

One-quarter of the people of New Orleans speak French, and one-half understand it.

English furniture is becoming fashionable in Germany, according to the *Vossische Zeitung*, which advises American manufacturers for the German markets to copy English models.

In an article on country papers, the *Pittsburg Times* forgets to say anything about the way in which items of news are clipped from them and transformed into "special telegrams" for the dailies, but they will all do it.

Preparations are being made for a trip of a unique party of American doctors this summer to inspect the principal health resorts of Europe. Each member of the party must be a physician in actual practice and a graduate of an American university.

The first recorded strike of a union of servant girls is that at West Superior, Wis. The girls wanted an advance from \$12 to \$15 per month, and half of the housewives of the city combatted the demand. The strikers won. The result may indicate a solution of the servant girl problem.

New York sees the celebration of more national festival days than any city, not only of this country, but of the world. The Irish, the Germans, the Scotch, the English, the French, the Welsh, the Italians, even the Chinese, each have a day which they call their own, and which they celebrate with the fetes and ceremonies of Fatherland.

There has been a decided shifting of the center of broomcorn culture and material increase in production. A few years ago Illinois was the leader but now Kansas has taken the first place, the crop in the western part of the state being found more reliable than any other similar crop in the dry district. Kansas is credited with 141,000 acres, Illinois, 30,500, Nebraska 20,000, other states 8,000.

The Panama project, it seems, is not dead, and a new company has been formed with a capital of \$10,000,000 for the purpose of building what may be called a trial canal, fifteen metres wide by four metres deep, along the most difficult part of the system. "If this is done," says the *Philadelphia Ledger*, "it is said that financial institutions are ready to advance \$100,000,000 to complete the great work. Should this scheme be actively developed, it will have an important bearing on the Nicaragua enterprise, and our government will have to consider whether the rival canal shall be built, and if not whether the Panama canal can be controlled in the interests of the United States."

The cycle business is steadily and rapidly gaining ground, and the day is not far off when cycle shops will be as common throughout the country as blacksmith shops are now, predicts the *New York Mail and Express*. The sale of wheels used to be limited to the large towns and cities. Even some of those towns did not have a single wheel, while at present it is next to impossible to find a town that does not have at least one bicycle, and there are hundreds of them that have from fifty to seventy-five. The farmers' boys are getting them, and they generally make good riders. They look after the roads, too, and see that they are up in shape. Five or six years ago local clubs were almost unknown, while at present it is indeed a small place that cannot boast of a cycling organization.

The Chicago Railway Age, a good authority on railway information and statistics, believes that an active revival of railway construction is at hand. It states that 205 railway lines have either been actually begun or are in the course of immediate preparation for work. There is now in the United States a railway mileage of about 181,000. To equal Great Britain's ratio of mileage to area of territory, the United States should have, according to the figures of the Railway Age, 492,000 miles. To equal that of Illinois, 522,000 miles, and to equal that of Massachusetts, 772,000 miles.

Though it has piled up the debts of all the European powers to establish the great navies of which they boast, the result has been very profitable to Krupp, the gunmaker. He is now the richest man in all Germany, his income being rated at one and three-quarter million dollars, or nearly a quarter of a million more than the Berlin Rothschild. The Rothschilds for a half century have furnished the sinews of war, but it evidently pays better to supply the guns with which battles are won than the coin for any expenses.

BICYCLE DEVICES.

LATEST IDEAS FOR UTILIZING THE WHEEL.

A Bicycle and Vehicle for Sick People—Running Bicycles on Railway Tracks—Folding Bundle Carriers.

MERETOFORE the bicycle has been a luxury that could only be afforded by individuals provided with money to spare. At present, however, inventors and manufacturers are improving the wheel in such a manner as to make it a boon for invalids. The latest invention of this kind was put on the market the other day. It is a tricycle on the two rear wheels of which a reclining chair for sick persons is supported. The saddle is supported by suitable crossbars and the front wheel is operated and controlled by the rider in the usual manner.

This tricycle is surprisingly light in its construction and can be propelled with great ease. Persons afflicted with illness, who are now wheeled about with considerable difficulty, will find great pleasure in this new tricycle. All that is required is an able bodied man to operate it. In many respects this tricycle takes the place of a carriage, which few can afford.

By means of a forked bracket, pivotally swung at its forward end on the axle of the drive wheel, another inventor has succeeded in utilizing the bicycle in a manner similar to the tricycle just mentioned. In this instance the bicycle can be combined with any light vehicle, such as a perambulator, rolling invalid's chair and the like. The forked bracket holds the two securely, and the rider can manipulate the pedals and steering gear without being hampered in the least.

Inventions of this kind, though still far from perfection, are indications nevertheless that the bicycle has a great future and one of infinite benefit to humanity in general.

A simple device for assisting persons learning to ride consists in the attachment to the hub of the rear wheel of a rod carrying at its under end a small wheel, which gives sup-



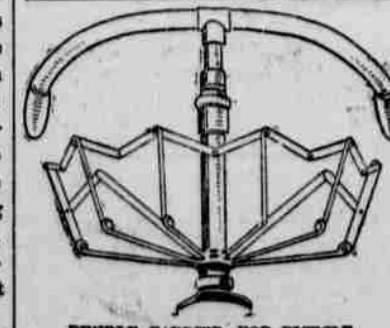
BICYCLE AND VEHICLE FOR THE SICK.

port to the machine. This device gives beginners on the wheel a certain sense of safety and enables them to learn to ride sooner than otherwise.

Several devices have recently been brought out to enable bicycles to run on railway tracks to insure a smooth and swift road. One invention is noteworthy for its simplicity. This device can be connected to the frame of the wheel. It comprises a standard, having connected therewith a cross piece, the latter carrying journals and rollers, which are adapted to come in contact with the guide or rail on which the bicyclist desires to ride. This device can easily be adjusted to fit a railway track and thus enable riders to run along the line of the railway and gain greater speed and smoothness than any other road.

A pump attached directly to the bicycle is the latest invention for wheelmen, who know how indispensable an article of this kind often is. This pump is pinioned to the axle of the rear wheel, and whenever needed can be put to use at once.

A new change-speed gearing for bicycles comprises an internally toothed driving wheel, secured to the pedal shaft, an internally toothed sprocket wheel, journaled on the shaft, in gear with the rear sprocket wheel; intermediate toothed gearing, in mesh with the driving wheel, a locking dog pivoted to the frame and a rod provided with a shoe designed to depress the dog and to register with the recess in the wheel. By means of this at-



BUNDLE CARRIER FOR BICYCLE.

tachment the gearing can be regulated to any degree of speed desired.

Numerous kinds of bundle carrying attachments are appearing on the market every week. The newest of its kind consists of a pivoted wire frame. It can be folded to any desired size, and when in use is applied to the fork of the wheel directly under the handle bar. When not in use it is folded up, and in this form takes up comparatively little room. It is large enough to hold bundles and packages of ordinary size without hampering the rider or the wheel in the least.

If improvements in the wheel continue to be made as they have been

ever since the season opened it is impossible to predict what the bicycle will look like at the end of this summer.

A Wooden Bicycle Made in 1858.

A wooden bicycle alleged to have been built in 1858, and to be the first pedal action machine constructed, is



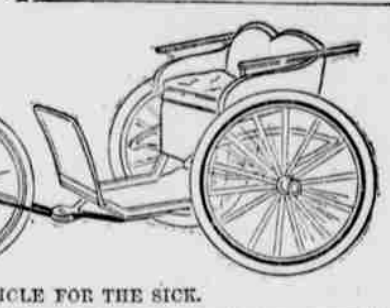
WOODEN BICYCLE MADE IN 1858.

on exhibition in the window of a bicycle house on Broadway, New York, and is exciting considerable attention. The wheel, which is reproduced, has many novel features despite its antiquity. The owner discovered the wheel in a small town near Utica, N. Y., and appreciating its worth, purchased it.

E. I. Horsman, Jr., who is a well known bicycle rider, informed a *World* reporter that while the wheel is quite old and has no doubt suffered some rough usage, it is in good condition. It weighs 108 pounds, nearly eighty-four pounds heavier than the average bicycle in use today.

An ingenious and curious part is the frame, which is a piece of iron curved to fit the wheel. The steering gear, while not elaborate in either finish or design, is very strong. A large iron coaster is attached to the forks above the front wheel. The saddle is a large affair, being of heavy wood, eighteen inches long and twelve inches wide, and is adjustable, as is the pedals. The diameter of the front wheel is thirty-six inches, and the rear wheel twenty-eight inches. The wheels are made of ash.

This bicycle, which is regarded as a novelty now, is valued at \$500. When



wheels of this design were in use, cycling trips consisted of short rides, which were sufficient to exhaust the enthusiasm of the most ardent rider. The cyclist's costume to-day is radically different from those in use in 1858. In those days the owner of a bicycle was content to ride in his ordinary attire, but the modern bicycle and the up-to-date suit are entirely different from the above picture.

A Petrification Yarn From Arizona.

An Arizona man is thus quoted in the *Washington Star*: "There are springs in Arizona where almost any object can be petrified. Frogs, snakes, lizards and other reptiles have ventured into some of these springs and been turned to stone. Leaves, twigs and branches of trees have undergone the same process. But the most remarkable instance is that of a cattleman. He was in the habit of standing in one of these springs and bathing. He did this for some time, when he began to feel peculiar pains in his feet and ankles, and he stopped, but the pains continued, followed by a numbness that never left them. He lost all control of the muscles of that part of his body, and it was but a few weeks until he realized that his feet had become petrified, and for the last year he has been unable to walk. The rest of his body was somewhat affected, but not so much so, as the water had not submerged him."

Making Bacteria Useful.

Experiments have been carried on in Germany by Drs. Hall, Riegel, Notbe and others with the view of ascertaining how the bacteria of the soil may be rendered useful. Herr Notbe has succeeded in cultivating these bacteria on a large scale, and he is convinced that the sowing of the bacteria necessary for the assimilation of nitrogen and the successful cultivation of leguminous plants will make soils more productive which need them, and will do so in a cheaper and more convenient way than the method of inoculating suitable earth, devised some years ago.—*Scientific American*.

Most Abominable of Odors.

Acetylene gas is believed to have one of the most abominable odors devised by chemistry, a fact urged in its favor, as it can be detected at once when it escapes. M. Moissan, who discovered it, says, however, that the pure gas, made from pure crystallized carbide of calcium, has an agreeable ethereal odor, which he has inhaled in small quantities without inconvenience. When the carbide is obtained with impure coal and lime, it may contain sulphides and phosphides of calcium, and in that case the stench is nauseous.—*Boston Cultivator*.

MODES FOR MISSES.

SOME SEASONABLE GARMENTS FOR YOUNG GIRLS.

A Pretty Dress of White Silk Mull for Graduation Day—Tucked Yoke Waist of Silk Muslin.

IN the commencement dress depicted herewith, and described by May Mantou, fine white silk mull is handsomely trimmed with Herro lace and insertion to match, white satin ribbon furnishing the decoration. The pretty waist is arranged to close in front, but can be made to close in back if so preferred.



MISSES' COMMENCEMENT DRESS.

When closed in front the back is made seamless, and the fullness of the waist is arranged over smooth fitted linings that close in centre, the full vest closing at the left front under the jabot of lace. A stock of satin ribbon covers the smooth standing collar. Full puffs are arranged over sleeve linings that reach to the elbow, these being trimmed to match the vest, with three crosswise rows of insertion, the band at the lower edges being overlaid with ribbon finished in pretty bows. Bows at the shoulders and at the waist with belt and chon of the ribbon completes the decoration. The skirt is moderately full at the top, the Spanish flounce being deeply hemmed on the lower edge, gathered at the top and sewed to the short upper portion, three rows of insertion trimming as shown, with a single row at top of hem. The placket is finished in centre back, but can be made at the side if more convenient to attach the skirt to the waist. Lawn, dimity, batiste, taffeta, mull, China silk, plain and dotted swiss, are all appropriately used for this purpose, white being usually chosen, and colored fabrics for ordinary wear. Embroidery, lace, insertion or ribbon can be used for decoration.

The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this waist for a miss fourteen years of age is 2 1/2 yards. To make the skirt it will require of the same width material 3 1/2 yards.

MISSES' TUCKED YOKE WAIST.
Daintily colored warp-printed silk



BECOMING TUCKED YOKE WAIST FOR MISSES.

maulin in Dresden effect on a creamy ground is chosen for this attractive looking waist, the style of which is deservedly popular and very becoming to young misses. Pale blue satin ribbon forms the stock that ties in a bow in centre back over the standing collar, the belt of the same ribbon closing under a pretty bow at the left side. The full fronts are gathered and arranged low on the lining. The seamless yoke is arranged over the full front. The back fits smoothly across the shoulders, gathers adjusting the fullness at the waist line and closes invisibly in centre back. The fashionable gigot sleeves are of medium

width, cluster tucks forming epaulettes near the top. A cluster of four tucks complete the wrists above the facing. Waists by the mode can be stylishly developed from any of the sheer silk, cotton or linen fabrics, now in vogue, over silk or percaline linings. Trimming of ribbon and lace may enhance its attractiveness, but are not necessary, as the tucks afford ample decoration.

The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this waist for a miss fourteen years of age is 3 1/2 yards.

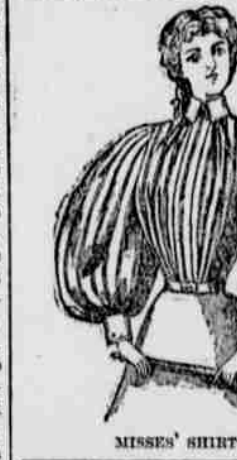
STYLISH SHIRT WAIST FOR MISSES.

Striped red and white percale and fine white linen are smartly associated in this stylish shirt waist. The collars and cuffs are of the white linen,



MISSES' SHIRT WAIST.

and a bow necktie of dark red satin shows between the flaring front edges of the turnover collar. A white suede belt, with silver buckle, encircles the waist. Gathers at the neck dispose the pretty fullness on each side of the box-plot, through which button-holes are worked to effect the closings in front. The back fits smoothly across



the shoulders, a pointed yoke facing being applied to the top. This yoke can be cut with or without a centre seam, the seam being desirable when striped material is used as the yoke can then be shaped with bias back edges as shown in back view. The lower edge passes under the dress skirt, a shirring string or gathers ar-

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED.

LAND SALES.

Large Fortune For a Poor Girl—Crops Destroyed by Rain.

The big purchase of real estate at New Kensington the other day by A. W. Mellon, of Pittsburgh, has greatly advanced the values in that section. At the same time, by the county treasurer of unseated lands a number of lots near New Kensington were eagerly snapped up by Pittsburgh real estate men at prices greatly in advance of those of a week ago. In many instances only from \$10 to \$12 taxes were entered against the properties. A New Kensington real estate man invested nearly \$5,000.

Reports from various parts of Westmoreland county indicate that the unusually heavy rains of the past have greatly injured the growing crops, corn being washed out, wheat, oats and rye levelled and buried in the sand. As a general thing, garden truck, save where it was planted on the hillside and in the vicinity of creeks, escaped serious damage. The loss to farmers will be heavy.

Some time ago William Arnsler, of Waltham, near Beaver Falls, chased a polecat into a hole and dug it out. He got two others from the same hole and took them all home in a sack. Two of the cats gave birth a day or two ago to sixteen pole kittens, and he now has a family of nineteen, which he shows to anybody that will approach close enough to see them.

Fully 2,000 people attended the reunion of Battery B at Mt. Jackson, Monday. The address was delivered by Thomas Swisher. Speeches were also made by veterans and ministers. Captain Harvey Cooper was elected president, and Lieutenant James A. Gardner secretary for the ensuing year.

Three cannons that were in service during the late war have been donated by the government to J. C. Markle Post No. 623, G. A. R., of West Newton. They are coming from Boston, Mass., and will be mounted and placed on the lot donated to the post by the West Newton Cemetery association.

The postoffice at Snow Shoe was robbed Sunday morning by four men, who were afterwards captured five miles from Bellefonte. About \$100 in cash and stamps was taken. The men gave their names as Charles Gray, William Myer and William May, of Philadelphia, and Howard Smith, of Kentucky.

Samuel Harris, alias William Andrews, a young colored man who attempted to assault Jennie Smeltzer, near Oberlin, but was frightened away, pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to the penitentiary for three and a half years.

The Fallston property at Beaver Falls was sold by the sheriff and purchased by Judge Hice of Beaver on behalf of the creditors, who will organize a company and put the plant in operation again.

First honor at Thiel college has been given Miss Mary Peach, of Sherradsville, Ohio, and second honor to Miss Emily A. Crouse, of Greenville. Commencement exercises will occur June 18.

Three tramps who were sleeping on a side track at East Haven, were run over. Two had legs cut off and will probably die. The other was injured but will recover.

James Dundee, an eccentric old man living in Brighton township, Beaver county, thinks he has discovered perpetual motion.

The state college has established a branch experiment station at Wray, Bradford county, on Louis Pioletti's 1,000-acre farm.

William Dougherty, an old man living at Clintonville, Venango county, was assaulted and robbed by highwaymen.

The farm house of Jacob Horner, near Laughintown, was struck by lightning and badly wrecked.

Kate Eyer, a waitress at the Brunswick hotel in Irwin, is one of the heirs to an estate left by her uncle in Germany. Miss Eyer, when apprised of her good luck, dropped a tray laden with dishes upon the floor. Her share will be about \$100,000.

Work on the Rodebaugh tunnel, on the Pennsylvania railroad near Greensburg, has been suspended, and nearly 100 men have been thrown out of work.

The farm house of Mrs. David McClain, near Beaver Falls, was totally destroyed by fire, caused by a lamp explosion.

The drug store of Dr. A. H. Myers, at Scottsdale, has been closed by the sheriff, and will be sold June 15.

MARKETS.

PITTSBURGH.	
Grain, Flour and Feed.	
WHEAT—No. 2 red.....	68 1/2 69
Do. 2 yellow ear.....	63 3/4 64
CORN—No. 2 yellow.....	35 1/2 36 1/2
Mixed ear.....	36 3/4 37
OATS—No. 1 white.....	25 3/4 26
Do. 2 white.....	24 1/2 25
RYE—No. 1.....	44 1/2 45
Do. 2 western.....	48 1/2 49
FLOUR—Winter patents blends.....	4 00 4 10
Fancy straight winter.....	3 70 3 80
Fancy flour.....	3 90 3 00
HAY—No. 1 timothy.....	15 00 15 25
Mixed clover, No. 1.....	18 00 18 25
Hay from wagons.....	18 00 18 00
FEED—No. 1 White Mt., ton.....	12 50 13 00
Brown middlings.....	10 00 10 50
Brass, bulk.....	10 00 10 50
STRAW—Wheat.....	6 75 7 00
Oat.....	7 75 8 00

Dairy Products.	
BUTTER—Right creamery.....	15 1/2 16
Fancy Creamery.....	15 1/2 16
Fancy Country Roll.....	10 1/2 11
CHICKEN—Ohio, new.....	8 9 9
New York, new.....	9 10 10

Fruit and Vegetables.	
APPLES—Per bushel.....	22 00 4 50
BEANS—Hand-picked, per bu.....	1 50 1 40
POTATOES—New, in car, bu.....	1 00 1 00
CABBAGE—Home grown, bbl.....	1 75 2 00
ONIONS—Per bu.....	35 60

Poultry, Etc.	
CHICKENS, 3 pair.....	50 75
TURKEYS, 3 lb.....	9 10
EGGS—Pa. and Ohio, fresh.....	11 12

Miscellaneous.	
SEEDS—Clover 40 lb.....	5 00 5 25
Timothy, prime.....	1 75 2 00
Blue grass.....	2 00 1 50
MAPLE SYRUP, BW, extra.....	70 80
CIDER—Country, sweet, bbl.....	3 00 3 50
TALLOW.....	4 4

CINCINNATI.	
WHEAT—No. 2 red.....	1 75 1 50
Do. 2 yellow.....	62 62
RYE No. 2.....	42 42
CORN—Mixed.....	28 21
OATS.....	25 25
EGGS.....	9 9
BUTTER—Ohio Creamery.....	50

PHILADELPHIA.	
WHEAT—No. 2 red.....	1 75 1 70
Do. 2 yellow.....	62 62
CORN—No. 2 Mixed.....	28 28
OATS—No. 2 White.....	25 25
BUTTER—Creamery, extra.....	50 50
EGGS—Pa. fresh.....	11 11

NEW YORK.	
WHEAT—No. 2 red.....	1 75 1 70
Do. 2 yellow.....	62 62
CORN—No. 2 Mixed.....	28 28
OATS—White Western.....	24 24
BUTTER—Creamery.....	19 19
EGGS—State and Penn.....	11 12

LIVE STOCK.	
PRIME, 1,000 to 1,400 lb.....	4 15 4 30
Good, 1,300 to 1,500 lb.....	4 00 4 15
1,400 to 1,500 lb.....	4 00 4 10
Fair light steers, 900 to 1,000 lb.....	3 60 3 90
Common, 700 to 800 lb.....	3 00 3 50

CATTLE.	
Prime, 1,000 to 1,400 lb.....	4 15 4 30
Good, 1,300 to 1,500 lb.....	4 00 4 15
1,400 to 1,500 lb.....	4 00 4 10
Fair light steers, 900 to 1,000 lb.....	3 60 3 90
Common, 700 to 800 lb.....	3 00 3 50

SHEEP.	
Medium.....	3 45 3 55
Heavy.....	3 00 3 25
Wool and Skins.....	2 00 2 75

PORK.	
Good, 55 to 60 lb.....	3 40 3 6
Fair, 70 to 80 lb.....	3 00 3 1
Common.....	2 95 3 2