

The political situation in Europe continues to grow darker.

The Japanese eat more fish than any other people in the world.

The farmer who is feeding his wheat to his horses should, in the opinion of the Courier-Journal, hold both his wheat and his horses until he digests the fact that wheat will be wheat in the world's markets during the year ahead of us.

The new warships are a credit to the Nation. Recently the Philadelphia made the run from Rio de Janeiro to Callao, a distance of 5000 miles, in twenty days and eighteen hours, without stopping anywhere for coal.

A poor old man, who once was a well-to-do merchant in Wisconsin, and likewise was of much State renown as a public speaker of force and persuasiveness, has been taken to the almshouse in Baraboo, weak in mind and poverty-stricken, and past eighty years of age.

Doctor J. T. Boyd, of Indianapolis, has added his voice to that of Lieutenant Totten, and declares that the end of the world is at hand.

Some idea of the enormous proportions the business of hotel keeping has assumed in this country may be gained, declares the New Orleans Picayune, from the fact that there are in the United States upward of 50,000 hotels, exclusive of what may properly be termed inns and taverns, and what are commonly known as apartment-houses.

Deer and bears are reported to be more plentiful now in the "great woods" of Oxford County, Maine, than at any other time during the present generation.

The New York News observes: Now the surgeons have cut out a man's spleen, and yet he lives and has red blood, and will, it is said, recover.

George Vanderbilt is one of nature's queer freaks. He is the least known of any of the enormously wealthy men of New York.

The creation of money order offices in the small postoffices is advocated by the Springfield (Mass.) Union on the ground that such offices would greatly facilitate the transaction of business in rural neighborhoods.

A business man of Canada, of an enterprising nature, has established a "floating bank" on Kootenai Lake, Canada.

Doctor Oliver Wendell Holmes says that the largest elm he ever saw was in Oxford, England, and measured twenty-five feet in circumference.

The method of harvesting wheat on the great bonanza ranches of the Dakotas is said to have amazed the foreign Agricultural Commissioners at the World's Fair.

Life insurance companies are becoming the holders of enormous masses of capital, notes the New York Tribune. Statistics made public at the last meeting of the National Association of Life Underwriters show that the companies taking no account of assessment corporations and societies, hold assets to the value of \$850,000,000.

Though most people are equipped with thirty-two teeth only, the Shah of Persia appears to be more amply provided for, as we are told that he has just had his fortieth molar extracted.

Great Britain has undertaken another great enterprise in Africa, which will probably have an immense effect in the extension of its empire and the civilization of the dark continent.

The Atlanta Constitution says: Congressman Brocius, of Pennsylvania, is a man who has a vivid recollection of his experience during the war.

HACK AND HEW.

Hack and Hew were the sons of God in the earlier earth than now: One at His right hand, one at His left, To obey as He taught them how.

EVERYBODY'S GOOD FRIEND

HAT was the name by which he was most frequently designated, although all of his acquaintances knew very well that his visiting card bore the name of "Mr. Robert Brune."

as to business, his desk was in the office of a private banking house near West street, and he was supposed to be a silent partner of the bankers themselves.

As time went on, it was remarked at the clubs that Brune himself introduced many men from out of town, but as all of these were anxious to repay all courtesies the evening and were fairly able to do it, the members who took most notice of Brune's hospitality made no objection.

From that day Brune's fortune was made, as he half suspected when his bankers told him of Mrs. Moorhart's visit, for a woman of strong will and abundant leisure will expend a lot of both for the bliss of fathoming a mystery.

At a meeting of the Directors of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, President Angell exhibited pictures taken with kodaks.

and we are so desirous of feeling at ease about it that we would be glad to give a competent person a third of the entire income for his services.

"My dear Mrs. Moorhart," said Brune, trying to keep his heart out of his mouth, "I am more flattered by your offer than words can tell.

"I beg you won't think that I could plan to take any advantage in business of a lady--of two ladies, indeed."

"I am deeply grateful for your confidence, my dear madam."

"I have never known just what your business was, but--"

The wedding was a splendid affair, according to the newspapers; the bridegroom alone had so many friends and well-wishers that not all of the invited could get into the church.

"I'm more than ever satisfied that you're just the man for the place--and dear Adah will agree with me."

One of the ancient customs connected with Swedish funerals was to place a small looking glass in the coffin of an unmarried female, so that when the last trump sounds she might be able to arrange her tresses.

Central Park is badly trampled by mules and New York park commissioners have appropriated \$250 to pay for the services of a mole trapper for three months.

AN ANIMAL'S EDUCATION.

PEOPLE who go to circuses and dogs perform wonderful tricks. The animals are taught to do them. A leading ring master supplies interesting information concerning horses.

"The first thing to do is to accustom your horse to the ring, to make him run round regularly about them to stop at a given signal.

With respect to dogs, a celebrated trainer, who is now exhibiting a troupe of them, says their education is a work of time and patience.

"I read an account of how a girl fell over forty feet without killing herself."

"I thought you said you intended to remain single."

For two hours the fashionable lady kept the draper exhibiting his goods, and at the end of that period she sweetly asked: "Are you quite sure you have shown me everything you have?"

Every American President has had from three to thirty-two towns named for him.

FORTITUDE.

The soul that suffers and for pain is stronger Grows great with strength above the strength of Fate;

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

Every man with a bright son believes in heredity.

There are always some rare bargains at the meat market.

When the dealers put female the prices on peaches the women put them up.

"What are you wearing glasses for?" "For my eyes, stupid. S'pose I'm wearing them for corns?"

When the colleges open it will be brain versus brain, and may the best man win.

He wore a wide hat and a sash, And stared in a way that was bold, But the girls every one adored him.

Many a girl makes a bad blunder in not taking a man at his word when he says, "I am not worthy of your love."

"The pleasant way to take cod-liver oil," says an old gourmand, "is to fatten pigeons with it, and then eat the pigeons."

ANIMALS TAUGHT TRICKS.

HOW FOUR-FOOTED CIRCUS PERFORMERS ARE TAUGHT TRICKS.

THE HORSE, he says, "contrary to general belief, is the most stupid animal on earth. He has only one faculty--memory.

"The horse must be from five to seven years old. Before that age he is too spirited, after it his muscles are not elastic enough.

"The first thing to do is to accustom your horse to the ring, to make him run round regularly about them to stop at a given signal.

"The horse has a great objection to kneeling or lying down at any moment. This feat is taught by means of iron bracelets placed on his ankles and attached to a tether held by the trainer, who, by sudden jerks or pulls as he is moving, makes him fall or kneel.

"The pig is said to be the most difficult animal to train. A clown who exhibits a troupe of performing porkers does not believe in learned pigs.

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