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The rate of taxation has nearly quadrupled in France since 1830.

The centre of population is now midway between Cincinnati and Indianapolis.

The Slav has not turned out an industrial or social success in the coko regions, confesses the New York Tribune.

President Harper says that he entered upon his duties at Chicago University opposed to co-education, having great misgivings because of the presence of the girls. He now declares that the young women's department of the university is the only one that never gave him any trouble.

The world's tunnels are estimated to number about 1142, with a total length of 514 miles. There are about 1000 railroad tunnels, ninety canal tunnels, forty conduit tunnels, and twelve subaqueous tunnels, having an aggregate length of about 350 miles, seventy miles, eighty-five miles, and nine miles respectively.

The University of Lille, France, is said to be the first institution of learning on the Continent to add a department of journalism. Abbe Dr. Coeten will read lectures on the great editors of England and Germany. Professor Gaud will lecture on the laws governing the press, and M. Tavermer, of the Paris "Univers," will speak upon the duties of newspaper men and the way a paper is printed.

California will pay dearly in the end for the bounty of \$5 granted for every coyote scalp presented to the State Treasurer, predicts the New York Tribune. This bounty law was passed to protect sheep, but it has been costly. Last year over \$500,000 was paid out, and this year it is estimated that \$650,000 will be needed to satisfy the claims. As the coyotes live on jack-rabbits, the slaughter of one pest will simply lead to the increase of the other.

There are American ladies who have more valuable lace than any European potentate. The laces of the Astor family are valued at \$300,000, those of the Vanderbilts at \$500,000. More lace, it is said, is bought in New York than any other city in the world. The Pope's lace treasures are said to be worth \$875,000, those of the Queen of England \$375,000 and those of the Princess of Wales \$250,000. The Queen's wedding dress was trimmed with a piece of Honiton costing \$5000.

Maine has produced men of astonishing vigor and longevity, but none more notable in this way than Dr. Westbrook Farrer, of Biddeford, for the stories told of him are true. He is said to be a physician in active practice, though ninety-eight years old, and, still more remarkable, to be in the habit of visiting his patients regularly on a bicycle. He attributes his exceptional vigor to this advanced age to the use of wintergreen tea, of which he is said to be an ardent advocate.

The Province of Quebec has a law bestowing 100 acres of Government land on every father of a family who has twelve living children. Up to the present time 174,200 acres have been given under this law. Not all of these fathers, however, are satisfied with the amount of this bounty, for families of twenty children are not rare, and the fathers of these want a proportionately higher reward. One old gentleman, Paul Belanger, of River du Loup, wants 300 acres in recognition of his family of thirty-six living children.

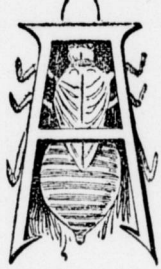
The San Francisco Chronicle remarks: When Colonel Sellers in "The Gilded Age" spoke of the immense sums of money he proposed to make by dispensing his eye water to the orientals he threw out a hint which inventors have been slow to act upon. The conditions of life in the Orient are very peculiar, and the people have certain wants which we in the Western world are hardly more than aware of. Among these is some remedy against the encroachments of white ants. These destructive insects make life a burden to the Europeans living in China and other oriental countries. They eat everything made of timber, and as a consequence it is almost impossible to keep a house or its adjuncts in repair. A correspondent suggests that the known fact that these ants have an aversion to lime may put some ingenious American on to an idea which if properly worked out would be a benefaction to people living in the Orient, especially Europeans, who would pay liberally for some practical remedy for the nuisance.

THE BUGLE CALL.

Have you heard the troops a-marching? Marching, marching, O my soul, to hear the bugle and the long roll of the drum! Up the hill and down the valley, I can hear his step among them. Before you see his scarlet coat, I'll know my love has come. "I can see the troops a-marching, Slowly, slowly. As they near, the pale leaves tremble at the coming of that band; There is neither sound nor footfall, neither bugle-blast nor drum-call, A silent host they pass from sight into a silent land."

A KOREAN REBEL'S FATE.

BY CYRUS C. ADAMS.



Shanghai, hastened ostensibly to greet him, and they had hardly exchanged a word before the false friend stabbed the newcomer to the heart. The crime was a political murder, planned in the court of Korea, connived at by the Chinese authorities, and the story throws a curious light upon the methods and practices still in vogue in oriental society. The victim was Kim Ok Kim, who, ten years ago, headed an unsuccessful revolutionary attempt at Seoul, the capital of Korea. From the day he failed he had been followed by emissaries of the Korean court, bent first upon his extradition to the home from which he had fled, and finally, equipped with instructions to kill him, and to carry out this meritorious service to their country in such a way as to save the court from any appearance of complicity.

When the deed was done last March, it was evident that China and Korea had a perfect understanding in the matter. The murderer was not dragged off to the Shanghai lock-up, like a common malefactor. On the contrary, he was treated with respectful consideration, as soon as his name and that of his victim were made known. He not only went free, but he was permitted to buy tickets for a passenger and one coffin to Korea, and he departed for home with the body of his victim and the distinction due to a man who had rendered a public service. In the capital of Korea the assassin was honored as no ordinary patriot. The body of the murdered man was divided into eight parts, and one part was sent to each of the provinces of the kingdom to be exposed to view on the public highways.

This much of the tragedy has been published. It is believed, however, that this bloody termination has not been retold, and it is well worth relating in connection with the crime that has closed the chapter. It was told in October, 1886, when the Japanese newspapers were alluding in every issue to the lively correspondence between the Governments of Japan, China and Korea, concerning Kim and the attempts of his enemies to kill him, and he himself appeared in print with the evidence of the plots against his life, which were the basis of his appeal to the Government of Japan for protection.

One night near the end of December, 1884, a number of the highest officials of Korea gathered at a banquet in the new postoffice building in Seoul. A servant suddenly opened the door and cried that the house was about to be attacked. The men at the tables fled into the darkness, only to find that enemies surrounded them. Some of them were killed on the spot, and others were severely wounded. Then the mob and its leaders rushed to the palace to secure the person of the King. By this time news of the uprising had spread through the city, and the guards of the legion had hastened to the palace to add their strength to the King's bodyguard. The rebels, who were attempting nothing less than the destruction of every leading official of the Government, besieged the building, but the pluck and discipline of the Japanese kept them at bay. Then the Chinese troops, hearing that the Japanese were interfering unwarrantably in one of the internal commotions of Korea, marched from their camp outside the city and gave battle to the Japanese at the palace, but the latter held their own throughout the night. In the morning it was found that the King had fled, and the Japanese had to fight their way to the coast, where they were protected by their warships. The rebellion was soon put down, China and Japan patched up their misunderstanding and the matter ended.

The principal actor in this furious outbreak, and the instigator of all the assassinations, was Kim Ok Kim, who had held the highest office in Korea, and was jealous of the preponderance in the King's councils of the members of the Min family. The Queen, a woman of strong character, belongs to

this family, and through her influence, it has been the predominating power and has controlled all the principal offices. It is the opposition to this family, led by the King's own father, that has stirred up the recent insurrection. In 1884, the leader of this opposition was Kim Ok Kim, and he hoped, after murdering his leading rivals, to seize power for himself and his adherents. Failing in his plans he fled with some of his fellow conspirators to Tokio, Japan. Then began the efforts of Korea, abetted by China, to induce Japan to give the arch rebel up, and failing in this, to assassinate him among his protectors.

A Korean mission was despatched to Japan in a Chinese man-of-war to demand the extradition of Kim and his followers. They were assisted in their efforts by the Chinese representatives at Tokio and, it is said, by Li-Hung Chang, the great viceroy of Chi-Li. Many weeks were spent in the negotiations, but Japan was firm in her refusal. She took the ground that she had no extradition treaty with Korea; furthermore, she alleged, that the crimes for which the fugitives were wanted to answer in Korea were of a political nature, and it was against the law of nations to surrender political offenders. So the mission went home defeated. Kim and four of his associates lived for a while in peace at Tokio. Three of his comrades, doubting the ability of Japan to withstand the pressure, fled to San Francisco.

Had Kim respected his asylum it is barely possible that he might have lived there securely for the rest of his days. But in the following year, 1885, there was another plot to overturn the Korean Government, and there was evidence that Kim, the daring, restless and designing politician, was at the bottom of it. Demands for his extradition were at once renewed. China and Korea both asserted that as long as Kim remained in Japan he would be able to create disturbances in his native land. Japan remained firm in her refusal, giving as her only reason that political offenders were never extradited in Western countries, and if the Eastern nations desired to be treated as equals by those of the West, they must learn to act upon the same principles. No further attempt to secure the extradition of Kim was made, but Korea at once began to take measures to effect the removal of this troublesome person by other processes.

Three futile expedients for the assassination of Kim were attempted in the following year, and were described in the public prints, as far as the details were known, late in 1886. The instrument in the most interesting of these attempts appeared in Japan in the person of Chi, an official in the Seoul war department. In Kim's palmy days Chi had been an ardent disciple of the advanced views of that astute politician, but he was now faithfully serving a Government composed of Kim's enemies. He traveled quietly to Japan, and took lodgings in an ordinary inn in Tokio. On May 2, 1886, he wrote to Kim, protesting that their old friendship still continued on his part, that he deeply sympathized with Kim in his misfortunes and exile, and requested an interview. The old assassin was too sharp for the young one, however, and Kim bluntly refused to see him. At the same time he directed his friends to worm their way into Chi's confidence, and one of them did so with considerable skill.

He told Chi that the exiles were tired of their life in Japan, sorely regretted their folly, and longed to be back in Korea. Kim was the cause of their present plight. He had deceived them, and they all hated him for it. Would Chi intercede for them with the King and the Government? They would cheerfully seize Kim and carry him off if they could. Nay, they had become so embittered by his conduct that they would kill him, if ridding the country of him would be the means of making their peace with their sovereign. Kim was very wary, but so one could null his suspicions to sleep as his companions could, and they would do anything to show the sincerity of their repentance.

Chi listened seriously to these things, but was quite non-committal. It took some weeks for confidences to beget confidence. At last he convinced himself of the sincerity of the exile. Then Chi confided to him that he had been sent to Japan by the King for the express purpose of killing him, and that he would pay a sum equivalent to \$5000 to anyone who would give him effective assistance in carrying out this bloody task. Kim's envoy at once became very circumspect. It was a perilous affair, he said. He was willing to do the work, but suppose, for instance, that Chi had never received a commission from the King, then any one killing Kim would be seized by the Japanese, and would be repudiated by the Koreans. Chi was able to soothe these suspicions. He first produced a large Korean dagger, which, he said, had been given to him by the King for the purpose of slaying Kim, and finally he exhibited this mandate, to which the royal seal was actually attached.

"We hereby commission you to cross the sea and apprehend the rebel, to accomplish which object you shall have full power to act according to circumstances, using due caution not to make fruitless attempts." On the same day, the supposed conspirator also secured in writing from the unsuspecting Chi a promise to pay him \$5000 for his service, and on the next day Kim, armed with these documents, which he laid before the Japanese Government, demanded protection. A demand for an explanation was at once telegraphed to Seoul, and, of course, all knowledge of the plot was at once repudiated by the Korean Government. These proceedings may seem almost incredible to us, but we cannot apply our rules of morality to

Korea. Kim was a leading statesman of the country, and if not an assassin himself, he had inspired assassination. According to Korean ethics it was not improper for his enemies to remove him by the knife or bullet, political methods that have been employed more than once in the East in this generation.

Japan now decided that Kim was a heavy load to carry, and he was ordered to leave the country by June 27. Kim, however, had other views. When the police went to see him at the expiration of the time, he fled to the French embassy and appealed for protection. He was, however, turned over to the authorities, and his forcible removal from the country was ordered on the ground that his presence tended to endanger the peace, tranquility and external safety of the empire.

What to do with him, though, was a knotty problem. Japan wished to insure his safety. If he was sent to China he would be killed. Russia would not harbor him. San Francisco was proposed, but Kim was without means, and it was feared that he would starve there in a land of plenty, unless the Americans took very kindly to him. It was finally decided that it was not desirable, for his own sake, to turn him loose upon the world. Japan has a little group of islets in the Pacific, the Bonin Islands, which at that time were uninhabited save by a few retired pirates and runaway sailors. So Kim was sent to these far-away sunny islands to be supported by the Japanese Government. For some years he contemplated the mutability of fortune in this retreat, but at last, just as the little islands were beginning to bloom under the nurture of the Japanese farmers who had gone to them, the Government listened to Kim's piteous appeal and took him back to Japan. The fact was not generally known, but it had not escaped the observation of Korea's agents.

In his retirement and obscurity Kim, on an evil day, made the acquaintance of a fellow countryman. The man appeared to be of very little importance, He did not thrust himself upon Kim's notice nor appear at all anxious to cultivate his acquaintance. He was an agent of the court of Korea, but Kim seems never to have suspected it. For weeks and months he would never go near the man he intended to murder. He was carrying on a legitimate business in Japan, and was so slow, discreet and patient in promoting the real purpose of his sojourn there that his conduct excited no comment. Very little is really known of his acquaintance with Kim. What he proposed to do was to murder the man on friendly soil where he would not be called to account for the crime, and he bided his time. At last his opportunity came. Kim had a claim for a considerable sum of money in South China. His pretended friend undertook to negotiate for the settlement of this claim. He knew that he had completely deceived the old man when he went to Shanghai to prepare for the denouement. His dagger was ready for the victim whose perfect confidence he had won. His plans were cunningly conceived. The problem was to get Kim to Shanghai though he seemed to be doing everything in his power to make it unnecessary for Kim to make the journey. He reported at last, that it would be positively necessary for Kim to go to the Chinese port to sign documents that would not or could not be sent to him. He knew very well that Kim would not consult anyone with regard to a visit to China, and he assured his dupe that there was not a particle of danger. He could travel in disguise, transact his business in a few hours and return to Japan, in perfect safety by the next boat.

Kim's cunning had apparently deserted him, and he went unsuspectingly to the cruel death prepared for him. The Japanese Government did not know he was out of the country until the news came that he had been butchered on Chinese soil. They made some effort to investigate the matter, but finally decided that Japan had no jurisdiction, as Kim was a foreigner murdered on foreign soil. So the chapter ends. Kim died as he had made others die. He became the victim of political methods that he had used with considerable effect upon his rivals; and the manner of his taking off shows how stealthily and persistently some Governments of the Orient are still capable of playing the arts of the assassin in the pursuit of their enemies.—Detroit Free Press.

An Interesting People. Interesting information is given by a French traveler in China of the Man-tzu, a people who occupy all the territory between China proper and Thibet. The feudal system prevails among these mountaineers, who are divided up into more than eighty small States. Lamaism is the religion professed by the majority. The languages of these States, which are more Thibetan than Chinese, differ very much one from another. The Man-tzu are fairly well made and strong. They do not wear a queue like the Chinese, and dress in coarse woolen fabrics, which they make for themselves. The men wear a shirt with a collar, and the women wear dresses consisting of body and skirt, two styles unknown in China, and reminding one of European fashions. Their houses, too, built of stone, have usually one or two stories above the ground, the latter being always occupied by cattle, upon which they chiefly depend. The animals reared by the Man-tzu are the horse, the horned and the hornless yak, two species of cow, sheep with long, spiral horns, and the goat, one variety of which has four horns. The pigs, dogs, cats and fowls which are bred there are identical with those found in the rest of China.—Rochester Post-Express.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

A flash of lightning equals 12,000 horse power. The mouth of the starfish is exactly in the centre.

The wrist contains eight bones, the palm five and the fingers fourteen.

During digestion the flow of blood to the stomach is increased tenfold.

The principles of rainfall were first correctly set forth by Dalton in 1787.

In proportion to the weight of the body, woman's hair is longer than man's.

Enamel of the teeth contains over ninety-five per cent. of calcareous matter.

Four-tenths of the working expenses of an electric light plant are for coal.

In London, according to Halley, there was no total eclipse of the sun between 1140 and 1715.

Soap bubbles are round because every part of their surface is equally pressed by the atmosphere.

The heart ordinarily beats about seventy times a minute, and throws about two ounces of blood at each contraction.

The chemical composition of the epidermis of the heel is nearly the same as that of the matter of nails, horns and hoofs.

The song of wild birds is usually a succession of three or four notes continued during the same interval, mostly without interruption.

It is so hot at Massowah, Abyssinia, that when the northwest wind blows from the desert the thermometer sometimes registers 160 degrees.

In tests last year in the German town of Dessau it was shown that cooking by wood and coal costs a little more than twice that done with gas.

Of the mineral spangolite only two specimens are known to exist. One was taken from Cornwall, England, and the other is near Tombstone, Arizona.

The hair has a life of its own apart from that which animates the human body. This accounts for the growth of hair on the dead long after their interment.

A mechanical fluid is the recent invention of an American engineer. It is a mass of hard steel balls of two sizes, one-eighth and one-fourth of an inch in diameter, respectively. Under pressure this mass flows and transmits pressure in all directions like a fluid. The device is calculated for use wherever fluid pressure is desired without leakage, and it has already been employed for tightening the brasses of connecting rods, a pocket at the side being filled with the balls and pressure applied with a set screw.

The Worcester (England) municipality will utilize its plant, put in for supplying electricity for lighting, to run electric motors for pumping purposes at its waterworks, instead of employing steam, as originally intended. There will be two thirty-horse-power alternate current motors having a guaranteed efficiency of ninety per cent., working pumps capable of delivering 10,000 gallons of water per hour to an elevation of 300 feet through three miles of ten-inch pipe.

Hoisted by Her Own Petard.

When Yale athletics were in New York, prior to their departure for Oxford, a well-known Brooklyn society woman gave them a dinner. It is part of the creed of these young men never to express surprise at any joke at their expense. This their hostess knew. She was determined to compel a departure from this law and conceived her plan with that object in view. The women of the party had been notified, but were bound over to silence, until some comment should be made by the broad-shouldered guests. At an exquisitely appointed table the party sat down. Cutlery first served coffee, liquor and candies. Next came ices, salads. Talk flowed on brilliantly and easily. Evidently there was no stupidity on the part of the servants in serving this contrary to established etiquette, for the hostess remained unconcerned. So did the Yale men.

The reversed dinner went through its courses without hitch or jar, until after the soup and just before the chams were served. Then the Yale men asked to be excused. The hostess acquiesced with a broad touch of wonder on her face. In ten minutes the team fled back into the dining-room, each with his "swallow-tail" on "hind part before." They had done honor to the reversed dinner. The surface of unconcern was broken down. The hostess was hoisted by her own petard, but the table rang with applause.—Argonaut.

Cockroaches With Six-Inch Wings.

When the transportation company's barges brought ties for the trolley here they also brought some Southern cockroaches that dwarf the local specimens. The ties come from North Carolina and Georgia, where these giant cockroaches are abundant. They are about two inches long, and when their wings are spread out in flying they measure nearly six inches across. They are harmless and look something like a beetle when their wings are drawn in.—Hartford (Conn.) Courant.

Smallest Bird Known.

The fly eater of Cuba is the smallest bird known to ornithologists. It is about one-third the size of the humming bird. In the year 1592 Resaca Espioto, a man of fabulous wealth, caused 7000 of these birds to be caught with nets and made into a pot pie, which he ate at one sitting, and even then he complained of being hungry. Espioto was a man of most exquisite appetites.

BIBLES FOR THE BLIND.

FIRST EDITION EVER PRINTED IN THE POINT ALPHABET.

The Book is in Eleven Volumes-- Each Letter Represented by a Different Number of Raised Dots.

THE only Bible published in the point alphabet to be used by the blind has lately been printed in Louisville. It consists of 1839 pages, is in eleven volumes and was turned out by the American Printing House for the Blind, an annex of the Kentucky Institute for the Blind. The eleven employees of the printing house were engaged on the work for about ten months, and on May 7, 1894, just a little over a year after the work was begun, the first shipment to the American Bible Society at New York was made.

Of course this is not the only Bible that can be read by the blind. Those thus afflicted have been reading a Bible for forty years, but it was published in what is known as the line alphabet. The line alphabet is made up of the Roman letters enlarged and raised on the leaves of the book, so that the blind reader may know them by following their outline with his fingers. Every school child can read a book printed in that way. But with the New York point alphabet each letter is represented by a different number of raised dots arranged in a fixed position. Strange to say, this second method is the easier to learn, and is always taught before the line method.

That any sort of a Bible for the blind came out at all is due to a bequest of \$40,000 made to the American Bible Society by a wealthy woman of New York City. It was made a permanent fund for printing Bibles for the blind. The four girls who do the typesetting began their part of the work April 28, 1893. As soon as one page was set up it was carried into the molding room and an impression taken. The page was then ready to be cast. It was carried down stairs and placed in the stereotyping machine. A thin coat of tin foil was then laid over the mold and a light pouring of metal made, so as to melt the tin foil into the mold. Another pouring was then made to fill in the blank spaces between lines and re-enforce the back. A piece of ordinary roofing tin the size of the page was then laid over the back of the thin metal impression, and another light pouring made to make the two adhere. When this had cooled off the workman had a true copy of the page on a very light, flexible plate of stereotype. All the rest of the 1039 pages were treated in the same way, and on January 24, 1894, the day the last page was set up, the last plate was also completed.

The work of printing was then begun. The leaves are necessarily very heavy, and, of course, can be printed only one side. Four sheets, or pages, were printed at a time. When the pages were ready for binding six of them were grouped together and stitched with wire. The inside edges of each sextet is bound by a cloth-lined card-board guard. This is made necessary by the thickness of the leaves and the constant handling by the reader. When these sextets are bound together they make a volume varying in thickness of from three to four inches. The New Testament is included in three volumes, the Old in eight.

The whole work of printing the first set of this Bible cost just \$3000. The cost of binding is \$1 a volume. The interest on the bequest nearly half a century ago has grown so that the books can be sold to the blind at less than the cost of the binding. The whole set is sold at \$7, and the New Testament alone can be secured for \$5 less. These Bibles are being sent out to all the schools for the blind in the country through the American Bible Association.

Mining and Milling Yellow Ochre.

"A very important Georgia industry that has sprung up in the last few years is the mining and milling of yellow ochre as carried on at Cartersville," said Captain B. M. Hall, the well-known mining engineer. "Like most new industries, it made a very limited market. But its superior quality soon gained for it an eager demand at a high price. It is now sold at Cartersville for \$16 to \$18 per ton, while the standard Pennsylvania ochres sell for less than half that price in Philadelphia. The Cartersville ochre, on account of its great purity, is essentially a metallic paint, while the ordinary ochres of commerce are merely clays stained with iron oxide. Its beautiful greenish yellow color and its high per cent. of iron make it peculiarly valuable as an ingredient in the manufacture of linoleum. A large proportion of the Cartersville product is shipped to Europe. Two new mines are being opened and put in operation that will greatly increase the output. One of these belongs to William B. Shaffer, of Pennsylvania, and the other to T. B. Jones, of Cartersville. I can say from a personal examination of these properties that their operation will add largely to the material wealth of Georgia."—Atlanta Constitution.

A Colonel at Ten Years.

The third son of the Emperor William, Adalbert Ferdinand, celebrated his tenth birthday, by his formal entrance at Berlin, into the imperial army, the youngest in knickerbockers becoming a Colonel of the famous Ulan Regiment. The entrance was marked by ceremonies of considerable pomp, and at night the regiment had a grand banquet in celebration of the event.—New York Advertiser.

MY SERENADE.

I have a cavalier. At dusk he draweth near To wait outside my wicket. I hear him draw his bow; Ho playeth soft and low, Hid in the maple thicket. The listening leaves are stirred; The dreaming flowers have heard His strain from out the shadow. The broad moon, white and still, Climbeth the dusky hill: The misty dances in the meadow. My faithful cavalier, At dusk he draweth near To wait outside my wicket. I hear him draw his bow; Ho playeth soft and low, My dreamy little crocket. —Dorothy Dean, in Kate Field's Washington.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

There are some very good people who love to tell bad news.—Ram's Horn. The world owes a man a living, but he must go after it.—Cleveland Plain Dealer. Love abhors a crowd, but does not want to be left entirely alone.—Galveston News. If you notice, the fellow who pays his way is the one who weighs his pay.—Buffalo Courier. A growler is a man who would much rather sleep in a cyclone than in an ordinary draft.—Galveston News. When men speak of a woman, the first question, and frequently the last, is—"Is she pretty?"—Ram's Horn. A setting hen is quite anxious as to the outcome of her mission; that she broods over it constantly.—Lowell Courier.

About the only martyrs for conscience's sake that we have in modern times are our baseball umpires.—Dallas News. A "forelady" advertises for work. We hope she is accustomed to the management of "sales-gentlemen."—Chicago Post.

He—"I love you. I know that I am not all that I ought to be." She—"Yes, everybody has told me that."—New York World.

A head-line in a contemporary reads, "On to Chicago!" The country has been on to Chicago for some time.—Kingston Freeman.

Mother—"Tommy, I am going to spank you. Do you know what for?" Tommy (indignantly).—"Yes. You want to ease your own feelings by hurting mine."—Harper's Bazar.

Stranger—"What price do you set on that red cow of yours?" Mr. Haicede—"See here, mister, air you a assessor, or has he been run over by the railroad?"—Indianapolis Journal.

The Judge—"I should think you would be sorry for having so forgotten yourself as to throw a plate at your wife." The Prisoner (penitently).—"I am, your honor; that plate cost ten cents."—Buffalo Courier.

"I don't see the least use of this tool case being put on my bicycle." He—"Why, in case of an accident, you'd have something to work with." "Oh, you absurd man; don't I always have hair-pins with me?"—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

New Use for Natural Gas.

The possibilities of natural gas evidently have not yet been exhausted. The latest use which would seem to have been found for it is the making of ice, the idea being to simply expand the gas from its usually high initial pressure down to or near that of the atmosphere, nature having done all the preliminary work of compression and cooling, making the gas ready to absorb heat from its surroundings immediately upon being released from confinement. All that would be necessary would be suitable coils or chambers into which the gas could be allowed to expand. It has been calculated on quite plausibly, in fact, that with an ordinary gas well, furnishing 2,500,000 cubic feet per day, something like fifty tons of ice could be turned out daily at an expense of about fifty cents a ton. The gas loses nothing but its pressure, retaining all its calorific value, and hence, all its virtue for rolling mill and glass works use, for heating brick, lime and pottery kilns, and the endless number of other furnaces to which it is adapted. In a certain way, therefore, the gas may be regarded as affording something for nothing—a desideratum to which many in this world are constantly looking forward.—St. Louis Star-Sayings.

Russian Officials Fear Turtle Doves.

Most people regard the turtle dove as an ideally innocent creature, but the Russian Minister of War evidently looks upon it as a positive danger to the stability of the Czar's domains. A lady prestidigitator from the Folies-Bergere, in Paris, was traveling to St. Petersburg to fill an engagement in that city. Along with her she carried a number of turtle doves for professional purposes, but on reaching the Russian frontier these were seized in virtue of the War Minister's order—really aimed at the suppression of carrier pigeons—prohibiting the introduction of any kind of pigeon on any pretext whatever. Prayers and expostulations were in vain, but it is pleasing to think that the general commandant of the town gallantly undertook to take good care of the birds until their owner should recross the frontier.—Westminster Gazette.

The "Lump Bird."

Some people call the "lump" bird the "lump bird." It is so only that the fishermen of St. Kitts stick a wick in the mouth of a dead specimen, light it and it burns for an hour.—New York Advertiser.