carry in his pocket without injuring them.

Bob's eyes ran across every line of the letter with electric quickness. Hardly had he finished it than he sprang to his feet and ran for a passenger list.

He inquired of a steward whether she was on board, described her to him, explained to him that she was to have sailed, but that her name was not on the list.

Following the steward's direction he ran behind like a madman. Five minutes later he had found her and was hugging her as though they had not met in years.

Let us who respect and cherish bachelorhood be mindful of this moral.—The Yellow Kid.

What Your Teeth Can Tell. "It is possible," said a well-known dentist, "for a medical man to tell more of the disposition and constitution of a person by the teeth than by any other part of the body."

Business is much transacted in gold francs, there being much more French than Turkish gold in circulation.

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SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

The common house sparrow flies at the rate of ninety-two miles an hour.

Professor Auerperth, of the Cordoba Observatory, asserts that the moon is not a satellite of the earth, but a primary planet.

An Orlando, Florida, citizen, who is known locally as a successful inventor, has devised by apparatus by means of which he says he can by action transport grain for several hundred miles from inland fields to river boats.

Sark, the smallest of the Channel islands, will be the first British possession in which the postoffice will use the Marconi system of telegraphy with out wires.

Working in the physical laboratory of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mr. R. W. Wood has succeeded in producing diffraction phenomena with Roentgen rays, says Nature.

The daily papers report, how correctly it is not possible to state, that E. W. Christian has returned to Sydney after two years spent in exploration in the South Sea Islands, having discovered ancient records, hand work, and weapons that prove that the Asiatic races trailed in the islands, and that the ancient Chinese immigrated and colonized there and thus reached Central America.

Experiments have lately been carried on at the Paris Academie des Sciences with a view of ascertaining the influence exercised upon the human voice by electricity. As the result, Dr. Montier (assisted by M. Granier, the accompanist at the conservatoire) has established the fact that the influence is a beneficial one, the voice gaining both in amplitude and timbre and being rendered less subject to fatigue.

Sir James Crichton Browne, the expert on brain diseases holds that insomnia is not attended with such disastrous consequences as is commonly supposed. It is not as dangerous as the solicitude of the sufferer. He suggests that the brains of literary men, who are the most frequent victims, acquire the trick of the heart, which takes a dose of a fraction of a second after each beat, and so manages to get six hours rest in twenty-four.

In cases of insomnia, sleep in sections, different brain centres going off duty in turn.

The electric trolley system to be introduced in Paris in time for the International Exposition of 1900 is vastly different from that commonly employed in the United States, inasmuch as the dangerous overhead wires are absolutely done away with, according to the Philadelphia Inquirer.

The new system is the invention of the French engineer, Bochet, and, while rather simple, it steers clear of the objection of unsightly obstruction which is usually raised when overhead wires have to go up. Bochet establishes overhead contacts from electric lamp-posts belonging to the city, the distance between posts being somewhat smaller than the length of the electric train, consisting of two or three cars, so that contact is always assured at one point at least.

Through flexible points of contact suspended from each electric light post along the proposed line the current will be taken up by means of a copper rail fastened along the edge of the roof of the car not less than fourteen or fifteen feet from the ground. The contact point will slide along that copper rail and there is not the slightest difficulty in establishing a continuous current if the points of contact are made sufficiently elastic.

The current is allowed to return to the power station through the track of the line, as usual. This system offers all the benefits of the overhead as well as of the underground systems without any of their shortcomings.

A singular phenomenon is observed on the shores of Escholtz, in Kotzebue Sound, where hills of solid ice thirty to sixty feet in height are covered with a layer of soil in which, to use the words of the famous botanist, Dr. Soeman, "herbs and shrubs are flourishing with luxuriance only equaled in more favored climes."

It is an odd sort of country, anyway. Dr. Dall, of the Smithsonian Institution, says that he has seen the thermometer standing at noon in the shade at Fort Yukon standing at 112 degrees Fahrenheit. He was told of several spirit thermometers graduated up to 120 degrees which had burst under the scorching sun of the arctic midsummer.—Pittsburgh.

Another plan for turning to account forces of nature as yet dimly understood is reported from Scandinavia, where a savant has discovered a method of converting turf into coal.

The turf is placed in retorts and gradually heated to 250 degrees. The retorts are then closed and the temperature kept up for seven hours. The tar and gas products are thus retained in the coal mass to the extent of eighty per cent, and the resultant is said to contain sixty-five per cent of carbon, six per cent of hydrogen, 3.7 water and five per cent of ash.

THE SUNRISE OF THE POOR.

A darkened ball, outlined against the sky. A forward-pointing cone of rays from Gaunt grasses stirred by the awakening breeze.

And nearer, where the gray shadows lie, Witlike a small, jutted square, one may descry The beds wherein the poor first taste of misery.

Electrically welded steel barrels are being made in England. They are used to hold lubricating and lighting oils and acetone, which is an element in the manufacture of cordite.

An Orlando, Florida, citizen, who is known locally as a successful inventor, has devised by apparatus by means of which he says he can by action transport grain for several hundred miles from inland fields to river boats.

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HUMOR OF THE DAY.

It's astonishing how much patience some people have with themselves.—Puck.

He—"Why does Miss Van Feet have an English footman?" She—"Oh, I suppose she wants to learn the language."—Truth.

He—"Why do women misrepresent their age?" She—"They don't. If they misrepresent anything it is their youth."—Brooklyn Life.

"What makes you think he is in love with you?" The way he behaved!" "No. The way he misbehaved."—Indianapolis Journal.

The Count—"I have won and lost several fortunes." Miss Brightly—"Yes—and I felt so sorry when your last fiancée broke her engagement."—Puck.

She—"It's funny, but all the time I have known Mr. Tig he never has paid me a compliment." He—"Tig never pays anybody anything."—Boston Transcript.

"I believe Goodluck has got an increase of salary. What was it for—extra work?" "Yes! He always listens when the boss tells the smart things his kid says."—Tit-Bits.

"I am told your wife would rather cook than eat." The other man glanced nervously over her shoulder. "What she cooks, yes," he replied in a hoarse whisper.—Detroit Journal.

Spud—"Young Hawkins seems very pensive to-night. Do you suppose that he has fallen in love?" Spatts—"Oh, no. He is only breaking in a pair of tight shoes."—Judge.

"Baw Jove, I have heard that you said I was a monomaniac." "Me! never. A monomaniac is a man of one idea. If you are anything, you must be a monomaniac."—Indianapolis Journal.

Freddie—"Oh, pa! the goat swallowed my big fire-cracker." Cobwigger—"Well, that's nothing to be crying about." Freddie—"Yes, it was, pa. The thing never went off."—Judge.

Collector—"Mr. Gills, I am sorry to have to ask you to pay this little bill. Gills—"Are you, my boy? Well, I can sympathize with you from the bottom of my heart. I am sorry you have to ask me."—Standard.

"We rest," said the distinguished lawyer for the defense. "An' such is life," added Raggy Rufus, recounting the circumstance to Plodding Pete; "we rest, and git the dog set on us. He rests, and gits paid fur doin' it!"—Truth.

"There seems to be a great deal of trouble connected with office holding," remarked the man who observes. "No," replied the aspirant. "Office holding is easy enough. It's office getting that causes the difficulty."—Washington Star.

Tourist (in a coal mine, after passing around cigars)—"Everything seems to be wet and damp. Where can I strike a match?" Miner—"Right here, sir. Dimm's lift th' rubber cloth offen th' powder keg!"—New York Weekly.

"Simplex answered an advertisement in which somebody offered to sell him the secret for preventing trousers from getting fringes around the bottom." "What did they tell him?" "To wear knickerbockers."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Is there an opening here for an intellectual writer?" asked a seedy, red-nosed individual of the editor. "Yes, my friend," replied the man of letters. "A comfortable carpet, forseeing your visit, left an opening for you; turn the knob to the right."—Tit-Bits.

"I do my best not to be envious," said the nervous man, "but sometimes I can't help it." "Why, you never manifest much covetousness." "No, I don't covet. But whenever the Fourth of July comes around I can't see a deaf and dumb man without being jealous."—Washington Star.