

Up to date America has led the world in devising rapid-fire guns.

Lord Rosbery, at a recent dinner in London, to Sir R. W. Duff, remarked that wherever in the world there was a good thing there would be found a Scotsman sitting by it.

The new Congressional Library in Washington will, Librarian Spofford estimates, accommodate copies of all the books of the world for one hundred years to come and still leave seven-eighths of its available space applicable for other purposes.

Sir James C. Browne, a London expert on brain disease, says insomnia is not so bad as claimed. The brain takes rest in short spells, and one part of the brain rests while the others keep at work.

As has been anticipated, observes the Boston Journal, orange culture in the United States has outgrown the ability of the country to consume the production. It is estimated that the coming crop will exceed the demand by at least one million boxes.

Gold mines in Nevada, California, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Montana and elsewhere where gold mines are known, have taken a new stimulus. The output of gold this year will double that of last, predicts the Chicago Herald.

Count P. P. Schuvaloff is the fortunate possessor of the only diamond fields in Russia. On his estate, comprising 300,000 hectares, five gems were accidentally found last year.

Howellett's "Queer Facts and Curious Fancies," says that the first blackboard was made at London in the year 1796, and was used at a small educational institution near Paddington Green.

There have recently been some very important discoveries of gold in the West. It is stated that at Cripple Creek, Col., gold ore worth \$7000 a ton has been found, but its quantity is as yet unknown.

This year surpasses any one in the history for railroad accidents. From November, 1892, to November, 1893, 318 persons have been killed on the railroads, and 2000 persons have been named and crippled.

AMBITION'S TRAIL. If all the end of this continuous striving were simply to attain, How poor would seem the planning and contriving, The endless urging and the hurried driving, Of body, heart and brain.

THE FAIR UNKNOWN.

BY RICHARD PRYCE.



None of Lady George Athol's "first Thursdays" her rooms were filling to overflow. Barn street was blocked with carriages. Lady George stood on the big square landing at the top of the stairs, and gave her hand so often that, after a time, it seemed no longer her own.

Her tongue was tired, too, and so was her smile, but each was kept in active work. "How do you do?" "How do you do?" "How do you do?" "Your son not with you? No? I am sorry."

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old Charlie's never been out of the country in his life. Vincent caught Miss Athol's eye. "Are you going to let me take you down to supper?" he said to her.

HOUSEHOLD MATTERS.

Clean and cut the chicken the same as for a fricassee. Dredge each piece thickly with salt, pepper and flour. Put three tablespoonfuls of oil or lard in a frying pan, and when very hot put in the chicken and fry slowly until it is done.

HOW TO MAKE HOMEMADE CAKE. In large cities the making of cake is almost a lost art. There are many reasons for this, first and foremost of which is the bakery.

THE TENDERFOOT GOT A VALUABLE POINTER. One day, while a gang of miners were toiling in a gulch near Shasta, a stranger, evidently ignorant of mining, came along.

Complete List of His Disabilities. A blind old English soldier soliciting alms at a church door, has a board hung round his neck with the following notice: BLEND THROUGH AN ACCIDENT.

WHEN IT'S COLD. When needles are in your fingers and toes; When icicles hang from the snow-man's nose; When the frost on the pane makes sugary trees,

PITH AND POINT. Getting a shine on your shoes—Sitting in the sun.—Hallo. Even a lean person may fall plump into the water.—Lowell Courier.

TOBACCO CULTURE IS STEADILY GAINING GROUND IN AUSTRALIA. Tobacco culture is steadily gaining ground in Australia.

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