

The late Lorenzo Snow left 32 heirs. The profession of law ought to be looking up in Utah.

Potatoes form the world's greatest single crop, 4,000,000,000 bushels being produced annually, equal in bulk to the entire wheat and corn crop.

Nature's law of compensation works all right. The wholesale graduating of young doctors in the spring is followed by that of competent trained nurses in the fall.

By the grace of American ship-building skill Russia may now claim to possess in the Retvizan, her new record breaking battleship, the latest and fleetest of the armored queens of the seas.

Swimming and life-saving have been incorporated by the government in the course of instruction to be taught in the public schools of New Zealand, and 2000 handbooks have been distributed among the schoolmasters for the purpose.

California had the smallest exhibit at the Buffalo exposition. It was a fig wasp and could only be seen with a microscope. The insect is an important factor in fig culture, and the United States government expended \$16,000 in establishing it on the Pacific coast.

It seems that the hunting of orchids in the tropics is to be classed as a dangerous profession. Rare species are so much in demand that parts of South America and Africa are every year searched for the beautiful flowers, but nearly all the orchid hunters soon succumb to the tropical fevers.

Glass is now being manufactured by electricity. The materials used are fused on a hearth fed by an Archimedean screw, and the arc is produced by a direct or alternating current of 50 volts. The low voltage required makes the fusion exceedingly economical, particularly where the electricity is produced through the agency of water power.

According to The Electrical World and Engineer San Francisco leads all cities of the United States in the number of telephones to population. With a population of only 342,782 it has 21,824—a total only surpassed by New York City, Chicago and Boston. It has a telephone for every 16 inhabitants, whereas Philadelphia has only one for every 96.

Even in Canada, that land of grain, dimension and scattered population, the tendency of movement is cityward. The towns grow in the number of inhabitants; the rural districts fall off. This drift is accelerated by the use of machinery on the farms. The land is planted and the harvest gathered by fewer laborers; the small farms are gradually giving way to larger farms in the older settled provinces. There is land in abundance, but not the old land hunger. These conditions are very like the conditions in all the older states of the Union.

Cleveland is leading the way in the abatement of the smoke nuisance. Much has been done there within a year, and much more is promised, due to the force of example and the persuasion of the officers. Drastic laws are not enforced against the owners of offending chimneys, but boiler owners are taught the economy of modern better-burning furnaces and smoke consumers, while their pride in a clean city is aroused. One evidence of progress is the introduction within the year of over 150 smokeless furnaces. The best results are obtained from the use of hard coal and coke. While endeavoring to correct the methods of the furnace owners, the city has been a sinner itself, but it is about to set a good example by using smokeless coal at the city hall, the police stations and the workhouse.

Periodically the question of abolishing grade crossings in Chicago is agitated, but without effect. As a result of the present conditions of the crossings, out of a population of a little more than a million and a half there were in the year 1900 330 deaths by railroad accidents. Of these, 257 were caused by steam cars and 73 by street cars. In the same year there were in New York city 134 deaths by railroad accidents in a population of nearly three and a half millions, and in Philadelphia (with a population of more than a million and a quarter) there were only 55 deaths by railroad accidents. St. Louis, with a population of 576,238, had the lowest mortality by railroads, the number of deaths being nine. The comparative statement which has been prepared by the Federal Labor Bureau should cause the people of Chicago to demand the sinking of the elevation of the tracks.

Sir Thomas Lipton declares he will yet win the cup. Sir Thomas is fortunate in the fact that anticipation is always better than realization.

The entertainment of royalty requires a long purse. The Czar's brief visit to France a few weeks ago cost the government of that country in the neighborhood of \$600,000.

A California widow abandoned a house in which she had lost two husbands, and it did not seem to occur to her how easily she might rent the place to discontented wives.

Tooth-pulling and corn-cutting have been recognized by the army authorities as specialties which must be provided for, so that dentist and chiropodists are now numbered among the army appointees. Where are we going to stop, now that the entering wedge of the list of "specialists" has been introduced?

While fears are entertained that the automobile will supersede the horse in America, the trolley line has already knocked out the burro in Egypt. Tourists can now take a car in the main street of Cairo direct to the pyramids, and in a short time a line will be built to run from the ocean front at Pirraens to the Parthenon at Athens. For the trolley lines and their equipments Egypt is indebted to American enterprise.

Steadily the United States is assuming a paramount position in the many industries that go to make up the wants of the world. In this connection a story comes from Cornwall that the arsenic industry at that place is in a state of decadence, simply because America is now manufacturing the drug in sufficient quantities not only to supply her own demand but is rapidly approaching a point where a heavy export trade will be possible.

In 1900 for the first time statistics of the agricultural interests of Alaska were gathered by the census bureau. The area of the 12 farms reported in Alaska in 1900 is 159 acres, of which 104 acres are devoted to the cultivation of vegetables and hay and the remainder is used for pasturage. The total farm products were valued at \$8046. These farms are all south of the Kuskokwim river, in southeastern Alaska, and along the southern coast, including the Aleutian islands.

From a statement issued by the United States geological survey it appears that the value of the mineral products of the United States increased from \$360,319,000 in 1880 to \$1,070,108,889 in 1889. During the past nine years the value of the silver mined has not increased, though there has been a considerable increase in the last four years. During the nine years the value of the gold has increased from 33 to 39 million dollars; of pig iron, from 128 to 129 million; of copper, from 38 to 98 million, and the value of aluminum has increased 15 fold. The value of bituminous coal has increased from 117 million to 221 million dollars, and the value of petroleum from 30 to 75 million.

What would the women's clubs of America have to say had they to face such a decision as was recently handed down by the Austrian supreme court of appeals not long ago. The decision in brief was that if a wife saves money from the amount allowed her by her husband for household expenses, and appropriates this money to her own use, she commits what is, in all intents and purposes, a theft. The case that brought this decision was that of a couple named Daun. After 30 years of married life they were divorced, and Mrs. Daun took with her the sum of \$625, her savings of 30 years. Her husband brought suit and recovered the whole amount, and the judges made the ruling that Mrs. Daun had practically committed theft.

The increase of civilization is measured by the decrease of the hours of labor. Every step in this direction improves the general condition of men and distributes more widely the results of labor and the fruits of industry by widening leisure. Store hours have been steadily shortening in the United States for two generations. All stores were once open until late in the evening. They still are in London, in all its suburbs and in much of the trade in its very centre. A parliamentary investigation last year showed that practically all English retail shops were open until 8 o'clock five days of the week and until 10 and midnight Saturday. Our cities have all adopted 6 as the hour for closing stores, but this has taken over a generation to secure, remarks the Philadelphia Press.

For the Last Time.

BY JUDITH SPENCER.

"For the last time," Geoffrey said to himself, as with varying emotions he stepped into the phaeton and seated himself beside the smiling girl who was to drive him into the station for the early morning train. And he was simply echoing her words of the night before.

"All ready, Alice," he said lightly. So Alice flicked the pony with her whip and they were on their way.

It was a glorious summer morning and Geoffrey and Alice apparently enjoyed the drive—even though the conditions now were irrevocably changed. Yesterday afternoon she had met him at the train and they had driven back together an engaged pair. But since then their engagement had been ended by mutual consent, and this morning found them merely friends.

Geoffrey Maitland and Alice Wright had known each other all their lives, and had been engaged to one another—off and on—for years.

Their first engagement, while he was still in college and she just out of school, was broken by Alice in a fit of childish jealousy because he had gone on a picnic and had had a good time with the other girls, though she had been unexpectedly kept at home. But after a few weeks' interval and a due show of penitence on his part, she had forgiven him and taken him back into favor.

The next break occurred soon after Geoffrey's graduation. His father had set him up in business and he wanted to be married at once. But Alice had set her heart upon spending the summer abroad, and when Geoffrey unreasonably declared that she must marry him now or never, Alice returned her ring.

But the summer did not prove as pleasant as she had anticipated, and she was honestly glad to see Geoffrey waiting on the dock when the vessel reached its New York pier. He had a big bunch of roses for her—and when she discovered her engagement ring tied clumsily among the stems she laughed and blushed and slipped it on again.

That had occurred three years before the present time, and since then Geoffrey had had the grace to be patient, to say the least.

Indeed, he could not well be otherwise than patient, for his first business venture had not been a success, and soon he found himself in no position to marry.

Fortunately, the failure which had at one time seemed inevitable had been averted, and presently the tide of his fortune turned.

But when Geoffrey was once more in a position to think of marriage he had made the startling discovery that during all this time his tastes had been developing in one direction and Alice's in quite another, and that now they were no longer as congenial as they had been.

He was a born athlete, a lover of all outdoor sports, and just at present golf engrossed most of his leisure time. But Alice cared nothing for sports of any kind, and she was so entirely wrapped up in her Working Girls' Vacation clubs and College Settlements and all sorts of charitable schemes that Geoffrey was bored to death in hearing of them.

Who possibly could have foreseen that such a pretty and attractive girl as Alice would all of a sudden have taken such a serious turn?

Geoffrey had thought very often about all this lately, and sometimes had wondered if it would not be better for them both to separate in time, rather than to marry and go on growing apart and be miserable for life. It had been the subject uppermost in his mind when he had arrived the afternoon before, and it had been a relief as well as a surprise to him when Alice had frankly broached the subject.

They talked it all over together then, reasonably discussing their varying tastes, their chances for future unhappiness, and in conclusion had calmly agreed that it would be better—ininitely better—to put an end to the engagement now, with no feeling but one of perfect friendliness and good will on either side.

"But we must remember," Alice had added with a sudden anxious pucker of her brows, "that this decision is final. Our engagement has been off and on so many times that even the possibility of another change would be to introduce an element of humor, to which I seriously object. We have carefully considered everything now, and have arrived at this decision—for the last time." And Geoffrey had given his assent.

The only thing he had felt really uncomfortable about was that Alice had insisted upon giving back her ring. He wanted her to keep it "for friendship's sake," but she had positively refused.

"No, Geoffrey," she said, "it is my dearest wish that you should soon make another and a happier choice, and it will be a satisfaction to me to feel that your wife—though she may not know of my existence—will wear and prize this beautiful pure gem. As for myself," she added, "you know I am not fond of jewelry, and I should never wear it now that its significance is gone."

"And you, too, will soon make another and a happier choice, I hope," he had said to her afterwards.

But Alice had smilingly replied, "That is possible, though hardly probable. I intend to devote myself entirely to trying to help and to improve the condition of these poor, ignorant

working girls who interest me so deeply. That is to be my life work, and I shall hardly find time or inclination to think of anything else."

And now the moment for their parting had come. The train was at the station, and Geoffrey, who had been standing by the phaeton chatting with Alice, extended his hand and said "Goodby." And as his eyes met hers—so friendly, but unembarrassed—he suddenly added almost mechanically, "For the last time."

"No, don't say that," Alice said hastily. "My friends are always welcome. Run down any time—if you can stand the chance of seeing half a dozen working girls enjoying their vacation, for I expect to keep the house full of them all summer."

A word of thanks as he lifted his hat, then he jumped aboard the already moving train and soon settled himself for the hour's ride back to town. Geoffrey had been in his office less than an hour when the door burst open and Dick Williams, who lived in the little town from which Geoffrey had just come, came hurrying in. He was evidently very much excited.

"Say, old man, you haven't heard anything yet, have you?" Williams questioned breathlessly.

"Anything—about what?" Geoffrey asked calmly. "Oh, you poor fellow, I see you haven't. How shall I tell you. Maitland, old man, must brace up and prepare yourself for—the worst."

"Hang it all, what are you driving at?" asked Geoffrey.

"I have just come in from Elmcourt," Williams said significantly.

"Have you?" said Geoffrey pleasantly. "So have I—only I took the 8.10 train."

"You did? I hadn't heard of that—though I remember now they did say she had driven some one over to the station and was on her way home. It must have happened almost directly afterwards—"

"She?" cried Geoffrey, now beginning to feel a strange alarm. "What has happened? Tell me quick—"

"The very worst; prepare yourself, my dear fellow. It was over instantly—she was killed."

"Who?" gasped Geoffrey in a strange choked voice, grasping at the frail straw of some possible mistake.

"Your own Miss Wright," said Williams pityingly. "I knew you'd be dreadfully cut up, you were so fond of one another and had been engaged so long."

The little ring in Geoffrey's breast pocket seemed suddenly to pierce him like a knife. Oh, that it had never left her hand.

"What happened?" he asked again hoarsely.

"She was driving home, they told me, and on the road she was overtaken by one of those infernal locomotives. Her horse took fright and bolted, she was thrown out—neck broken—picked up—dead."

Geoffrey sprang up and the expression on his face made the other man suddenly fear that he was going mad. He stood staring blankly at the office clock.

"If you want to go out there on the noon train I'll arrange to go with you," Williams said kindly.

"I'm going—on the 10.35—"

"But, my dear fellow, you can't possibly—your only seven minutes—"

He ended abruptly when he found himself talking to the empty air, for Geoffrey had seized his hat and was gone.

Out into the crowded street rushed Geoffrey, and never in old college days when he was in training did he run as he ran now. Broadway was at its worst—a confusion of rapidly moving cars, carts and carriages—but Geoffrey stopped for none of them. He dashed under the heads of horses and ran between cable cars, escaping so narrowly that the gripman yelled at him in a sudden chill, but he plunged on and gained the opposite side unscathed.

Some one humorously raised the cry "Stop thief!" but no one attempted to follow and none could have caught or held him had they tried. On and on he ran until the ferry house was reached, but just the fraction of a second late.

The gates were already closed and the boat was just starting from the slip. Geoffrey dashed past the man who was closing the wagon entrance and rushed out to the end of the dock.

Two working girls in the waiting room, who—on their way to Miss Wright's—had just lost the boat, took him for a would-be suicide and shrieked aloud.

Geoffrey gathered himself for a spring and shot far out in a wild endeavor yet to catch the boat. But he was breathless now, and the space was widening with every instant. He felt himself falling short, but with a desperate effort he clutched at the boat's deck and clung there until two men dragged him up, swearing roundly at him the while.

Panting and overwrought, Geoffrey ventured into neither cabin—who knew who might be there to recognize and speak to him? So he stood in a narrow space between the vehicles, breathing hard, and with his hat pulled low over his eyes to hide the slow tears which now and then coursed down his cheeks.

On the train he sought the smoking car, where he pretended to fall asleep. He was sorry now that he had laborer so well. If only he had fallen short of the boat altogether and had been drowned before they could get

THE GREAT DESTROYER

SOME STARTLING FACTS ABOUT THE VICE OF INTEMPERANCE.

"The Blood of the Nation—Most Excess in the Use of Alcohol is Not Due to Primitive Appetite—The Power of Bad Influence."

President David Starr Jordan, of the Leland Stanford University, has published in the Popular Science Monthly a series of articles entitled "The Blood of the Nation: A Study of the Decay of Races Through the Survival of the Unfit." That class of philosophers who are endeavoring to establish the theory that drunkenness and its attending vices and miseries are clearly a part of the progress of the human race will find little comfort in Dr. Starr's article. According to those gentlemen a certain amount of truth which it would be extremely difficult to prove in behalf of their theories, Dr. Jordan says:

"The effect of alcoholic drink on race progress should be considered in this connection. Authorities do not agree as to the final result of alcohol in race selection. Doubtless, in the long run, the drunkard will be eliminated, and perhaps certain authors are right in regarding this as a gain to the race. On the other hand there is great force in Dr. Amos G. Warner's remark, that of all caustics gangrene is the most expensive. The people of Southern Europe are relatively temperate. They have used wine for centuries and it is thought by Archdall Reid and others that the cause of their temperance is to be found in this long use of alcoholic beverages. All those with vitiated or uncontrollable appetites have been destroyed in the long experience with wine, leaving only those with normal tastes and normal ability of resistance. The free use of wine is, therefore, in this view, a cause of final temperance, while intemperance races only among those races which have not long known alcoholic and which become by selection resistant to it. The savage races which have never known alcohol are even less resistant, and are sooner destroyed by it."

"In all this there must be a certain element of truth. The view, however, ignores the evil effect on the nervous system of long-continued poisoning, even if the poison be only in moderate amounts. The temperate Italian, with his daily semi-saturation, is no more normal than the Scotch farmer with his occasional sneezes. The nerve disturbance which wine effects is an evil, whether carried to excess in regularity or irregularity. We know too little of its final result on the race to give certainty to our conclusions. It is moreover true that most excess in the use of alcohol is not due to primitive appetite. It is drink which causes appetite, and not appetite which seeks for drink. In a given number of drunkards but a very few become chronic through inborn appetite. It is influence of bad example, lack of courage, false idea of manliness, or some defect in character or misfortune in environment which leads to the first steps in drunkenness. The taste once established, however, it becomes a habit, and the nature of alcohol was unknown and total abstinence was un-dreamed of, it was the strong, the boisterous, the energetic, the apostle of the 'strenuous life,' who carried all things to excess. The weak, the nervous, the flagging, the flag of wine, all these were the attribute of the strong. We cannot say that those who sank in alcoholism thereby illustrated the survival of the fittest. Who can say that as the Latin races became temperate they did not also become docile and weak? In other words, considering the influence of alcohol alone, unchecked by an educated conscience, we must admit that it is the strong and vigorous, not the weak and nervous, who are destroyed by it. At the best, we can only say that alcoholic selection is a complex force, which makes for temperance—if at all, at a fearful cost of life which without alcoholic temptation would be well worth preserving."

Dr. Jordan, it is to be presumed, would not care to be understood as indorsing the idea that the wine-drinking countries of Europe have been made temperate by their wine-drinking. He is probably much too well acquainted with the current history of France and the other so-called "wine countries" to be in ignorance of the true state of affairs there.—New Voice.

Dangers of Alcoholism.
It is needless to enter into details as to the consequences entailed by overindulgence in the use of alcohol. Most of us are familiar with cases of ruined lives and wretched homes as the result of the fatal habit, and in these days of high-pressure living it is becoming more and more common. Mental worry, overwork, ill-health, want of sufficient nourishment and clothing tend to swell the number of chronic alcoholists, and the habit so easily acquired is extremely difficult to relinquish.

The real danger to the race, however, lies in the fact that the great majority of alcoholics do not know it. Many of them are born with the tendency, and it is to this cause chiefly that we must ascribe the increase in the number of deaths from chronic alcoholism during the last twenty-three years. A reference to the table of statistics of the current history of France will show that in 1872 twenty-seven persons in 1,000,000 died as the result of chronic alcoholism; in 1898 these figures had more than doubled themselves, the number then being returned as sixty-five per 1,000,000 of population.

The following quotations are from some of the most eminent men of the day: "Hereditarily as a causation is estimated to be present in nearly sixty per cent. of all cases of chronic alcoholism." "There are not a few human beings saturated with the taint of alcoholic heredity that they could as soon turn back a flowing river from the sea as arrest the march of an attack of alcoholism."

Much that has been said respecting insanity applies equally to inebriety. Both belong to the group of diseases of the nervous system, showing a marked tendency to degeneration, and both are liable to be transmitted hereditarily.—Westminster Review.

Forbid Drinking Employes.
The laws of several of the States add prescriptions of intemperance to the rules of the railroad companies. For example, Michigan forbids the employment of a drinking man in any responsible capacity connected with the operating of a railroad, and even New York provides for the punishment of any railroad corporation that retains in its service as engineer, fireman, conductor, switchman, train dispatcher or telegrapher, or in any capacity where by his neglect or duty the safety and security of life, person or property may be imperiled, any man of known intemperate habits. These rules and laws have been adopted, not because of any agitation or pressure brought to bear upon the railroad companies, but because years of experience have demonstrated their necessity.

The Crusade in Brief.
Seeking the roses of health in the red cup you may find the rouge of ruin.

Why should we permit our physicians to start our mothers, daughters and sisters on the way to a drunkard's doom?

A writer in the Lancet maintains that in proportion as fruit enters into the diet, the indulgence in alcoholic drinks is diminished.

"Boss," said the two bums, in chorus, "can't ye help us? We're on our uppers, and—" "True," interrupted the visaged man, as he passed on, "ye're on your uppers because ye've sold your souls for rum."—Philadelphia Record.