THE MIDDLEBURGH POST.

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In the Swiss Canton Wallis the medinval custom still exists of ringing all. the church bells to avert an impending thunder-storm or untimely full of snow.

It is claimed that there is more capital invested in the electrical industry in the United States than in all the rest of the world. In round numbers there is not less than \$1,750,000, 000 invested in the industry in this country not including capital in ocean

The readers of the New York Sunday World were asked recently to send in their idea of the most significant word in the English language. The choice of the greatest number fell upon Life, which is probably the word of deepest meaning to the great majority of people. The word that ranked second was Love, while God and Money each received the same number of votes for third place.

Some careful experiments which have been made in England prove that the life of a locomotive is about 500,-000 "train miles," In other words, that a locomotive of the latest approved pattern will run 500,000 before wearing out so as to be useless. In making this run of 590,000 miles the firebox will have to be renewed three times, the wheel tires five or six times and the crank axles from three to five times,

Gold and stiver were first used as money fashioned into rings or beads, which were weighed at each transaction just like flitch or sausage, until it occurred to a genius in Lydia, nearly 3,000 years ago, to cast the metals into disks of convenient size, the public weigher or some other functionary putting his official mark on them as a guarantee of their weight in order to dispense with the use of a scale at each exchange. This is the origin of coin money.

A foreign naval officer of high rank once said that if the United States had not a single warship ufloat it still would be a naval power as long as it kept up Annapolis. What this country mostly needs now, and of that there is an imperative need, is an increase in the number of men in the navy, observes the New York Press, At present there are not enough to maintaining a modern navy and keeping it up to the standard is enormous, England's estimate for the naval program of 1895-6 called for \$98,000,000.

Hiram S. Maxim, the inventor of the Maxim gun, who is now studying the subject of air ships, writes as Tollows to the London Times: "I think I am safe in asserting that until a very recent date the greater part of the experimentars on flying machines have peen little better than charlatans and mountebanks. It is only recently that men of science have actually taken the matter into hand, and during the last six years a great deal of valuable information has been obtained, not based upon theory, but upon actual experiments. I feel sure that it is now possible to make a successful and practical flying machine which will at least be a valuable adjunct to the offensive and defensive powers of civilized nations who are able to make and operate delicate and complicated machinery."

Near the close of the fifteenth century the greatest of ocean navigators of his time discovered the Western Continent and opened a new field of energy and development to the civilized nations of the earth. As the nineteenth century draws towards its end there are indications, announces the New York Herald, that it will produce a new Columbus, who will show the way to the navigation of the nir, as Isabella's admiral led the way to a more extended pavigation of the sea, Already some degree of success with flying machines has been schieved, and such men as Maxim, Langley and Chanute are pushing on the trials of their devices for aerial flight. Possibly new inventions in design or the to him. He stopped with an exclamamotive power will change the present [plans of these experimenters, but enough is now known to enable us to foresee the solution at an early day of the problem of flying through the air in a practical and useful manner,

"Does your family sympathize with you when you have insomnia?" "Yes. When I can't sleep I sit up all night and practice on my accordion."-Chiengo Record.



THE KNIGHT OF THE BURRO

BY ROSE, L. ELLERBE,

lassie, a wee and win- her. some lassie, she," sang a deep baritone voice, with careless aban-

her in wonder. On one side rose the past hour, she cried, rugged mountain, on the other lay a oh dear! how am I ever to get away deep gorge. Where was the singer? from this place over that dreadful them on their excursion to Minne-The question was answered by a stalwart masculine form swinging around a sharp turn in the pathway just the tears came. ahead of her, and coming to a sudden stop. Evidently a "maiden fair" was an unexpected vision on this lonely mountain trail. The hesitation was only for an instant ; removing his hat,

"I beg your pardon. The path is so narrow here I'll go back a bit," and he turned. The girl followed him with an amused smile.

"If it were only the least bit dangerous," she thought, "this would really be an adventure; but it's not, more's the pity." She murmured her thanks to the young man, who stood hill, and I can have an animal here respectfully aside to allow her pas-

Henry Maxon gave one glance over his shoulder as he again rounded the corner.

"Well, she is a 'winsome wee thing,' but she must have thought me an member. idiot to stare at her so; -must be stopping at the Glen." And he went on his way.

The trail, following the curve of the mountain, formed a semicircle; as Neva Hildreth reached its innermost point, she uttered a cry of delight; a tiny canon opened before her, its rocky sides covered with a dense growth of brush, moss and ferns; through the branches gleamed the white rocks of a waterless waterfall. Miss Neva cultivated a passion for ferns, and she could not pass these by. Entering the canon, she was soon gathering the dainty golden and silver ferns. A particularly fine cluster just above the little fall attracted her. There were tempting little cracks and

"I can go up there just as well as not." she thought; and up she went. On confusion of growth was even picturesque.

"I must bring mamma here," mused the little laily; "it is one of the most beautiful spots I have ever seen, now; -what must it be with the water tumbling over these rocks!" Taking a seat on a stone, she gave herself up to the contemplation of the beauties about her.

But reveries must end, and girls who elimb up rocks must climb down again. It looked easy enough, and the young lady had no fears as she placed her foot upon an apparently firm bit of rock only to find herself suddenly precipitated to the ground below. Fortunately the distance was not great, and after a momentary the veranda. They had some merry ately, "you are the lassic, Neva. shock she picked herself up; but when laughs over their "adventure," and she attempted to walk she found that her aukle had been injured in some way, and she was compelled to lean against the bank for support. She tried again, and managed to make her way back to the trail; but here she sank down, faint with pain, and could go no further. Already the sun had gone behind the mountain, and though the opposite hills and valleys were still flooded with light, the shadows were falling in the little canon.

Miss Neva suddenly realized that she was having an adventure, after all. "It's quite romantic to sprain one's ankle,-people always do that in stories, -only there can't be many people passing this way to rescue me -that young man stared at me so when he saw me. And nobody knows paid little heed to her sister, where I am; mamma was asleep when I came away. What if there should he wild animals?-what was that man telling about mountain lions at the

She glanced about her rather neryously, but she prided herself on her "nerve," and for fully half an hour she bore the situation very philosophically, assuring herself that nelp must come in some way soon. But her foot was growing very painful, and the shadows were growing very deep, and her courage was fast tailing her, when she at last heard footsteps approaching. Presently she saw a Mexican laborer, with a spade over his shoulder, coming around the path. When he was opposite to her she called tion of astonishment, but when he saw her foot, from which she had removed the boot, he asked:

"Hurta?-Mucha malo," he added, shaking his head. He listened to her explanations with many expressions of sympathy, and at its conclsion said:
"I go for Meesta Smith; we come

pretty quick," and moved away at a remarkable speed-for a Mexican.

It seemed hours to the suffering and impatient girl before she again mainder of his stay at the fair. He a year, but collectively they are irre-heard footsteps. This time it was the saw nothing more of Neva Hildreth. sistible."—New York Ledger.

H, my love is but a | "singer," and he came directly to

"Jose tells me that you have met with an accident," he said; "I am very sorry."

don. A girl who was strolling along the mountain path stop- bad enough." Then, forgetting everyped and looked about thing but the misery of the On one side rose the past hour, she cried, "Oh, dear, trail? I can't walk-and-there's no tonka. Mrs. Ward looked her surother way." In spite of her "nerve" prise, but she could only murmur other way." In spite of her "nerve"

Henry Maxon, looking down at the dainty little figure with its tearstained face, longed to pick her up in his arms, as he would have done a little | as to ways and means in the most matchild, and carry her home, but he only ter-of-fact way possible

"Oh yes, there are other ways; we might make a little and carry youor-did you ever ride a burro? "No, but I mean to ride one before

I go home." "Now's your chance then-that is, if you are not too faint to sit in the saddle. My ranch is just around the inside of ten minutes-if you wish."

"Oh, yes!" she exclaimed, eagerly, "I can ride very well, and I should really enjoy a burro ride-if it were not for the pain," she added, as a twinge reminded her of the wounded

"It is badly swollen," said Maxon, looking sympathetically at the little foot; "if I could bring some arnica or cold water-or-something-"
"Oh, no," she hastened to say, "it

will do very well until I get to the hotel."

In a very short time he reappeared with a light overcoat, which she iglad- failed him, and he resolved more than line of dark blue traversing it. The ly wrapped about her, for the air was growing chill.

Soon a Mexican came, leading the comical little beast with its flopping limited and the last day of his stay Then Miss arrived. ears and wicked eyes. Neva found herself lifted into a man's saddle, and her lame foot carefully ad-justed; her rescuer took the bridle, Maxon had decided that he must put buttons. The collar is a high, plain and by means of much pulling and coaxing and an occasional punch from

Several sympathetic nurses attendreaching the higher level another lit- ed to Miss Hildreth's sprained ankle, tle fall was disclosed, and the wild while she rehearsed her adventure he managed to place her in one seat with much glee, in spite of She declared that it was quite as much of an adventure as a nineteenth century maiden ought to expect, and that ments slipped by. At last he asked the "Knight of the Barro" was in abruptly: keeping with the age -practical, you "An old time knight would ing, Miss Hildreth?" know. have borne me in his arms, which would have been decidedly uncomfort- smile. able for both parties before we got over that half mile of rocky trail."

Mr. Maxon called next day, of course, to make inquiries, and was graciously, if somewhat condescendingly, received by Mrs. Hildreth; but he found occasion to stop at the little hotel almost every day during the next week, and he usually found Miss Hildredth on he repeated, softly; "and-" despersome very pleasant chats; -but the Hildredths were only tourists with lame ankle permitted they went on their way.

Six months later, as Henry Maxon was standing before one of those marvelous exhibits from his own State at the great fair, he saw Neva Hildreth approaching him. Their eyes met, and she recognized him with a frank smile and outstretched hand.

"I am glad to see you," she said; "I have not forgotten my California experience." An introduction to her sister, Mrs. Ward, followed. Mrs. Ward was quite absorbed by her own escort, a learned professor, and she who followed in her wake accompanied by Maxon. So it fell out her now, and no wonder-fool that I that when luncheon was proposed, two hours later, Maxon was still one of the party and was invited to join them -- an invitation which he readily accepted.

The party left the grounds soon afterward; and it was not until Maxon was in his own room for the night that he remembered, with sudden dismay, that he had not asked Miss Hildreth's address nor her plans for the morrow; he only knew that she was stopping with friends and that she expected to

remain in Chicago a week longer. The next day Maxon wandered aimlessly about the Art Gallery and the Woman's Building, instead of making a study of certain agricultural exhibits, as his ironclad itinerary called for. By six p. m. he believed that he had seen every woman in the United States, except the one woman he wanted to see. The next day was spent in much the same manner. On the third day he caught a glimpse of her, but before he could reach her she was

It is to be feared that Maxon gained very little knowledge during the re- Singly, I could have refused them for

He had made arrangements to visit ome of the Northern resorts, and he had already overstayed his time in Chicago. So one morning he took his seat in the sleeper of a through ex-press, feeling, bitterly, that he had lost the happiness of his life, perhaps, through his own carelessness. Just as the train pulled out, two ladies entered and took the section next to his. Strong man as he was, the blood rushed to his face and his heart leaped with joy as he recognized Neva Hildreth and her sister. He would lose no more opportunities. He went to them at once, and was cordially received by both ladies. He soon learned that their destination was the same as his own, and could hardly conceal his exultation as he thought of the long day before him, which he resolved to make the most of. Like a wise man, he first tried to converse with Mrs. Ward, but she seemed so surprised at his ignorance of many exhibits which interested her, and so overpowered him with her knowledge, that he was most thankful when she buried herself in a magazine and let him at liberty to talk to her sister. He found Miss Neva a most charming traveling companion, and managed to spend most of the day by her side. He found that their plans for the week coincided with his own-strange to say-and as they drew near their destination he boldly asked permission to accompany something about "very kind," which the Californian coolly took for consent and proceeded to arrange for their meeting and to make suggestions That night Mrs. Ward subjected her

younger sister to a cross-examination, which she closed by declaring emphat-

want to know something about that coats, guns, rods and other accourteyoung man before you gave him any more encouragement!'

"I encourage him?" asked Miss Neva, insocently; "why, you told him over, the cabinet is fitted with a movhe might go."

It was a perfect summer day that they spent upon the beautiful sheet of water with its musical Indian name. Maxon had fully determined to put his fate to the test, brief as had been their acquaintance, but the day passed and no favorable opportunity came. Mrs. Ward seemed to have awakened to her duties as chaperone, and Miss New York Press. Hildreth's own frank, friendly manner discouraged him even more.

They stopped at the same hotel, and Maxon spent much of his time with them for several days; still his courage once to go away, for Miss Neva would never look upon him as anything more than a friend, at best. His time was

They spent the day in making a a question and receive an answer that day, come what would. But Mrs. the Mexican in the rear, the little Ward seemed to divine his attention.

procession finally reached the hotel. There was no escaping her vigilance. There was no escaping her vigilance, and it was not until they entered the crowded car to return to the city that while he found another for Neva and himself. Even then be found it ing fastened to place by a silver but hard to begin, and the precious mo-

> "Do you remember our first meet-"Of course," she answered, with a

"And did you think me rude to stare at you so? To tell the truth, I thought you were a 'winsome wee lassie' indeed."

"Ah, did you?" she murmured just glancing up at him.

"My love is but a lassie, A winsome wee lassie, she,"

"Baggage, sir? Checked to all parts of the city." And a bunch of checks were jingled in his face. Before he round trip tickets, and as soon as the could recover himself Mrs. Ward came to asked a question-and then they were rolling into the city depot-

"Miss Neva, he spoke hurriedly, must leave for home in the morning, -unless you say stay.' "Why," was the response, "mus you go? We shall miss you!"

"I must go," he answered; "I have overstayed my time already.

They were in the aisle now, and as they struggled along, pushed and jostled by the impatient throng, he spoke once more:

"Shall I go -or stay, Neva?" There was no reply, and his heart

"I'd no business to spring it on her like this," he thought; "I've offended He saw the ladies to a carriage, and

with his hand on the door said : "I must thank you for your many kindnesses; I have enjoyed to-day immensely-and all the week. To-mor-

row I go-" "To the falls, do you not?" interrupted Miss Hildreth. We do the falls to-morrow, sister. And," leaning forward she added mischievously, "perhaps there are no baggagemen out there."-The New Bohemian.

Collectively, Too Much for Him,

A doctor once refused to take a fee for attending a friend during a dangerous illness. Upon his recovery. however, the patient presented the agreeable amount in a purse, saying: "Sir, in this purse I have put every

day's fee; and your goodness must not get the better of my gratitude." The doctor eyed the purse, counted the number of days, and, holding out

his hand, replied: "Well, I can hold out no longer.



TYRANNY OF THE WASP WAIST.

After numerous vague hints it is at last announced as a definite fact that women's waists are to be released from the tyranny of the wasp ideal. Inquiry in Paris during the week shows that not much change has been made there in dresses yet, though a recognized tendency in that direction exists. In London, however, the change is already very marked. In the beginning it was confined to cy-cling habits, but it is now spreading rapidly to walking costumes and even to evening dress. This new mode is called "the Grecian waist," which gives a pleasing label to comfortable reality, and ladies' tailors here profess to believe that by another season tight lacing will be quite out of date. - New York Times.

CYCLE IN THE BOUDOIR.

To what importance the sport of evcling has attained in England may be understood from the purpose of a new piece of house furniture which is being bought in numbers in London. It is an elegantly joined and carved cabinet, which may be used as a dressing table and occupy the place of such in a boudoir, or a hallstand, where it may "Well, I should think you would bear racquets, golf sticks, caps and ments of sport. In addition, or, rather, primarily, this cabinet is to be used as a stall for a bicycle. More- palm. able base, which is easily pulled out, and by means of wheels and pulleys the wheel can be so fixed that those who wish to take exercise in bad weather can use their bicycle in the house, and by means of a mileage bell are able to know exactly how many miles they would have traversed had the cycle been in actual motion .-

STYLISH AUTUMN CLOTH FROCK.

A very smart autumn frock is made of a smooth-surfaced cloth that shows a dove-gray background with a hairskirt is moderately wide, the upper part being fitted closely to the figure, the lower has a decided flare. The bodice is a fitted coat having a waistcoat of blue cloth matching the blue stripe set in the front, and buttoned one of blue satin, with overlapping points of the blue satin outlined with a giver cord. The sleaves are moderately full, shape in to fit the arms and have points of blue satin larger, but the same shape as those on the collar, turning back in cuff fashion on sleeve ornamentation. To b the lower part of each sleeve, and beton on the extreme of each point. The hat is a soft gray felt with a band of gray about its crown, and a bunch of blue feathers at one side. The gloves are gray undressed kid. - Ladies' Home Journal.

TURKISH WOMEN.

No one who visits Turkey can know anything of the real life of the people unless he has seen some of the harems, for it is a mistake to imagine that because they are invisible to the outer world the Turkish women have no influence. On the contrary, unable to spend their time in going about and in visiting or receiving general visitors, they have all the more leisure for intrigue and scheming, and it must be remembered that all marriages are arranged exclusively by the female relatives on both sides.

Though the present Sultan's own wives and slaves are said to be mere frivolous dolls, spending their energies on dress and eating sweetmeats, many of the Pasha's wives are women of keen intelligence, able to manage their husband's properties, and it is well known that the valideh sultans or mothers of the Sultans, have often exercised immense influence in State affairs. The young girls now in Turkey are all being educated, the Sultan having established excellent schools, where the girls go till the age of twelve or so, when they "put on the yash-mak" and disappear. Up to that age they may be seen sitting with their fathers in the public gardens of au afternoon, and going to and from school of a morning, attended, if of the higher classes, by the usual hideous black attendant. - Longman's Magazine.

JEWELED UMPBRELLA HEADS.

Jeweled umbrella handles are the coming correct thing for the man or woman who strictly follows the dictates of fashion. If one has any social ambitions or aspires to any pretension of style the umbrella handle must be thickly encrusted with jewels. So say the ultra-fashionable dealers of Paris, and their New York brethren in the trade are already filling orders for similar umbrella handles for their patrons. These . jeweled conceits are made in either tasteful or grotesque tiniest rufllings of lace elf designs, as the fancy of the owner may dictate. Some are made with antique designs of gold and silver, with the jewels set in an apparently haphazard top and bottom with a rosets sort of fashion, while others have the same. The varied and elegate precious stones set in the natural

A Fulton street manufacturer of flounces for these musling umbrellas has already filled several which are just the thing for auch orders. In speaking of the new mer weather.

fad he said : "All the ideas are one al with our customers, and we receive some very odd orders, as well as se very beautiful ones. One of the fire we have done was a silver figure Liberty. Two magnificent rule formed the eyes, and a truly gorges one flamed from her torch. The ting alone cost \$35. Most of the ting is done in Lancaster, Penn."

"One feature of the fad," said a other dealer, "is that cheap stay cannot be used. The gems must h genuine and of good quality or a the entire effect is lost. It is a consort of idea for those who adopt but as a rule persons who readily alo such a fad are perfectly able to perfectly able than a passing fancy and last so time among those who regard the in of fashion. It will hardly be adea ble for one to carry a jeweled hards umbrella to the church or play a leave it standing in the customary as at the entrance, and for much a same reason the owner of a m adorned umbrella might be parte if he allowed his best friend to gobe in the rain without offering him to loan of an umbrella,"-New Is Herald.

PASITION NOTES.

Bievele gloves open in the ba thus avoiding any pressure on a

Needlework collarettes are quite indispensable accompaniment of fra in cotton fabrics, matching the g broidery used throughout. The old Garibaldi sleeve has

turned, with turned over cull of and muslin, or embroidery of a kind, for the pretly wash droves blouses.

Now, when so many girls are is wailing the fact that their own feathers are straight, is is of value know that whalebone will curl i more successfully than seiners.

Skirt gores are defined with fi pipings, laces or ribbons, needle insertions and flat gimps, what fancies that sort of thing, and the idly plain skirt continues in the rank this season, as it has for am in the past.

A pretty addition to a plak or il shirt waist is a pique stock and i They launder nicely and always h fresh and clean. Mount the belt a sitver buckle, and with the a wear a black satin string tie, with in the front.

Frills of black, blue and siles i seled tulle form odd epanletter gowned on a sultry day, to be gowned that one may at least spa cool and comfortable, is an objet worthy of striving for. It is as ways the light-colored gove the the coolest.

The most popular suit is theke suit, and in this the different pa of linen reign supreme. cooler can be worn, and its fr is so easily restored by a dip tub. Buttons are now us trimming the jackets, and are effective when put on in classa

the collars and sleeves. This season has brought outs fect craze for linen both for me women. The color is very true most complexions, but with the tion of bright ribbons they are ! more becoming. Fashion is tell ish with the styles and uses of gowns, so there are many viri

from which to choose. Muslin and delicate edging last lars have come and will go, b lace in any shape never our please. Irish guipure and of macross -- another Irish lace -- are up into collars variously shaped the latter is a very beautiful van Irish lace, but is scarcely sil every occasion as is guipare.

The newest handkerchief is batiste. It is in the natural color and was designed specia carried with the batiste gown varieties of these handkerchis shown. Some have a scalle der, embroidered in white, and are made with a narrow merb white drawn work. These is chiefs can be bought for two cents apiece.

Large sachets are much in the Paris, made of rich material of ornamented, which are filled wi fume and placed on table piano, so that the whole ross perfumed atmosphere. Old has damask is also used to mis about eighteen inches long, in round with ribbon ruches and and ends at the corners. hung at the backs of charit books, newspapers, or work a to have everything at hand

A white ideal petticost wath fine muslin, made with a the knee of insertion, and ish strip of insertion, which is was further adorned with tion of laces at the differents fers a splendid selection