

Compliments of Herr Krupp.
According to an interesting rumor, or a steamed friend, Herr Krupp, intends giving that mammoth shooting iron now at Jackson park to Chicago with his compliments. If this is so, then Herr Krupp has our best thanks and all the courtesies that are to be had in such an ineffably bad season of weather. The gun weighs 70,000 pounds and over, and as it cost \$20,000 to make it Herr Krupp's testimonial would involve some little expense.

But really we are not at all sure we know what to do with the weapon. The city has no marine defense to sustain, and a couple of trusty derringers in official hands are the only weapons needed in clearing out offensive bumboats. It costs \$1,200 to shoot the thing, and that is quite a tidy sum to pay for the privilege of howling over targets pitched out in the midwaters of Lake Michigan. And when it went off we greatly fear that some of Mr. O'Neill's "inspected" hotels in the neighborhood would draw themselves up and drop into dust heaps. Besides, the thing would have to have a fort to be housed in. And having one fort we should need to have two to be really thoroughly equipped. Having these, we'd want more guns, and more marines, and more gunpowder. And then with all these, what use would they be unless we got up a war just to have everything in keeping?

Still, it's a great gun and an influential discourager of inimical advances. If we must take it, Herr Krupp has our thanks.—Chicago Record.

To Illustrate the Progress of the Press.
An international exhibition will be held in Brussels during the coming summer, its object being to display the commercial, industrial, scientific and artistic development of the public press from ancient to modern times. The exhibition has been planned and is conducted jointly by the Union of the Belgian Periodical Press and the Belgian Club of Newspaper Collectors, and a complete and elaborate exhibit will be made, which will embrace the entire scope and history of journalism.

The journals collected will be divided in these classes: Political, scientific, literary, theatrical, society, artistic, agricultural, industrial, financial, commercial and economic, pedagogical and scholarly, sporting, fashion, legal, comic, philosophical and miscellaneous, and a full showing is expected to be made in each of these varied lines of newspaper publication. The exhibits of all these classes will be arranged so as to illustrate the progress of the press from the sixteenth century to the present time in literary and mechanical perfection, artistic merit and commercial and industrial importance. The exhibition will last for two months.

Frightfully Good.
There are some very pious people in Washington. You might not suspect it, but it is nevertheless true.

These people have entered on a crusade against the Sunday ice cart. There must be no delivery of ice on the first day of the week. The rumble of the clumsy cart must not be heard in the streets to excite the delicate nervous system of the altogether too religious.

When a man is so awfully good that he can't drink ice water on Sunday, his case becomes serious, and a consultation of eminent physicians ought to be had at once.

There are folks so oddly constituted that they have the hysteria over a Sunday ice cart, but are a little bit too shrewd in a horse trade on Monday. It wouldn't do any harm if such people's religion were to have a hypodermic injection of common sense.—New York Herald

Britain's Bitter Political Struggle.
The final passage of the home rule bill by the commons now seems to be in sight. The committee stage may be vexatious and slow, but the bill will go through within a reasonable time and be sent to its death in the house of lords. That the dead bill will in the end prove a weapon with which the house of peers itself will be struck down is confidently predicted by the Liberal leaders. Before that day comes, however, Britain must pass through the bitterest political struggle of her modern history, and a struggle which will involve issues far graver than those of the present measure.—London Letter.

Chicago Hospitality.
The large hospitality which Chicago residents are planning arouses a cordial admiration. One woman who lives in the outskirts of the city and has a large lawn as well as big house, says: "We have secured a number of tents, which we propose to pitch on the lawn and provide with cots and conveniences. Here we'll quarter the men when our house overflows, as we expect it will most of the time."—Exchange.

Rubinstein's New Opera.
Rubinstein's sacred opera entitled "Moses," on which the composer has been at work since 1881, has just been put on the stage at Brunn, Moravia. The opera is a series of eight acts, the presentation of which occupies two evenings. The most interesting part of the work from a theatrical point of view is the scene depicting the historic events on Mount Sinai.

A Consul's Son Does a Skirt Dance.
At a recent party at Biarritz Nigel Bellairs, son of the British consul there, electrified the assembly by dancing, and most gracefully too, a skirt dance, appeared in the regulation mazes of filmy gauze and lace petticoats. He looked like an ordinary slim and good looking young girl and was recalled again and again by the delighted audience.—Chicago Herald.

Upheaved a Mountain.
A blast of 2½ tons of powder exploded at the Bayside quarry, where the rock for the jetty work at the entrance to the harbor is obtained. The blast threw up 150,000 tons of rock, demolished two cabins and damaged the railroad. No one was injured.—Cor. San Francisco Examiner.

Pawnshops For the Poor.
There will soon be a strong rival to all the professional "uncles" in this city. The People's Bank association, a newly formed organization for rescuing the poor from the clutches of grasping pawnshops, promises to open at least one pawnshop in New York within a few months.

Alfred Bishop Mason, a member of the firm of Sprague, Duncan & Hutchison, limited, of 15 Wall street and a trustee of the Charity Organization society, has been the chief mover in forming the People's Bank association. He promises to open the main office of the concern within a few weeks at furthest. Then a pawnshop branch will be initiated in some part of the city where tenements and poverty are plentiful. The chief object will be to lend money at a low rate of interest on clothing and household goods.

"We intend to charge only 1 per cent per month interest," said a promoter of the scheme to me. "Ordinary pawnbrokers charge 3 per cent for the first month and 2 per cent a month for all after that. Our scheme will be to charge as little as possible for the accommodation. Our capital will be \$100,000. A limited number of shares will be sold at \$10 each, with the distinct understanding that dividends shall never exceed 4 per cent a year, all profits above that being added to the general fund for extending the people's banks."—New York Herald.

Don't Know President Carnot.
It will be very difficult for M. Carnot to manage constituent elements of the force to be controlled, and he certainly is not managing them successfully now. They are growing impatient of the mediocre men he favors, perhaps a little ashamed of them, and there is a disposition in consequence to fasten responsibility on him personally in a manner quite new. If he persists in his plan, we may see "surprises," as M. de Blowitz recently said, which will tax to the utmost the president's popularity and furnish a final test of a character still exceedingly obscure.

M. Carnot has reigned for six years and is not well known yet. And when that happens in such a place as Paris to a man in such a position there are usually only two explanations of the fact that are worth consideration. Either the character is abnormally reserved—in fact, a deliberately concealed one, a very rare occurrence in France, where silence is resented—or there is no particular character to be detected by observation. Nobody is quite so hard to read as a man in high place who has nothing in him, and that, after all, may be the explanation of President Carnot.—London Spectator.

England Never Sleeps.
In the construction of submarine cables and ocean steamships our country is far behind England, which leads the world. At this time an American company is laying a cable from Peru to Central America, which was made in England. At this time two great steamships for a new line between America and Australasia are on the stocks in an English shipyard. The English made the new deep sea cable between South America and Africa. We recently bought our best two Atlantic steamships in England. It is England that owns the most of the Atlantic cables and owns a large proportion of the Atlantic steamships. By her cable lines on the beds of the world's seas and her commercial marine on these seas the power and the wealth of England are immensely increased.

This country is wide awake a part of the time, but England never sleeps.—New York Sun.

Frenchmen Take to Rowing.
The unexpected defeat of a London rowing club eight on the Seine last autumn by a French crew has put fresh spirits into Gallic oarsmen, and as a consequence we shall in all probability see some French crews at Henley regatta this year. The Bas Seine Rowing club of Paris will enter crews for the grand challenge cup (eights), Stewards' challenge cup (fours), and the silver goblets (pairs). M. Boudin of the same club will probably start in the diamond sculls. A Canadian sculler has also sent in an entry for the last named event, so that the regatta, which is fixed for the first Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in July, promises this year to be particularly interesting. No doubt the English clubs will do their best to atone for the disaster on the Seine last October.—London News.

A Big Blaine Monument.
It is proposed to set up the big monolith quarried at Prentice, Wis., as a monument to James G. Blaine. It is the biggest stone ever quarried. It is 115 feet long, 10 feet square at the base and 4 feet square at the top, and is 46 feet longer than Cleopatra's needle. It cost \$12,000 to cut it out of its bed, and it would cost \$22,000 to transport it to the World's fair. There is some doubt, however, about its ever getting to Chicago, as the expense of transportation would be so great.—Minneapolis Journal.

The Latest Style of Kiss.
Here is a kiss, described upon feminine authority as the latest, which the Ohio board of health or any other aggregation of sanitary wisecracks can prohibit in the interest of the general health. It is executed by laying the left cheeks together and letting the smack go uninterrupted into space.—Detroit Free Press.

The Affectation of Skepticism.
Cardinal Gibbons recently expressed himself in this way, "Young men who have received an imperfect and superficial education want to appear wise and learned and think in order to do so they must affect a degree of skepticism and infidelity which frequently results in an entire loss of faith."

There is a horse in Florida that becomes wildly excited and unmanageable whenever any one approaches him having a breath that smells of whisky.

On the day before Easter one florist in New York city took in \$3,500 in cash between 1 and 6 p. m. and sold twice as much "to be charged."

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