



W. M. CHENEY, Publisher.

Terms—\$1.00 in Advance; \$1.25 after Three Months.

VOL. XII.

LAPORTE, PA., FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 1894.

NO. 46.

Hard times have decreased meat consumption.

Over two-thirds of the population of Utah are of foreign birth or extraction.

The Japanese have a better scientific knowledge of earthquakes than any other nationality.

The gold production of this country for ten years has varied but little from \$32,000,000 annually.

Americans own sixty-four steel or iron steamships, of a gross tonnage of 197,108 tons, sailing under foreign flags.

A Brooklyn public official says that he cannot see why so many widows are moving into that city. The latest census report shows that there are more marriages in Brooklyn in proportion to its population than in any city of the Union.

The ornamental features of the pampas alone are known here, says Mrs. Harriet W. R. Strong, in the Los Angeles (Cal.) Times. I discovered that the plumes could not be destroyed in water.

Reports from United States consuls in Mexico to the State Department warn Americans against emigrating to Mexico, with a view to permanent settlement, with insufficient means, or without informing themselves in a reliable way as to the prospects for earning livelihoods.

A peculiar solution of England's problem in India may evolve before many years, predicts the New York Independent. There is a growing tendency among Indian princes to marry European wives; and the result is likely to be that many of the States now governed by them will in course of time pass into the hands of Eurasian rulers.

Attention was so centered upon the labor troubles that the close of the San Francisco Midwinter Fair on the Fourth of July passed almost unnoticed. Yet the event was worthy of comment.

The United States Court of Chancery has just rendered a decision of great interest to insurers, as it invalidates the clause found in most policies, that no agent has authority to alter the clauses printed on a policy.

There are 1785 separate railroad companies in the United States.

The German Emperor has advised the universities to establish rowing clubs, after the English model.

The population of Massachusetts is nearly as large as that of all the other New England States combined.

The High Court of the Transvaal Republic in Africa has recently decided that foreigners are liable to military service after two years' residence in the country.

An old gentleman, of Dexter, Me., has been doing a great deal of public good in his town, and the Board of Assessors, as a delicate compliment, reduced his taxes.

Railway construction in the United States for the six months ending June 30 was 525.25 miles, built by fifty-one lines in twenty-five States.

Steel is now cheaper than iron. It seems hardly possible, remarks the Boston Cultivator, but the estimates of cost in a recent bidding for a bridge in Pennsylvania to be made with steel stringers and steel rivets was lower than a like estimate for the same bridge made with iron stringers and iron rivets.

The American Register, of Paris, is authority for the statement that the descendants of Queen Victoria are either now in possession of, or will in the natural course of events come to occupy, seven thrones—those of the British Empire, the German Empire, the Russian Empire, the Kingdom of Greece, the Grand Duchy of Hesse, the Duchy of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and the Duchy of Saxe-Meiningen.

This is called the age of electricity. That, in the opinion of the New York Recorder, is a mistake. We haven't crossed the threshold yet. The advance has been wonderful, however. In 1870 two examiners in the United States Patent Office did all the work of the bureau; now twenty are required, and they are months behind.

As an offset to the movement for a general disarmament of Europe there has recently been going on a discussion as to its probable effects on the labor market. Mr. Longhurst, Honorary Secretary of the English Chamber of Commerce in Paris, has come out boldly in favor of large armies in the interests of the working classes.

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A SUMMER LONGING.

I must away to wooded hills and vales, Where broad, slow streams flow cool and silently, And idle barges flap their listless sails— For me the summer sunset glows and pales, And green fields wait for me.

DARKEST BEFORE DAWN.

HERE'S nothing in the paper," said Aurora Clymer—"absolutely nothing!" She threw down the printed sheet as she spoke—a tall girl, with wistful blue eyes and hair drooping a la Psyche over her forehead.

She looked at the baby, the baby held out its little hands, with an indistinct, cooing sound, like a bird in the hedges. "I'll go," said Polly. "The train leaves in twenty minutes," said Mr. Carthew, looking at his watch. Polly rushed up stairs for her hat and shawl. She left a scribbled note on the table for her sisters, neither of whom was in the room, and with Mr. Carthew and the baby just caught the train.

his assistance, he'll get an apopleptic fit."

"And," suggested Miriam, "since there's nothing in the 'Wanted's' today, you might as well be earning a little in some way, Aurora."

"I really think that is unnecessary," interrupted a composed voice. "For I am already a strict temperance man. You are mistaken, young woman. I am not Sergius Temple, but Mr. Carthew, the father of the late Mrs. Temple. The telegram was delayed, and I have only just received the summons to come."

"Oh, Polly!" she cried. "And you will lose your place?" Polly lifted the roguish eyes which had been temporarily hidden behind Doty's yellow curls.

The Matador's Last Thrust.

The art of the matador is not to run up to the bull and stab him, but to have him come to you and fling himself upon the sword, while you direct his movements this way and that with the scarlet cape. He will follow a red cape anywhere, and the chulras are busy from the beginning of the fight to the end, leading the bull away from the fallen picadors or the imperilled banderilleros or the matador. Even after the sword is thrust into his neck up to the hilt, it takes the bull a long time to die.

GLACIERS IN THE WEST.

California Has Some of the Most Remarkable Frozen in the World—Wells of Blue Water.

AMONG the many attractions which California offers to strangers and her own people, says the San Francisco Call, are the glaciers that lie in the high Sierras that constitute the backbone of the State.

The greatest glaciers seem to reach to the north and east. Reaching down into the Shastina crater is the Mount Whitney glacier, that winds away from the summit to the west, sending a small glacier to the south, encompassing the Red Rocks, near the Sierras trail.

"I'm awfully obliged to you," said Polly, holding up the baby, "but I'm a nursery governess at present, and can't leave my situation. But I'll call and see you and Mrs. Belden as often as possible."

A Historic Gun.

The London Telegraph chronicles the removal of "Queen Bess's pocket pistol," an enormous piece of brass ordnance which for generations has frowned from the cliffs of Dover, to make way for a battery of modern guns. The "pocket pistol" now rests in honorary retirement in a less conspicuous part of the castle.

THE LOW SUN.

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HUMOR OF THE DAY.

Spoked into a cocked hat—The creature—Truth. A young man is a theory; an old man a fact.—Acheson Globe. A boy's idea of glory is to play baseball in a "suit."—Acheson Globe.

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