

RATES OF ADVERTISING: One square, one inch, one insertion, \$1.00. One square, one inch, one month, \$3.00. One square, one inch, three months, \$8.00. One square, one inch, one year, \$25.00.

Switzerland has just decided to make insurance against accident and sickness compulsory on all citizens.

What and corn have done so well in Central Kansas that it is computed in the New York Sun that the money receipts from these sources will be greater by one-third in that part of the State this season than last.

A Parisian work on the morphine habit says it is most prevalent in Germany, France and the United States, and, strange to say, that the medical profession furnishes the largest number of morphinists—forty per cent.

As the English upper classes do not object to their boys being birched, it is only royal Princes and the sons of noblemen who receive corporal punishment in the great English schools.

Miss Lell Segour, Superintendent of the city schools of Decatur, Ill., refused to swear to the assessor's list, or to give him a list of her taxable property.

Holland has extended the elective franchise so as to permit workmen to vote. Though in most respects a progressive State, Holland has hesitated about this step because of a dread of the socialists, who are bred in Holland into a peculiarly bitter type which might almost better be termed anarchists.

Newspapers of the City of Mexico report that a stock company is being formed in that city with a capital of \$50,000 for the purpose of elevating "the noble art" of bull fighting.

The New York World estimates that Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma will sell this year not less than 95,000,000 bushels of wheat at more than half a dollar a bushel net price to the producer.

A recent statistical estimate places the number of newspapers which are annually printed at the enormous figure of 12,000,000,000. A mathematician, apparently with considerable time at his disposal, in order to give a comprehensive idea of this number, has calculated that a surface of 30,000 square kilometers could be covered with these papers.

A contributor to the New York Evening Post finds himself able, in reviewing the manners of contemporary American men, to aver that the rising generation of boys is a great deal better bred than the lot that preceded them.

PATIENCE.

A-wailing pretty Patience, Went I, a love-sick swain, And found her in the orchard, Amidst the trees and grain.

A BICYCLE RACE WITH A TIGER.

By C. MUMFORD ROBINSON.

WAS always very fond of bicycling, and from the time when I was a small boy, and labored for hours with a bone shaker, to the days when I became the proud possessor of one of the first "safeties" ever made, I revelled in the enchanting pastime, spending hours on the back of my steel steed, thus putting my physical powers a long way ahead of my mental.

In these days, when the bicycle has so many varieties, this may seem nothing strange; but to realize my surprise and pleasure, you must remember that a bicycle was then a comparative curiosity, and a bicyclist a person to be stared at and admired or otherwise.

I could fill a book with the curious incidents and accidents which befall us always "up country." Our regiment was going on the move, and panics of one kind or another were very frequent on our bicycling excursions.

After a week of such training as would make a modern athlete's hair stand on end—meat almost raw, chopped very finely, etc.—we considered ourselves fit for the contest; and the adventure I am about to relate occurred the evening before the race day.

I had not seen any large wild beast as yet, and my notion of a tiger was a stout, sleepy looking animal, such as I had once seen in a traveling menagerie.

ADULTERATED TEA.

Adulterated tea, which is being sold all over the European continent, is described in a German medical paper.

It is made in the following way: The manufacturers of this adulterated tea in the tea houses the residue from the teapots—leaves which have already been used—and mix these leaves, while still moist, with other leaves and very little genuine tea.

WHEN ELEPHANTS HAVE TOOTHACHE.

It is not easy to tell when an elephant has got toothache, but it is best to keep out of his way when you do know it.

Various instances are on record where metals, while not showing any appreciable wear, have literally fallen to pieces, and that without any assigned cause.

The greatest fountain in the world was turned on recently at Indianapolis, Ind., and permitted to flow for an hour.

When the good ship Queen was weighing anchor for Alaska from Seattle a few days ago a man rushed down to the purser and exclaimed excitedly: "Look here, I paid for a stateroom for myself and wife, and when I got there I found an old cow sticking her head through the window."

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

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

Revenge on a Rival—A Professional Promise—Corroboration—Expensive—Alaska Conditions—Hot Stuff—He Didn't Mind—Obeyed—Life.

Corroboration. "Is it any fun getting a man to teach you how to ride the wheel?" "Fun! Why, I've been taught three times."—Life.

Obeyed. Mistress—"Bridget, did you put the coffee to soak?" Bridget—"Sure an' I did, marm. Here is the ticket."—Life.

Expensive. "What large features she has!" "Yes; I don't believe it would be easy to stare her out of countenance."—Detroit Journal.

Alaska Conditions. "But the conditions of life on the Klondike must be hard." "Yes, even the milk of human kindness is condensed."—Chicago Record.

Not Classified. Teacher—"How many bones are there in a human body?" Pupil—"I don't know. I haven't learned to ride a wheel yet."—Detroit Free Press.

How She Took It. "Does Miss Merry smile upon your suit, Clumpsey?" "Smile? She laughs till you can hear her block every time I propose."—Detroit Free Press.

A Professional Promise. "Ah, doctor, this is the worst attack I ever had." "Don't worry yourself, my dear madam. I'm quite sure you won't have another."—Pick-Me-Up.

Hot Stuff. Benny Bloomer—"Oh, papa, the goat has swallowed a Roman candle!" Mr. Bloomer—"That's all right. He merely wanted a light lunch."—Life.

He Didn't Mind. Askins—"One of the drawbacks of married life comes when your wife asks you to mind the baby; eh, old man?" Kidler—"Oh, I don't mind it much."—Puck.

Made Him Prove It. Mudge—"What would you do if you were me? Thomas called me a gibbering idiot." Watts—"I'd make him prove it, every bit of it. I don't believe any one ever heard you gibber."—Indianapolis Journal.

Heavy Handicap. Lean O'Leary—"Ma'am, I'm a victim of most adverse circumstances." Old Lady—"Poor man! What happened to you?" Lean O'Leary—"Ma'am, I showed my signs of greatness in me youth!"—North American.

What's in a Name. "I like a good drink of hot water in the morning, but we can't get it at our boarding house." "I used to have the same difficulty in our boarding house, but now I take coffee. It answers every purpose."—Boston Transcript.

Too High. At a recent birthday party in Shepherd's Bush a young lady began a song. "The autumn days have come, ten thousand leaves are falling." She began too high. "Ten thousand—ah!" she screamed, and then stopped.

Torture. The party paused now to contemplate Ixion on his wheel. "I don't see where the torture comes in," whispered Zeus. Pluto, who was personally conducting the tour of the distinguished Trojans, pointed silently to the name plate; it was a last year's wheel.

Easter. "What nonsense it is," remarked the sentimental girl, "to take daisies and by plucking off the petals try to learn whether or not a man loves you." "Yes," replied Miss Cayenne; "it is very silly. A much better method is to take the roses he sends you around to the florist's and find out how much they cost."—Washington Star.

Ethetical. "Here are a few letters I wish you would mail for me, dear," said Mrs. Tenspot to her husband, who was preparing to go out. As Mr. Tenspot took them he glanced at the stamps, and asked: "My dear, why did you put fifteen-cent stamps on these letters? Two-cent stamps would have carried them." "I know it," replied Mrs. Tenspot; "but how would a red stamp look on envelopes of that lovely violet shade?" This new stationery is of an exquisite color, and I could not think of spoiling its effect with stamps which did not harmonize. These purple fifteen-cent stamps are the nearest match the postoffice keeps."—Harper's Bazar.

India Rubber Streets. India rubber as a paving for streets was tried on a bridge in Hanover, Germany, a little more than a year ago, and proved so satisfactory that experiments are being made in Berlin and Hamburg with it from ordinary roadways. It is said to be perfectly noiseless, unaffected by heat or cold, and less slippery and more durable than asphalt.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

Inhabitants of Simu, of mixed blood, have faces that are spotted, piebald, and even white on one side and black on the other.

The electric tramway at Lausanne, Switzerland, runs up the steepest incline surrounded by a train depending on adhesion to the rails—11.3 per cent. in one place.

Black, blue and red ink used in German public schools has been found to contain microbes. When scientifically developed they prove fatal to mice within four days.

Tests of a parasitic fungus in Cape Colony promise an effective remedy against locust swarms, large numbers of the insects having died a few days after infection of a few specimens.

The advantages of acetylene for motor-carriages have not been overlooked. The acetylene motor now being built to the design of M. Raoul Pictet will have three cylinders, and will develop ten horsepower while occupying small space.

Some idea of the fine point to which platinum wire can be drawn will be got from the fact that threads have been drawn two of which can be twisted together and inserted within the hollow of a human hair. These threads are so small that it needs a magnifying glass to see them.

The eminent Swiss specialist, Dr. Yersin, a pupil of Pasteur, declares his conviction that the plague which has prevailed in southern China since 1894, and in British India since 1896, is the genuine black death of the middle ages, and that it will in all probability reach Europe in a year or two.

Digestion proceeds more rapidly in the horse with active exercise than when eating is followed by a period of rest, according to the experiments of Dr. Tange, of Buda-Pesth. In the dog and in man, the opposite is true, which shows how unusual it is to infer results in an animal from observations on another.

In experiments at some Prussian sugar works the use of electrolysis alone for purifying beet root juice is reported to have proven impracticable. When used in conjunction with lime, however, electrolysis completes the action, and precipitates almost three times the nitrogenous matters that are removed in the ordinary separation.

The combined process is estimated to have saved about \$7000 in treating 70,000,000 pounds of beet root.

A piece of glass may be made iridescent, according to a correspondent of London Engineering, by flooding with a dilute solution of silicate of soda, and allowing it to dry spontaneously in an upright position. Washing the plate in running water and again drying may bring out the colors more brilliantly, while blackening the back of the glass will render them gorgeous.

The economic uses of teak and bamboo have been of late very extensively commented on. Teak is said to be the most valuable wood for shipbuilders. Although porous, it is strong and lasting. It is very light and hard, and is easily worked.

A peculiarity of this timber is that it contains an enormous amount of oil, and therefore is not injurious to iron when used in close contact. Decay comes on very slowly, even here there is a great deal of dampness. Bamboo has a much wider range of usefulness, as it figures in almost all of the affairs of life from culinary purposes to the worship of the Chinese deity. Leaves, stalk, roots, tender shoots, indeed, every part of it, has its uses, and the Chinese are so accustomed to rely upon it for almost all of the emergencies of life that when they move to a new country they are at a loss for a substance to supplant its place.

Astronomy and Longevity. The astronomer Denning has published a paper showing that extremely long lives seem to fall to the share of those engaged in astronomical pursuits. In corroboration he mentions the eminent Fontenelle, who lived to be 100 years old. Caroline Herschel, the sister of the celebrated William Herschel, who herself discovered seven comets and performed a great deal of other valuable work, died at the age of ninety-eight. The older Cassini was ninety-seven when he died, Sir Edward Sabine was ninety-four, Dr. Martin Sabin was ninety-three, Mary Somerville ninety-two, Giovanni Santini and Sharpe were ninety-one, and Milne, Airy (the director of the Greenwich Observatory), Humboldt, Robinson and Long all attained the age of ninety. Of those who were out off at the youthful age of between eighty and ninety Mr. Denning mentioned no fewer than thirty-two.

To Save Your Boots. A new wrinkle may be learned from an English soldier who was noted for keeping his boots in better condition and making them last longer than any of his brother officers. When asked what he did to them to prevent the leather from cracking and keeping it soft and smooth, his reply was, "Mutton bone." When an explanation was demanded he said: "It is nothing, I assure you. My man asks the cook for a knuckle bone, which he cleans and then bakes. After rubbing the leather with cream, he then frothes this as hard as he can with the bone. Usually my boots last me three years.

Foot of a Noble Whelp. The present Lord Lonsdale can claim to have performed the record driving feat of the world. On one occasion he drove a single horse, a four-in-hand and a pair ridden by postillions five miles each over a bad stretch of road in fifty-five minutes, including a change of vehicle.

THE LASS THAT LOVES ME.

The lass that bends down With its golden crown— Then hol' for the lass that loves me! It's a brief, bright way To a pleasant town.

Then hol' for the lass that loves me! For her eyes are bright As the twinkling light O' the stars o'er the wheat fields shinin' And never I roam But they light me home Where the lass for me is pinin'.

Let the golden crown O' the wheat bend down— It's all for the lass that loves me! The peasant's town An' a wedding gown, An' the lips o' the lass that loves me! —Frank L. Stanton.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

"What's the objection of the politicians to the civil-service reform system?" "The examination questions." —Truth.

"What a queer look that fellow across the corridor has." "Yes, he has the pedestrian face. Doesn't ride." —Cincinnati Enquirer.

Fredlin—"Ma, what is the baby's name?" Ma—"The baby hasn't any name." Fredlin—"Then how did he know he belonged here?"—Tit-Bits.

"Hit am or unfawchit fack," said Uncle Eben, "dat de more reason a man hab fo' indignation de less comfort he's gwinter git out of it."—Washington Star.

"The doctor put my husband on his feet in a week," she exclaimed. "It was no trouble at all. The bill he presented fairly lifted him out of bed." —Chicago Record.

"She insists that her baby is the picture of its papa and it doesn't look a bit like him." "Ah, yes; she has much of the true artist about her, after all."—Detroit Journal.

Fair Critic—"I always admire the characters in your books." Novelist—"You think them bright, eh?" Fair Critic—"Well, they all seem to be very widely read."—Truth.

"My wife will be the first Klondike widow." "Why? Are you going?" "No; but I'm being talked to death by men who want to borrow money to get there."—Chicago Record.

First Boarder—"I wonder the landlady lets him stay. Everybody can see that he drinks." Second Boarder—"Yes; but he never has any appetite in the morning."—Puck.

He—"Will you fly with me?" She—"Certainly. Bring your airship around at 3 o'clock, and I'll be all ready but putting on my hat. Then we can start at 4."—Somerville Journal.

Carrie—"He said he would go to the end of the earth for me." Maud—"What did you say?" Carrie—"I proposed that he compromise, and simply go home."—Philadelphia North American.

"Want your money for sweeping the chimney, do you? Look at the beastly mess you've made on the carpet. You can ask till you're black in the face before you get any coin from me!"—Judy.

"I am so glad to know you, Mrs. de Cycle. Mazie has spoken of you so often." Oh, excuse me, do you ride a wheel? "Of course I do, Mrs. Van Gear. What a funny question!"—Detroit Free Press.

New Woman—"Simply because a woman marries a man is no reason why she should take his name." Old Bachelor—"That's so. The poor fellow ought to be allowed to keep something he could call his own."—Judge.

In the Park: "Little Miss Muffet—"I don't suppose I ought to go around all alone with a gentleman like you, Mr. Donkey Boy, but I guess it's all right. The donkey is as good as most chaperons."—Harper's Bazar.

"They say, Grumpy, that the Queen of England has sixty pianos, and doesn't play any of them." "I'm a little bit cramped this spring, but I'll buy my daughter fifty-nine more if she'll follow the Queen's example."—Household Words.

"Mamie, if I were you I wouldn't go with Jay Bard. He is a very irreverent young man. I don't believe he ever gets on his knees." "Maybe not, ma, but I know somebody who does." And then she blushed."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

The pupils in a school were asked to give in writing the difference between a biped and a quadruped. One boy gave the following: "A biped has two legs and a quadruped has four legs; therefore the difference between a biped and a quadruped is two legs."—Tit-Bits.

The seashore boarder was accosted in the dark lane leading to the hotel with a gleaming revolver. "What's that?" he asked. "Oh, I say," replied the boarder, "you're not going to collect till my week's up, are you?"—Philadelphia North American.

"I am very much shocked," said the European Statesman, "at the tone of your country's protest. It was not polite." "Well," replied the man from the United States, after some thought, "maybe they thought that what you did to call forth the protest wasn't very polite, either."—Washington Star.

A Remarkable Mule. Professor T. D. Barst has found a mule that he says is thirty-eight years of age. The animal is now the property of "Hub" Crider, in the eastern portion of the county. He was raised by the professor's father, and during the war was hidden on several occasions to prevent his falling into the hands of the soldiers. He was sold when twenty-four years of age, and when the professor says, was four years old, making the animal now the remarkable age of thirty-eight. He is still in pretty good fettle, and will probably live to be forty, if not older.—Mayfield (Ky.) Monitor.