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About 400 people are annually killed in Chicago, Ill., at grade crossings of railroads.

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Spain has been steadily making a deficit for fourteen years past, and what is worse, seems to be making a bigger one each succeeding year.

The German Government is preparing a bill to regulate emigration. It is intended chiefly to restrict the activity of agents, who will be prohibited from carrying emigrants at the expense of foreign States.

Californians expect that within a year or two their State will become noted as a centre for the cultivation of flowers for perfumery purposes, and thus become a rival to France and Germany, which have monopolized this business heretofore.

The country that has the cheapest coal, declares the San Francisco Chronicle, can depend upon winning the race for manufacturing supermacy. Statistics show that the average price of bituminous coal per long ton at the mouth of the pit in the United States is \$1.12, while in Great Britain the average is \$1.60.

The firing of the Miantonomoh's big guns without damage scores another naval triumph for the United States, is the boast of the San Francisco Examiner. Several of the English ships carrying large guns have found that the discharge of their own batteries was the greatest danger they would have to fear in action -there being a certainty that a few rounds would send the vessel to the bottom. The Miantonomoh will evidently be able to hurt something else than itself.

The inventor of the "whaleback" steamer, Captain McDougall, of West Superior, Wis., thinks that his type of vessel will make a more formidable manof-war than anything afloat, especially for coast and harbor defense. He has had a number of pictures made of his idea of a belligerent whaleback. They are to be so constructed that in action they can be entirely summerged, except a small turret and the bow. In the bow are to be stationed two heavy guns, one of which can be run out and fired, while the other is drawn back for loading. The vessel has been patented in this and all foreign countries.

A chivalrous man is trying to awaken a little interest in Mrs. Columbus in this anniversary of the discovery that made her consort famous. He tells us that she was a Miss Palestrello, which is in. finitely more distinguished than plain Mrs. Columbus. Her father was a navigator, and as a girl she made many hazardous voyages in company with him. She possessed a fine education and was a brainy, ambitious woman. It may be possible that she suggested the Western excursion to her lord and master, and spurred him on to his discovery, like plenty of other good wives to whom the husbands owe their fame.

Says the Gossipper in the New York World: "One who witnessed the fire drill by Tiffany & Co.'s clerks during the recent blaze which threatened the great jewelry store tells me it was one of the best specimens of human mechanism he ever saw. At the first sign of fire the store was cleared of customers and the clerks took positions assigned them in practice. At the first signal the heavy iron shutters were closed, next the hose was uncoiled, and at the third command the jewelry was deposited in the various safes. There was no confusion, no conflicting orders or excitement. This admirable drill undoubtedly saved the firm from a heavy loss, as, had a panic taken place, the result may easily be imagined.'

THE STATION DESPAIR We must trust the conductor, most surely Why millions of millions before Have made this same journey securely And come to that ultimate shore.

And we, we will reach it in season; And ah, what a welcome is there! Reflect, then, how out of all reason To stop at the station Despair!

Ay, midnights and many a potion Of trouble and sorrow have we, As we journey from ocean to ocean, From sea unto ultimate sea, To that deep sea of seas, and all silence Of passion, concern, and of care, That vast sea of Eden-set islands

Don't stop at the station Despair! Go forward, whatever may follow, Go forward, friend, led or alone; Ab, me, to leap off in some hollow Or fen, in the night and unknown. Leap off like a thief; try to hide you From angels, all waiting you there! Goforward: whatever betide you, Don't stop at that station Despair! --Joaquin Miller, in St. Paul Globe.

A WINTER WOOING.

ENEVIEVE Chamberlain is too silent," remarked and the

perfect mouth; but, as she is very dainty and very beautiful, I don't really do it." The young woman who sat near him as he spoke, painting, and who could not quite compare with a great beauty, thought that Balkan was showing off, being irritated by Genevieve's apparent indifference, and was trying to console being irritited by Genevieve's apparent indifference, and was trying to console himself by grumbling at her, although he would have been very critical of any-one else who dared to do so. This young woman, who could reflect intelligently, was, nevertheless, a perfect child in guilelessness. She was the sort of girl who would remain swart and pairs as an who would remain sweet and naive as an old woman.

Nellie Featherly looked round at Balkan in a moment, and said: "Now there is nothing mysterious

about me.

"You? I should think not! You are so fearless, straightforward and amus-

so fearless, straightforward and amus-ing." "You have not quite enough illusion about me, I think," pouted Nellie, over her satin scarf, which was just bursting into flower and leaf. "You have made me out just one of the ordinary, useful, toss-me-aside kind of women, and, al-though you are right, I do hate to hear the fact repeated." "I don't care what you think of your-"I don't care what you think of your-

self, or how you construe my apprecia-tion of you," answered Balkan. "I am tion of you," answered Balkan. "I am perfectly content with enjoying your traits and sitting near while you paint." Nellie went on busily, with a dozen pretty motions, and a rather dissatisfied expression of countenance. Whether it was her work or his words which an-norad her. Balkan was not only for an

noyed her, Balkan was not quite sure. "That's exquisite and no mistake," he

went on, peering over at the drawing board on her knees, upon which the satin was stretched. "Oh, please don't say pretty things,"

Nellie cried. "Somehow you seem in-sincere to day."

evieve, instead of confessing to actualities

rejoined, with a smile into Balkan's earnest face.

Cecil Morton sauntered across the room during the little pause ensuing, and said that the day was too pleasant to stay in the house. Why not go to walk stay in the house. Why not go to walk before dinner? The young people, eight in all, were visiting some dear old country gentleman to whom Nellie was near. try gentleman to whom Nellie was near-ly related, and who had asked them for a week of sleighing and other winter sports, the snow being in better condi-tion than for years past. That evening they were to go sleighing by moonlight, and it was super-energetic for Morton to talk of walking. But we all know how these restless people of energy and mus-cle rout us out of lazy tete-a-tetes and fireside luxury. Neither Nellie nor Bal-kan wished to be stigmatized as loth to

handsome and so maniy! I don't won-der you like him tremendously! And the idea of his not coming under your spell! Why, I just know he thinks you are irresistible. I know you are in his found time to scold him for his stupid-

mind-"You love me, and try to think me a Genevieve. "But my to think me a Genevieve. "But my former conquests have not been all-convincing, because Mr. Balkan is really the only true per-son of envisble position and means whom I ever met in our set. There seems to be a thousand foolish bachelors to one real here."

a thousand foolish bachelors to one real hero." "I think Hal is a fine fellow," Nellie again admitted softly, resting her hand upon Genevieve's arm for a few steps, then stopping her and letting the others catch up with them. "How far north we seem?" she then exclaimed. "I am sure the Arctic Sea is over that hill of pines by the meadow. This exhil-arating atmosphere makes me feel as if I arating atmosphere makes me feel as if I were somebody else. Oh, we are ex-plorers! Is that a Polar bear or a snow drift?' she concluded, pointing to a white-banked gate post by the cattle drift?" ane.

Cecil Morton tried to shuffle the little Chamberlain is too silent," remarked hal Balkan. "When she comes into a luck would have it, Hal Balkan came up room Lifed es if to be would have it, Hal Balkan came up nai bankan. "When by sheer force of desperation. And as she comes into a luck would have it, Hal Balkan came up room I feel as if I wanted to shake a and asked her to walk with him as far as secret out of her perfect mouth; but, distance down the high road, and Nellie Featherly heard him say it. Genevieve was willing, and they started off at a huge pace which the rest tried to imitate; but not too well, as everyone of the girls thought that Balkan wanted to propose to his companion, and deter-mined to let him have a chance.

mined to let him have a chance. At last the two figures in advance stopped under the delicate tracery of the great bare elm tree and seemed to be talking earnestly. Then a cry went up from Nellie Featherly, for Generieve had sunk to the ground, evidently in a faint, and Balkan kneeled at her side. "The walk was too rapid for her." exclaimed Nellie, off-hand. "Oh, Mr. Morton why must you always be asking exclaimed Nellie, off-hand. "On, Mr. Morton, why must you always be asking us to go for constitutionals; they'll be the death of us!" And Nellie whom no one had ever seen really provoked before, gave him a cross glance, and then went on a run, accompanied by the re-proved Morton, toward her friend, while the others followed more or less

ardently. As faithful Nellie ran she discerned a strange black cloud rolling towards them all down the snowy road. Soon the motion of two prancing horses became ap-parent, and as Nellie reached Genevieve's prostrate form in the middle of the road, over which Balkan was bending in basorbed dismay, the plucky girl realized that a runaway team was in full swing at a few yards' distance, and quite un observed by anyone but herself and Cecil Morton, who shouted to Nellie to have

a care and jump aside. But this Nellie never thought of doing. On she ran, beyond Genevieve whose danger was so immenent—and what could she do to avert the danger? In her muff was a ball of snow, which had been reduced by careful manipula-tion—under Morton's instructions—to an tion—under Morton's instructions—to an icy consistency, capable as her teacher had explained, of killing anybody, if rightly aimed. It is by no means easy to swerve the direction of a maddened horse. But one of these was running "11 My dear Miss Featherly, I should not hesitate to tell the truth rather than prevaricate. To be quite honest, I would tell you the truth about anything in the world you could ask me; though with others I might be as silent as Gen-evieve, instead of confessing to asturi indication of the second state in the second s were a powerful team belonging to an

hickory nut, besides being dreadfully awkward when he's around. Moreover, Hal Balkan is perfectly splendid—so bandsome and so manly I don't won der you like him tremendously! And

ity.

The horses were unhitched from the sledge, and the young people undertook to drag Genevieve home, which the stout to drag Generieve nome, which the scolt poles at the sides of the conveyance as-sisted them to accomplish, as the girls could take hold and propel, while the young men dragged the cumbrous con-cern. The fair invalid was pillowed on muffs and covered with newmarkets, and men pleaged to avoir new pole. It was

muffs and covered with newmarkets, and was pleased to revive meely. It was first sunset and then deep dusk when the catafalque slowly reached home. It may be supposed that dinner was a little late that evening. Nellie came into the parlor before the others, looking lovely in still another of her fashionable frocks and Balkan was waiting for her ready to pounce. "What did you mean?" he whispered. Nellie's eyes, which looked big and bright, because she had been crying all to herself, filled again with tears. She edged away into the anteroom and he followed. "I meant," she replied sotto voice,

edged away into the anteroom and ne followed. "I meant," she replied sotto voice, "that when you love her, and she loves you, and when you come out into the backwoods and have plenty of oppor-tunities, and when we are all looking on from a respectful distance, it is perfectly stupid of you not to offer yourself to Genevieve, and I should have fainted and died both if I had been in her place. She showed great self-control not to have died. You had no business to stipulate the tree, anyhow, for of course she would expect everything to be settled she would expect everything to be settled before she got there. Oh, of course, you think me outrageous to meddle with you and talk right out as if I were a ovel, without respect of persons and open secrets, but I'm nobody in par-ticular, you know, and seeing that I love Genevieve, I will put my finger into her affairs if I like to. And I'll just add this-that I'm going to arrange to have you both driven by the coachman to-night in the big sleigh while we are portioned off to little cutters. The driver's seat is way up." "But my dear Miss Featherly-

Nellie-"Now, don't be disrespectful. 0 course I can only ask for an outward show of respect after telling you to offer yourself to my dearest friend, whom we

all know you are hoping to win, but that show of courtesy I stipulate for." "But how can I ask Miss Chamberlain

in marriage if I love you?" Balkan squeeezed in desperately. Nellie sat down on the arm of a chair

and looked up at him aghast, blushing

and looked up at him aghast, blushing and appealing. "Oh, you can't be in love with me?" she said, breathlessly. "I wish you would not be so scornful. You ought to have known it. Months ago I was crazy about Genevieve, like the rest; but only for a week, for then The rest; but only for a week, for them I met you. A man doesn't sit staring all day at a girl unless he loves her. While I stare at you your utter indiffer-ence to me is something appalling; but I had hoped to win you in the end. Then you take me by the throat, yank me in front of somehody else, with me in front of somebody else, with orders, martial in their haste, and now with cast me into a perfect sea of premature-ness; for, of course, you'll spurn my un-heralded revelation. But I'm as obsti-nate as you are, and love you I will, by Lore ?? Jove!

Balkan sat down on the other armchair, and being trim as a marble statue for dinner, and not having time to brush his hair again if he tore it a little, thrust his thumbs into his pockets and glared at the fire.

A feint rustle of heavy silk at his elbow made him feel exultant.

"If she consents to it, you might pro-pose to me in the Russian sleigh, then."

He turned, and her superb eyes met his. He caught her hands and studied

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL

Electric elevators increase.

There's an electric hammer.

Recent experiments have shown that liquid oxygen is magnetic.

Steam locomotives are to be tried on the Chicago (Ill.) street lines.

The best isinglass dissolves completely in hot water, leaving no visible residuum.

The jeweler has drills so small that they can bore a hole only one-thousandth of an inch in diameter through a precious stone.

The globular brass lantern, hitherto in use for military service purposes, is to be superceded by a folding lantern for use in tents.

There is a new sanitarium in the Rivi-era of Italy for the inhalation of ozone for the cure of most weaknesses, particularly tuberculosis.

The best material for hardening and tempering malleable iron and steel goods is said to be leather cinders, made by burning waste leather.

Children are not numerous in France. Out of 10,000,000 families in the Re-public one-fifth have no children at all and another fifth have one child each.

The star Sirius, which is shown to be about double the size of our sun, emits from forty to sixty fold more light than the sun, owing to its matter being much more diffused.

Recent explorations in the district of Sonora, Mexico, show that the coal de-posits in the San Marcial Valley will amount to fully 60,000,000,000 tons and it is of excellent quality.

Dr. Koch's lymph, according to the results of the experiments communicated to the last meeting of the Berlin (Ger-many) Society for Internal Medicine, seems to have proved untrustworty, even as a means of diagnosis for tuberculosis.

A French inventor has attached a tiny incandescent lamp to an ordinary pencil for use by reporters and others having to take notes at night. The light is not affected by rain or wind. The battery is carried in the pocket, the wires passing down the sleeve.

A novel method of testing the condition of a horse's feet is to attach one termi-nal of a light battery to the bit and the other to the shoe. If the foot is imother to the shoe. If the foot is im-properly penetrated by the nails the ani-mal will squirm under the test, but will give no token if there is no irritation.

The natives of Madagascar formerly followed the moon in determining time, but since the influx of missionaries the Queen issued an edict that the Christian year should be followed. But in com-mencing the year the first year the date of the first day was set some time in October and November.

The red color of the markings on Jupiter is believed by Mr. Barnard, the Suptor is believed by Mr. Barnard, the eminent astronomer, to be an indication of their age, the spots or markings (other than the white spots) being dark or black on first appearances, but afterward becoming red. The great red spot seems to be no exception to the rule.

The success of the existing electric railway in London, England, has given an impetus to the movement for loco-motion of a similar kind. For considera-tion during the furthermine series of tion during the forthcoming session of Parliament there are no fewer than five bills which propose either the construc-tion of new electric railways or the extension of lines already authorized.

A Colorado man has devised an elec-trical machine that successfully operates in placer deposits of gold that could not be profitably worked by the sluice methods. The "thod employed for saving the gold is "t of collecting it by means of the electric current, so that it forms an amalgam from which the precious metal may be easily separated.

An Ingenious Robber.

Kuhn, the great German naturalist, informs that in the year 1799 some monks who kept bees observing that they made unusual noise lifted up the hive, when an animal flew out, which to their great surprise—for they at first took it to be a bat—proved to be a death's head hawk moth, and he re nembers that several, some years before, had been found dead in the bee houses. Huber also, in 1804, discovered that it made its way into his hives and those of his vicinity and robbed them of their In Africa, we are told, it has the same propensity, which the Hottentots observ-ing, in order to monopolize the honey of the wild bees, have induced the colonists to believe that it inflicts a mortal wound. This moth has the faculty of emitting a remarkable sound, which Huber supposes may produce an effect on the omewhat similar to that produced by the of their queen. As soon as ut-this strikes them motionless, and tered. then the moth is enabled to commit with impunity much devastation in the midst of myriads of armed bands.—Cassel's Magazine.

JEB'S HORSEHAIR SNAKE, Jeb took a horsehair every day and rushed down to the lake, And threw it in and watched to see it change

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into a snake; He'd seen little snakes in puddles that

looked like horsehairs, so He thought all horsehairs would be snakes if they had time to grow.

Every time it rained the highway gleamed with temporary lakes, All perturbed with writhing horsehairs

- which had been turned into snakes; They looked like snakes, they looked like hairs, and Jeb he said the rain
- Had turned the horsehairs into snakes-'twas
- easy to explain. So he put horsehairs in the lake and watched
- from day to day To see them turn to wriggling snakes and

swim and crawl away, But though he gazed intently with eyeballs tense and strained,

The horsehairs still were horsehairs and as horsehairs still remained.

Perhaps we all are much like Jed-beside life's sheltered lakes

We watch for harmless horsehairs to turn into noxious snakes,

The hissing vipers of the soul, the serpents of the brain, Are mostly fangless horsehairs and will ever

so remain. -Sam Walter Foss, in Yankee Blade.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

A tumble-down affair—A wrestling match.—Texas Siftings.

"The great heir of fame"-"Lo, the Conquering Hero Comes." The chief attraction about a miser is

his charming heirs .- Texas Siftings.

When a man takes a fatal step he is sure to put his foot in it.--Pittsburg Post.

Advice from the Century Dictionary, page 4908.—"To pop the question. See pop."--Life.

An "ice jam" is anything but a sweet thing to the Maine logger.—Boston Commercial Bulletin.

It is profitable to know one's self; but there is money in knowing just how others rate us.-Puck. "A simple look is all I crave," said he. "Gaze into yonder mirror and you'll get it," said she.—New York Journal.

"Cecil Van Dunse gave me a piece of his mind to-day." "I noticed you weren't as brilliant as usual."—Truth.

patient the next pair of shoes he buys are sure to pinch him.—Atchison Globe.

of surgery. Still it doesn't quite come up to putting a head on a man.—Boston Herald.

The world is full of men so engaged

in saying "Amen" that they fail to see the contribution basket.---Atchison

The man who can't keep up with the procession in this world musta't expect to enjoy the music of the band.—Elmira Gazette.

Unwed-"What is this serveant-girl

"Do you know, I don't think much of Mawson!" "You don't have to. You

can size Mawson up in two seconds."-Brooklyn Life.

An unpledged legislator may have "a head of his own," but other men are making desperate efforts to get his ear.— Columbus Post.

say, I know a good thing I'd like to put you on to." "What is it?" "Ice."---Indianapolis Journal.

dianapolis Journal. Of all the fools, who leads the van? If it were put to vote I think he'd be the silly man Who jumps to eatch the boat. —Judge.

Why Two Friends Parted: "Oh.

the c Globe.

Setting a broken neck is a great feat

When a man resolves to be good and

This has been a great season for sport in the hunting regions of the New England States, announces the New York Sun. One taxidermist in Bangor has received fifteen moose heads for mounting this season, all of them being unusually large and fine. A fur buyer in Farmington who returned a few days ago from a purchasing trip among the trappers of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont brought more than a score of beau skins, a great number of fox skins, in cluding a very fine gray; thirty beaver, about as many fisher, a quantity of otter, sable, coon, and cat skins, five or six hun lred mink, and as many skunk. He bought about two thousand muskrat skins in New Hampshire. The animals had been killed this season.

exercise, so they rushed out of the par-lor to find the cthers and get wrapped lor to find the others and get wrapped up for a cool ramble; while Cecil Mor-ton smiled to himself in a mirror, think-ing of the commotion he could affect at

Nellie and Genevieve paired off, intentionally, as the group left the hall door ten minutes later. Something agitated Nellie's beautifui friend, as the

former was able to discover through girlish intimacy. Genevieve's face looked calm and pale as she said in a low, tragic voice to the girl beside her: "My heart is almost breaking. I am so surprised and so wretched. To think of it! I have never loved before, and

every one always on his knees to me. And now, the very one who absorbs my thoughts--cold, cold!"

"Don't be silly, Gen. You're so fired

empty wood sledge. Their driver was hallooing in the distance, as he ran wear-

ily along. Nellie Nellie pondered a moment over the success of her defence and gazed at the success of her defence and gased at the quivering limbs of the foe, and then turned back to Genevieve, panting. The girls were on the bank at the other side of the road.

Meantime Balkan had but just looked Meantime Barkan had but just hooked up, realized the peril, and caught Gene-vieve in his arms, while Morton threw his weight wildly upon the young man's struggling shoulders. It is always in some such way that a person weak in emergencies assists the real actors.

So swiftly did the runaway horses proceed that it seemed only an instant sin Genevieve had fainted.

Now all the girls swooped down from their perch helpfully and surrounded their pale friend, whose swoon was so much in earnest that she had not stirred

an eyelash. Nellie seized Balkan's hand told him she must speak with him in-

"Did you offer yourself?" she severely emptorily, out of hearing of the others. "No," he gasped, gazing blankly, as a man does who is confronted with

"Didn't you propose" exclaimed Nellie, in the same indignant tone, which showed Balkan he was a criminal, whichever way he pleaded. "Do explain?" he quavered, gently.

"Don't be silly, Gen. You're so fired up at finding any one you can become romantic over, that you are as blind as a side, calling for soft snow from under a

her face with blissful care.

"I thought I was of no account," she murmured, all of a tremble; and was suddenly kissed in a way that made her feel that for the future she had som one to guard her against all harm, give her all the happiness she could wish for.—New Orleans New Delta.

Redeeming Florida Land.

It is not generally known that thousands of acres of land under water and Florida are being gradually restored and rice. Florida are being gratuan, cane and rice. Hamilton Disston, of Philadelphia, the well known manufacturer, has terested in the reclamation of land is Florida for many years. I saw him recently at the Fifth Avenue Hotel and he said that the State gave the company half of the land it restored.

"Have many acres been redeemed?" "Already several hundred thousand acres have been deeded to the company, he said, "and the work is still going on We have a sugar cane plantation con-taining ten thousand acres. The land the finest cane in the world, and seed cane has to be used only once in a number of years. About six thou-sand pounds of sugar are produced per acre, for which we usually get four cents

a pound. "It is only a question of time when nearly all the overflowed lands in Florida will be reclaimed, and sugar and rice will be produced in great quantities."-New York Herald.

Singular Capture of a Swan.

John Jordan brought a large white swan to Pendleton the other day, and tells a queer story as to how he got it. While near his house, on East Birch Creek, he saw some eagles chasing the swan in the air above hum. The unfortunate bird, in its anxiety to escape, flew directly over the young man's head, and with a quick spring he managed to seize and bring it down, the disappointed eagles flying away.—Portland Oregonian.

Debtor-"I can't pay you anything this month." Collector-"That's what Siftings.

Judge (after the jury has acted against his judgments in acquitting a man)--"Give this man his liberty, but watch your coats and umbrellas."--Fliegende your coats and umbrellas. Blaetter.

Things one would wish to express differently: "Well, good-by, Miss Smith. Tell the others I was very sorry not to find any one at home—a-you—a."--Punch.

There are people who have lived to than because they have never been able among the multiplicity of diseases to de-cide which one to due of.—Boston Transcript.

D'Aubique-"Miss Daggett was in to D'Aubique — "Miss Daggett was in to see my color studies yesterday, and said she liked them immensely. What an artless little creature she is." Sinnick— "That's what makes her like your painting."-Boston Post.

confound him! I've just sent him out to find another job."-Chicago Tribune.

Undertakers are candid people. A gentleman called at an establishment last week and ordered an outfit for a funeral. "Dr. Blank sent me here," he said. "Oh, yes," said the undertaker, "Dr. Blank sends us all his work."--London