

Japan is about to send a lot of experts to this country to teach the people how to make tea.

English officials estimate that it will cost the Government \$15,000,000 to suppress the uprising in India.

Horses may be cheap enough elsewhere, but on the Klondike trail even the poorest cuts are worth fifty cents a pound.

In the period 1882 to 1894 the criminal record in the German empire increased twenty-two per cent., or twelve per cent. more than the population.

If there were more big estates to settle, observes the Detroit Free Press, there would probably be more lawyers. The attorneys in the Davis case in Minnesota got about \$5,000,000 before the heirs got anything.

The Germans seem to be losing their respect for the Emperor. Last year there were eighty-three per cent. more imprisonments for less majesty, which is the term for the treason of speaking disrespectfully about royalty, than eleven years ago.

Deputy Attorney-General Elkin, of Pennsylvania, decides that mutual life insurance companies may issue policies requiring the payment of periodical premiums of a fixed and definite sum in lieu of the assessments made upon the death of members.

The Times of India directs attention to the influence which the prevalence of distress has had upon the statistics of crime in that country. As the scarcity of food pressed more heavily during the last two years upon the agricultural population the number of offences gradually rose. But it is noted that the excess of crime was almost entirely confined to petty offenses against property. This indicates that it was hunger which drove many of the offenders to do what, under normal conditions, they would perhaps have never dreamed of doing.

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Czar Nicholas has been entertaining President Faure of France. Probably never before has the President of a Republic been received with such royal pomp. This time, asserts the Washington Pathfinder, it is the Russians that appear to have gone mad with enthusiasm at the idea of a French alliance. The Russian ladies have loaded the French officers with flowers; the French sailors have been carried on the shoulders of the frenzied populace of St. Petersburg, and fete upon fete has been given in honor of the visitors.

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

Table with advertising rates: One Square, one inch, one insertion, 1 00; One Square, one inch, one month, 5 00; One Square, one inch, one year, 10 00; One Column, one year, 50 00; Local advertisements ten cents per line each insertion.

THE CALF PATH.

One day through the primeval wood, A calf walked home, as good calves should; But made a trail all bent and crooked, And a crooked trail, as all calves do.

WHEN THIEVES FALL OUT.

By LUKE SHARP.

THE freight steamer Russian Bear was thrashing along the Pacific Ocean with her blind prow facing south.

She was somewhere off the Queen Charlotte Islands. The Bear was an iron ship of old-fashioned build and as slow as they make 'em; any old thing on the ocean could pass her; yet, pro tem, she was a passenger boat and was bringing down the last of the season's crop of Klondike miners.

On the morning of the 7th the captain noticed on the western horizon what appeared to be a steamer coming towards him. As craft are scarce on these waters, except in the sealing season, the captain watched the stranger's approach with interest not unmixed with anxiety, because of the valuable cargo he had aboard.

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I'll have it without any more nonsense. I'm not running a moonlight excursion with a brass band on board.

"You're too late. We've been robbed already." "Oh, that's too thin. Every man hold up his hands; we're going to lay alongside and the man that moves gets shot."

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THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

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

A Word Picture—The Martyr—A Double Quantity—Robbed It Is—A Beauty Slip—Too Quick For Him—Domestic Repartee—Fencing With Fate.

The Martyr—"Your husband seems to be a victim of the tobacco habit." "No; I'm the victim. He thoroughly enjoys it."

Robbed It Is—"Which would you rather be, Hargreaves, rich or handsome?" "I'd like to be rich, also."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Beauty Slip—"Are you in pain, my little man?" asked the kind old man. "No," answered the boy. "The pain's in me."—Indianapolis Journal.

Domestic Repartee. Mrs. Henpeck—"The proof of the pudding is in the eating." Mr. Henpeck—"The proof of those you make is in the post-mortem."—Life.

Fencing With Fate. He (cautiously)—"If I should propose, would you say yes?" She (more cautiously)—"If you knew I would say yes would you propose?"

Too Quick For Him. Mrs. Bacon—"Did you offer Mr. Crimsenback your umbrella when he went out?" Mr. Bacon—"No; I didn't have a chance; he took it."—Yonkers Statesman.

A Beauty Slip. Mrs. Mashem—"My dog and I have been sitting for our photographs as 'Beauty and the Beast.'" Lord Lorenson (a bit of a fancier)—"Yes; he certainly is a beauty, isn't he?"—Punch.

The Editor's Assistant—"Here's some fugitive poetry, left to-day." The Editor—"By whom?" The Editor's Assistant—"A fugitive poet. I ran him out with a shotgun."—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Woman's Portion. "In marriage," said the old bachelor, as he mentally figured on the cost of a wedding present, "a woman gets everything." "Yes," admitted the old maid; "she even gets the worst of it."—Chicago Post.

Rare Feliety. She—"Such lovely bargains as there are at that new place!" He—"Ah?" She—"Yes, silks at eighteen cents, and in a store so small that a hundred persons crowd it to suffocation!"—Detroit Journal.

Young Housekeeper—"My good man, can't you find a more useful life than that of a tramp?" Tramp—"We are useful, madam—just think of the number of divorcees we prevent by eating young housekeepers' pies."—Judge.

Didn't Approve of the Feast. The lesson was from the prodigal son, and the teacher was dwelling on the character of the elder brother. "But amid all the rejoicing," he said, "there was one to whom the preparation of the feast brought no joy, to whom the prodigal's return gave no pleasure, but only bitterness; one who did not approve of the feast being held, and who had no wish to attend it. Now can any of you tell me who this was?"

There was a breathless silence, followed by a vigorous cracking of thumbs, and then from a dozen sympathetic little genuses came the chorus: "Please, sir, it was the fattest calf!"—Aberdeen Journal.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

A strong microscope shows the single hairs of the head to be like coarse, round rasps, but with teeth extremely irregular and jagged.

The oyster is one of the strongest creatures on earth. The force required to open an oyster is more than nine hundred times its weight.

The sole of the English coast when placed over a gravelly bottom, will at once assume that shape to a remarkable degree. Placed in a white bowl it becomes almost as white as the dish.

In France it is a punishable offense for anyone to give infants under one year any form of solid food unless prescribed by a legally qualified medical man.

Beaumur says that each thread of what we call a "spider web" is composed of about five thousand separate fibres, and that it would take 27,648 full-grown spiders a year to spin a pound of such silk.

The summer coat of the polar fox is dark, in general harmony with the ground of the rocky Arctic regions, where the sun has melted off the snow. In winter it is so white that it can hardly be seen as it runs over the snow.

More than six thousand species of plants are cultivated, and most of these have been broken up into varied forms by the hand of man. Horticulturists create new species, and show numbers of cultivated plants of which no one knows the original form.

Spanning an inlet of the Yellow Sea near Sangang, China, is a bridge five and a quarter miles long, with 300 piers of masonry, and having its roadway sixty-four feet above the water. This work is said to have been accomplished by Chinese engineers 800 years ago.

The drill of the woodpecker has another tool inside, a sort of insect catcher. On the end is a bony thorn with sharp teeth like barbs on a fish hook. As he works and finds an insect he opens the drill and sends out this barbed tongue and draws it into his mouth.

A testing-machine of wonderful power has recently been devised for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. It is capable of exerting a pressure of 500,000 pounds. It can be applied to testing the strength of a complete arch of masonry, and it is said that similar tests on so large a scale have never before been applied.

An experiment station for what has been called the "vivisection of plants" has been established by the Department of Agriculture in Washington. Somewhat similar stations exist elsewhere, but it is said to be the intention to make this more extensive than any other. Valuable results are expected from the study of the diseases of plants, and it has long been suggested that this may lead to the employment of "plant doctors" just as now we have doctors for men and animals.

In the future we may be importing masut instead of exporting coal. Masut is a by-product in the distillation of raw petroleum. It is also manufactured from a cheap, brown coal found in Saxony. There has been, until recently, great trouble, says the Chicago Journal, in finding a furnace suitable for burning it. It is now blown by steam into a special furnace, on the principle of the Lucigen light, and used without difficulty. It is said to be forty or fifty per cent. cheaper than coal, and is twenty per cent. better as a heat raiser. Steam can be got up quicker and kept at a higher pressure, and more work is done by the machinery. From a naval point of view these are vitally important facts. No sign of a ship under full steam will be shown in the sky, for masut is a smokeless fuel. Russia and Italy are using it in their navies, and Germany has lately made some valuable experiments. At Kiel, Wilhelmshaven and Danzig are tanks from which it can be pumped into ships. Its specific gravity being so much less than that of coal, a ship's buoyancy is greatly increased when the bunkers are filled with it. Heavier armor or cargoes can be carried. The heating capacity being greater, the ship can travel faster or farther. It is yet to be learned what improvements the Germans have introduced into their furnaces and what are the disadvantages of masut.

The Trustful Citizen. The other morning a careless mason dropped a brick from the second story of a building on which he was at work. Leaping over the wall and glancing downward he discovered a respectable citizen with his silk hat jammed over his eyes and ears, rising from a recumbent posture. The mason, in tones of apprehension, inquired: "Did that brick hit anyone down there?" The citizen, with great difficulty extricating himself from the straggling hair which had been converted into a bicycle and rider as they appeared when caught in a furious whirlwind. During recent tempests a number of bicyclists were caught on the highways, and although a few machines were wrecked, they were of the cheap grades. Bicycles of the best make showed remarkable powers of resistance. They were bent into all sorts of shapes, but they did not break.

Monarch of every human being, I. Destiny shapes itself beneath my hand. I rule amid lofty as the sky; I have the way for crime's debasing brands.

I'm king of battle, and I'm god of love—I govern all below, and all above. And once I come to you, my eyes are made, That hour your hope is lost or fortune's made.

Act bravely, promptly, for the way is free; And woe to him who hesitates, afraid! I hold in one hand, bowie, love and place.

And in the other, hate and disgrace! So, when I come, then may your eyes see plain; For slighted once, I never come again. —John B. Underwood, in Boston Transcript.

There may be lots of nice men in the world, but the bill collectors don't meet them. —Atchison Globe.

"Did Mrs. Juks' traveling gown fit well?" "Yes, but it cost so much she had to give up her trip and stay at home." —Philadelphia Press.

Mrs. Files—"Did you take your pet dog to the country with you, Mrs. Styles?" "Merely, no! The table was satisfactory."—Yonkers Statesman.

"You know what a hatred Brown has for a crowd?" "Yes; indeed; what of it?" "His wife presented him with triplets yesterday."—Indianapolis Journal.

Mrs. Brown Jones—"I married my husband for protection." Jones Brown—"Did you get it?" Mrs. Brown Jones—"No; I didn't even get reciprocity."—Truth.

"Our typewriter girl is awfully clever; she can sharpen lead pencils." "Pooh! Ours can beat that. She has five clerks in the office dying to sharpen them for her."—Detroit Free Press.

Silas Oatek (who has just paid the bill)—"You York people know a thing or two. I reckon you live this windmill here to keep people from gittin' hot when they pay your confounded high charges!"—Puck.

Solicitor—"Yes, madam, we will have to put down your correct age in the deed." Client—"Put forty-five, then, if you must have it, but for goodness' sake write it as illegally as possible."—Tit-bits.

Wearry Watkins—"A man that will torture a pore dumb beast or be took and boiled in oil." Hungry Higgins—"Boilin' in oil's too good for 'im. He'd orto be boiled in soapuds."—Indianapolis Journal.

Saddler—"That was a wonderful performance of Star Pointer's, wasn't it? I tell you, a mile in less than two minutes is getting pretty fast." Wheeler—"You bet it is. What gear did he have, I wonder?"—Cleveland Leader.

Disappointed Suitor (savagely)—"What's that, you little imp? You say you just overheard your sister tell me she would be a sister to me, and that you are glad of it? Small brother (meekly)—"Yeth thir—mither loves company, thir."—Judge.

"Dear," said Mrs. Grouch as she showed her lord and master a picture of a hat with a pretty woman's face under it. "I wish you would get me a hat like that." "I'll be glad to," grunted old Grouch, "if you will only get a face like that."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"What do it mean," said Miss Miami Jones, "when dey talk in dis here novel book 'bout or young man payin' his addresses to a young lady?" "Doesn't you know?" exclaimed Erastus Pinkley. "I sholly doesn't." "It means dat he done put de postage stamp on de love letter."—Washington Star.

"Oh, not at all," protested the Turk. "Ask any question you like, Yes. My trousers? Oh, they are rather large, to be sure, but you should see the harem that goes through them every night after I'm asleep." As for the travelers, they were much bewildered by the strange things they were encountering.—Detroit Journal.

Tompson—"Was Locke much of a fighter when he was in the army?" Hammer—"No, hardly that. In fact, he managed to keep out of battle altogether. But then, you know, he was full of fight before he got to the front, and he has been full of it ever since the war was over. In the nature of things, a fellow must have a rest some time or other."—Boston Transcript.

According to recent statistics concerning the populations of towns from 1800 to 1890, it appears that during that period the population has been doubled at Amsterdam, Birmingham, Brussels, Manchester and Rome. It has increased threefold at Copenhagen and Marseilles; fourfold at Prague, Lyons, St. Petersburg, Paris and London; fivefold at Dresden, Cologne, Breslau, Hanburg and Vienna; sixfold at Leeds, Liverpool and Warsaw; sevenfold at Sheffield and Glasgow; eightfold at Budapest and Berlin; and tenfold at Baltimore.

But all this is nothing compared to the growth of New York and Philadelphia, which to day have twenty-five times the inhabitants they had at the beginning of the century, or like Chicago, which has grown 245-fold, and Brooklyn, where for every inhabitant in 1800 there are now 339.

Jim Stevenson, a colored man aged about twenty years, residing in Lexington, but who was born at North Middletown, Bourbon County, has the most enormous hand in the world, probably, and he says he was born that way. His right hand is eleven inches long from the joint of the wrist to the end of the middle finger, and the thumb and fingers about four inches in circumference. His thumb nail is as big as a half dollar. The two last fingers are of normal size. —Louisville Dispatch.

It has remained for the French to study the resisting power which the bicycle has in a cyclone, and to produce an instantaneous photograph of a bicycle and rider as they appeared when caught in a furious whirlwind. During recent tempests a number of bicyclists were caught on the highways, and although a few machines were wrecked, they were of the cheap grades. Bicycles of the best make showed remarkable powers of resistance. They were bent into all sorts of shapes, but they did not break.