[illegible]

EDUCATIONAL CIRCLES EXCITED OVER LIGHTNING ARITHMETIC.

An Ohio Man Has a System Which He Thinks Should Be Taught In the Schools. He Gives a Newspaper Man Some Illustrations of His Method.

Educational circles are in a pitch of excitement over the introduction in the public schools of Chicago of a system of instruction in what may be termed lightning arithmetic. Many of those interested maintain that the proposition is impracticable on the theory that only such persons as have natural arithmetical genius can be able to use to advantage any sort of rapid calculation. The incident and the attending interest led a representative to make some inquiry into whether or not there is any movement to introduce the new system in the schools of this city. Although it is the subject of not a little discussion among the teachers of the city, no steps have as yet been taken.

One of the most interested in this city is Mr. O. D. Hinkle, who is connected with the M. C. Lilley company. Mr. Hinkle has been in the mercantile business for a number of years, much of which time has been spent in this city, and has been regarded as one of the most rapid calculators in the state. His work has not been on the fancy order, but straightforward use of rapid methods in practical business. Having seen Mr. Hinkle add, subtract, divide and multiply long lists of figures in billing out goods of all sorts as fast as his assistant could call them off to him, and in 500 pages of ledger accounts having made not one single mistake, The Dispatch was interested to know whether the system mentioned in Chicago was related in any way to that which he used.

Mr. Hinkle was found most enthusiastically interested in the method, and quickly remarked, upon being asked, that the supposed new system was identically the same that he has been using for 25 years. Indeed, Mr. Hinkle has been for a number of years thinking seriously of making an effort to have some of the schools take it up as a part of their course of instruction. Speaking of the new method, Mr. Hinkle said:

"Is the system sound? Is it practical? Yes, most emphatically to both questions. It is natural computation, and it is just as easy to teach a child or grown person the relationship of numbers as it is to teach them the relationship between persons. Use 100 for the head of the geological tree of the family of figures, and it is just as easy and natural to teach a child that 25 per cent of any amount is one-fourth of it, because it is one-fourth of 100, as it is to teach him that that old gentleman is his grandfather because he is his mother's father, or that 12½ per cent is one-eighth of any amount, because it is one-eighth of 100, as it is to teach him that the curly head over there is his cousin because he is his father's brother's child.

"I'll give you some examples in short mental arithmetic for a change. Say you buy 80 yards of carpet at 62½ cents; 62½ cents is five-eighths of 100; five-eighths of 80 is 860. Easy number, yes. Take an odd one. Say 83 yards at 62½ cents; five-eighths of 80 is $60; add three times 62½ cents, which is $1.87½; total, $61.87½. Say you buy 167 yards of dress goods at 33⅓ cents; 33⅓ cents is one-third of 100; one-third of 167 is $55.66⅔. Say you sell 350 pounds of wool at 16⅔ cents; 16⅔ is one-sixth of 100; one-sixth of 350 is $58.33⅓. Say you buy 100 bushels of potatoes at 50 cents, $50. Easy, isn't it? But if it were 99 bushels at 49 cents you couldn't do it so easily, and yet it is no harder, if you only knew it. Say 99 times 50 is $49.50, less once 99, which is $48.51, and it is no more difficult than 100 times 50.

"Almost every child can do multiplication up to 12, but how many older people can go higher than 12 easily? Yet it is easy to go to 500 if he is a quick adder. I think my rule for squaring large numbers is simpler than Mr. Speers' way of doing it. For example, start at 12. Twelve times 12 is 144. To get the square of 13, add 13 and 12 to square of 12; 13 and 12 make 25; 25 to 144 is 169. Square of 14—14 and 13 equals 27; add to 169, makes 196. To square 15—15 and 14 equals 29, added to 196 is 225. The square of 50 is 2,500. To get square of 51—51 and 50 are 101, added to 2,500 equals 2,601. To square 49—49 and 50 are 99; subtract from 2,500 is 2,401. The square of 100 is 10,000. To get square of 99—99 and 100 are 199; subtract from 10,000, equals 9,810. To square 101—101 and 100 are 201, add to 10,000, equals 10,201.

"This may look hard to some, but when one has been drilled in multiplying larger numbers mentally it is as easy as falling off a house. Some will complain that I have no right to say that 80 yards of carpet at 62½ cents five-eighths of 80 is $50; that I don't point off according to rules. Well, that's just what I don't want to do—that is where time is lost. With the drilling which a pupil would get prior to doing this work, one of the important things taught him would be to know that 80 yards at 62½ cents of five-eighths of 80, as in this case, would be $50, and not $5 or $500 or $5,000, which often occurs with pupils who use the old rules for pointing off. One is mechanical and liable to disastrous blunders; the other has become intuitive from good drilling and is a sure thing always. There are legions of doubting Thomases, the most of whom will not look into this closely enough to understand it, who will advance all kinds of arguments against it. One of the first arguments will be that it would be easy enough if people would buy and sell everything in quantities and at prices that were fractional parts of 100."—Columbus (O.) Dispatch.

In the human subject the brain is the one-twenty-eighth part of the whole body's entire weight. In the horse it is not more than one-four-hundredth part.

A BLIND TRAVELER.

He Finds His Way Alone Along the Roads of California.

Gilbert Watkins is the name of a blind man who lives on State street, near Taylor. Although he is so blind he cannot tell day from night, even though he looks directly at the sun, it does not interfere with his ability to travel. In fact, Watkins does more traveling than most other people except drummers. And, furthermore, he does the most of it without any one to guide him.

Watkins, when he is in San Jose, can be seen standing on the corner of some of the down town streets, where he sells notions and other small articles in order to gain a livelihood. But he does not stay long at a time, because he likes to visit different places and meet different people. He always attends the different celebrations and fiestas, where he says he is sure to enjoy himself.

When Watkins wants to go any place the first time, he gets some one to guide him, if possible, but after that he can go alone at any time he wishes. He has been over nearly all of the roads in California, and only a few months ago walked from this city to Los Angeles by himself. He says he is always well treated and finds people only too willing to tell him what is going on.

According to Watkins' story, he is able to do these remarkable things solely by his memory and says that he can be taken anywhere and made to turn as many corners as desired, and that he can find his way back without assistance. In this respect he seems to have the same faculty a cat is said to have and exercises it in the same way.

When the blind man desires to go to a certain place he has never been taken before, he is led to it, and as he goes along he takes mental note of all the objects he passes. Here is a rough crossing, here some asphaltum pavement, here a dirt road with some stones on it, here some water, etc. When he wants to return, he takes them in reverse order and has no trouble.

"The reason I can do this," he says, "is because I don't see a lot of things that distract me. You could do the same thing easy enough. Maybe in a mile I would only have to remember a few objects. It is just the same as if a man who could see was taken through a dark alley, but every once in awhile was given a glimpse of his surroundings by a light being turned on. He could remember what he saw without any trouble, but if he saw a thousand other things he could not. I know just how many steps it is from the corner to where I live and can walk to the place without even using my cane. Of course I am helped a great deal by the people I pass, because they know I am blind and always make room for me."—San Francisco Call.

A CASE OF TELEPATHY.

One Lady Appeared In a Vision at the Time of Her Death.

A gentleman took a house in Ireland for six months and was accompanied thither by his wife and daughters. The house was furnished and had plenty of bedrooms. Therefore it was decided not to use a certain large, long room with cupboards along one side (which had all been locked and sealed up with tape) in which things belonging to the owners of the house had been put away. One evening one of the daughters, going to her room, saw an old lady wrapped in a shawl walking along the passage in front of her. The old lady appeared to know her way and hurried on without hesitation into the unused room. The girl called her sister, and they followed the dame into the room. But all was silent. No one was there. The dust lying about showed no signs of footprints.

Shortly after the same young lady was reading on the hearth rug by firelight. Looking up, she beheld the old lady standing in the doorway watching her. Greatly frightened, she sprang up, and, rushing down stairs, was found fainting at the drawing room door. At last the family returned to Dublin. One day when a friend was calling the curious incident which I have narrated was referred to. The young lady very unwillingly told her experiences. The visitor seemed much struck and asked for an accurate description of the old lady. "For," said she, "that house belonged to two old ladies, sisters, and when they let their house they went to reside at Geneva. One of them, answering exactly to the description you have given, died at the time you saw her appear."—Realm.

The Grecian Portrait.

The Grecian portrait seems the perfection of the human type to us, and artists copy it, although it is actually rare. In it the line of the nose is more or less perfectly the prolongation of the line of the forehead. The hollow at the root of the nose is almost effaced, and the prominence of the nose is softened. The absolute Grecian profile would therefore be represented in a drawing by a single continuous line for the forehead and nose. Yet another condition is essential for obtaining the fine Grecian profile. The forehead should not be receding. This marks the distinction between the Grecian and the Egyptian profile.—Popular Science Monthly.

Strategy In the Street Car.

Snobly—I had to give up me seat in the car to an Irish woman today, ye know.

Cobly—Howible! How was that?

Snobly—She remarked to a friend that she didn't expect a seat, because all the fellows in the car were hard-working men. I couldn't stand the imputation, ye know.—Philadelphia North American.

The new moon falling between 8 and 10 a. m. in the winter time means cold rain if the wind is from the west or southwest, and snow if from the east.

Victor Emmanuel of Italy was designated the Gallant, not only on account of his politeness, but because of his impetuosity in battle.

TAME OCEAN FISHES.

WHALES AND PORPOISES ARE SOMETIMES PAINFULLY SOCIABLE.

Good Natured Bob, an Acquaintance on the Florida Coast—Some Interesting Experiences With Whales In the Pacific Ocean.

Travelers up and down the coast of Florida will remember a certain porpoise that for years, and up to 1881 in the remembrance of the writer, paraded up and down a quarter section of the Florida peninsula. He was known as Bob, and though he rarely answered to his name he was well known to all sailors in those parts. Bob was recognized by a peculiar cut in his dorsal fin, giving it the appearance of having a window in it. Some thoughtless passenger, wishing to practice on all animate nature with his revolver, had inflicted this injury, and the porpoise apparently was very proud of it. In any event, it was exhibited at every opportunity to the occupants of passing vessels. It would come near the vessel, follow it at times or gambol about the bow or stern, but its chief position was about 100 yards away, within good rifle shot, where it would swim along parallel with the course of the vessel, a tempting target to marksmen. So in the course of time Bob's back became seared and scarred, and if current report was valued at anything he carried in his blubber not a few ounces of lead—forcible reminders that porpoises as well as alligators have no rights that are respected on the Florida coast.

In the Pacific some whales are very friendly, especially off the coast of Los Angeles county, Cal., where on more than one occasion they have astonished if not alarmed sailing parties who have been becalmed. These whales, it should be said, are perfectly harmless, and their attentions are merely from curiosity, but to have several of these huge creatures from 40 to 60 feet long floating about in close proximity is not altogether pleasant. What is supposed to be the same whale has earned a reputation for friendliness, and during the summer months it frequently seems to meet a large steamer that plies off shore, and either follows it along or plays about, entertaining the passengers by spouting. On one trip the whale placed itself ahead of the steamer and swam with it so deliberately that the captain was obliged to slow down and finally stop, fearing to run into the huge creature.

Perhaps the most remarkable instance of friendliness on the part of whales was experienced by the owner of a yacht that sailed from one of the southern California ports. She became becalmed the second day out, and suddenly four or five large whales came alongside and for several hours amused themselves at the expense of the crew, who were a good deal frightened. They rubbed their backs against the bottom of the yacht and blew and spouted so that the drops fell upon the decks. If the yachtsmen had thrown over some oil or other disagreeable fluid, they would soon have gotten rid of these companions, which only left them when a breeze sprang up and they got under way.

Fishermen on the Atlantic coast are occasionally troubled with inquisitive whales. One boat or dory was followed for miles, the whale once gently lifting it and rising beneath it, terrorizing the fisherman, who pulled for the shore as fast as he could, the whale following until the water began to shoal.

Why whales should follow vessels might seem a mystery, but the solution is that in all probability they consider the vessel a companion, another whale of some kind. This was well illustrated on the California coast by a whale which evidently took the ship Plymouth for one of its kind. This whale was a sulphur bottom, about 90 feet in length, and it joined the ship off the Golden Gate as it left San Francisco and remained by it through the entire voyage to Realejo, South America. The big fish soon became a nuisance. It swam alongside in such close proximity that its breath discolored the paint of the ship. Then it would rise gently beneath the keel, which would cut and tear it. At other times it would swim along directly in front and keep the crew in constant fear of a collision that might under certain circumstances dismast the ship. The men tried almost every device they could think of to drive the whale away. They shot at it with rifles and pistols, struck it with pieces of wood and bombarded it with bottles and hot coals as it came up, but all to no purpose. It went on "keeping company" until the ship finally entered such shoal water that it was obliged to sheer off.

The sociability of dolphins and porpoises is well known, their graceful gambols about the prow of vessels being a very common sight. No matter how rapid the pace, these attractive creatures so time their motions that they pass and repass the flying cutwater with the greatest ease.

The close proximity of such large animals to vessels might suggest a possible danger, yet fatalities are rare and few are known where the whale has not been attacked. The terrible incident of the Essex is perhaps the only one. Here the whale was run down by the ship, the shock from the contact being so severe as to throw the crew to the deck and almost dismast the vessel. The whale swam off and a few moments later the lookout cried out that it was coming for them on the surface. The animal was inspired by revenge, and at full speed struck the ship in the bow so powerful a blow that the bow was crushed in, and the vessel went to the bottom ten minutes later, leaving the men in boats 700 miles from the coast of South America. A survivor of the accident still lives in the little town of Santa Monica, Cal.—Cor. New York Post.

Paris and London Letter Boxes.

The apertures in the Parisian letter boxes are horizontal, in the London letter boxes vertical.

WIVES OF GERMANS.

AN AMERICAN GIRL'S POSITION WHEN SHE MARRIES A BARON.

How She Has to Economize In the Use of Her Own Money—An Authority on the Subject Writes For the Benefit of Young Women In This Country.

Few questions have been put to me as a test to my foreign experience oftener than the familiar: 'Ought American girls to marry German men? Are such unions happy? Do they turn out well? What class of men is it that step outside the beaten track of home matrimony to seek American wives and transplant them into the life of the fatherland?' writes Baroness von Wedel in Cosmopolitan.

In respect to the marriages of American girls with German men, they may be approved of safely in the cases of practical, worldly minded women and of very young or of very gentle tempered girls. Wives who possess little sentiment or only soft sentiments yield readily to their environment, the latter giving way unconsciously, and hence without pain, the former with foresight and with a purpose selfish enough, as we may assume, to recompense them for their renunciations.

As for the class of willful, silly, pretentious women, they are happy nowhere. German society should not be called too harshly to account, therefore, if they are wretched in marrying into it. We must concede, if we are fair minded, that they would have been just as discontented in any other geographical position as in the fatherland.

The inquiry begins with our average girls. They represent American wives whose happiness is influenced by the specifically foreign traits in their husbands and their husbands' society and surroundings. However they may vary in character, they are alike in their Americanism, and it is republican principles which are opposed in them to the aristocratic education of the men of their choice.

It is a false prejudice to suppose that these or the titled gentlemen who take American wives are mere fortune hunters and degenerated specimens of nobility. They are often men, it is true, who could not marry women without dowries, for gentlemen on the continent, as it must be kept continually in mind, are excluded from the chances of making money.

Where cases of dissipation of the great fortunes of American wives occur and are duly reported, two or three things are sometimes overlooked. The first is that, if the cases were not rare, they would hardly be considered worth offering to the public as shocking facts. The second is that the fortune evidently was limited. The next may surprise us, for it is a truth that has not not been realized by our home staying countrymen—I mean the fact that foreigners lay the blame on the American wife. Why, the relatives ask, did she not bring more money into the connection?

What they mean, and what they feel justified by the usages of their class in meaning, is that young noblemen do nothing unusual in being extravagant. If the consort of such a man brings wealth enough for her to be luxurious, too, no objection to that is valid. But the head of the house is the member who is the representative of his rank, together with the munificence that is suitable to it, and where the mutual fortune is circumscribed it becomes the duty of the wife to retrench her outlays in order to allow him to continue representing their station without too much danger of bankrupting the family means. German wives economize the more in proportion as their husbands spend.

American born wives, on the contrary, have drawn the reputation upon themselves of being incapable of this sort of sacrifice.

I have learned to look for the real tragedies among foreign marriages in the silent cases. These women of character and ambition, united in a fervid temperament, keeping their post like soldiers, are admirable wives often of admirable men, yet they endure the constant realization of the chosen places of their thoughts being foreign to the ways and thoughts of their husband and the world about them. There are modern women of strong and distinct lives whose inner principles are supreme protests against the system of living which their marriages unknowingly drew them into—exiles from the soil, and, above all, the soil of republicanism.

Both law and custom grant men authority over women. The bride passes from the parental control into the control of her husband, and, if she live to be a widow, into that of her son.

Our girls know theoretically before marriage that they must be subservient to their husbands as German wives and that the obstacles to happiness lie in the path of wifely independence. The gentle footpath of submission is free from hindrances.

Philadelphia Chickens.

"The idea that Philadelphia chickens are the best is not a mere fancy," said a poultry man. "They are really the best. There is something in the soil of the country around Philadelphia that is favorable to the best growth and development of the chicken, just as there is something in other parts of the country that promotes the highest development of the horse."—New York Sun.

A Legal Opinion.

"Do you think there is anything in this case?" asked the junior partner of the law firm.

"Certainly," answered the senior partner. "Our client is worth a million."—Detroit Free Press.

Gustavus Adolphus was the Snow King, from the fact that his dominions were termed the Snow Kingdom.

Twelve days are required for mail from New York to be delivered via London in Barcelona, Spain.

A LONG SEARCH.

Everywhere Kitty had sought the quotation—
Browning and Tennyson, Shelley and Lang.
Shakespeare she handled with great veneration.
Shutting, however, the tomes with a bang.

Byron she searched, and Swinburne so burning—
Gosse, Austin Dobson, Stevenson, Moore.
Leaves of each one she was faithfully turning,
Hopeless her search as ever before.

Then wearied, tearful, she saucily flirted
Out of the library—rudest she distraught.
"Let's give it up," then she pertingly blurted,
"For I have forgotten the line that we sought."

—Exchange.

A SHOWER IN THE VILLAGE.

This Word Picture Somehow Awakens Pleasant Memories.

Over the whole village that stillness reigns which only a Sunday in summer can produce. It is nearing the noon hour, and there is a glare of sunlight everywhere.

The quiet of the streets seems to be intensified as one approaches the corner where the small stone church stands alone. There is a service going on inside, and the rolling music of the organ faintly wafted from within reaches the deserted streets on the ear. Rows of houses with closed blinds and unoccupied doorsteps meet the eye on every side, and down a narrow lane near at hand a freshly painted barn gleams hotly in the fierce sunshine. Three or four pigeons have fluttered to the roof and are sunning themselves and softly cooing.

Near the door of the church a horse and buggy stand, and now and again the animal, bothered by flies, stamps and splashes in the shallow puddle under him.

A dog trots lazily up the street and stops on his way to chase and bark at a few belated sparrows. One of the pigeons stalks with dignity across the roof, and another flutters into the air with a whirring sound and disappears.

The sound of the organ has died quite away and only the distant clucking of a disturbed hen breaks the quiet. The sunlight seems to have taken on a darker shade.

A sharp gust of wind sweeps up and down the street and rushes through the foliage of the sleeping trees. The sparrows that occupied the street are not in sight. No living thing is to be seen, and the newly painted barn, that a moment ago looked scorched and blistered, seems to have taken on a cooler tinge. The breeze has died quite away, and there is a moment of supreme stillness.

Then a dull, sullen sound that seems like the roar of a distant train steals upon the air. It comes again, and there is no mistaking it—it is thunder. A flurried hen runs across the lane and disappears behind a board just as three large drops mark the dust covered sidewalk. Drops are falling everywhere, and as they increase in number they decrease in size. There is a gentle patter on the sidewalk, on the house tops, through the trees, which becomes more and more hurried until it generates into a steady rush of falling rain. The landscape is almost shut out from sight.

Slowly and by hardly perceptible degrees the steady rush becomes a patter, and the sun, with sudden brilliance, changes each drop to a glistening diamond.

The rain ceases, and the sparkling trees gently shake themselves in the sunlight.

The shower is over.—Walter M. Egglinton in New Bohemian.

The Nose.

The nose is intended for breathing, the mouth for speaking and eating. Who has ever seen a horse breathing otherwise than through his nostrils? Minute scientific investigation has revealed the fact that the number of people who breathe through their nostrils are becoming gradually but surely fewer in number. The consequence is that the nostrils decrease in size, while it has been found that the prevailing nose is quite an inferior organ to that of our forefathers.

Doctors at the present time are frequently asked to operate on noses and to enlarge them. Their owners have found that they do not fulfill their functions as well as they used to. It is beginning to be feared by scientific people that if matters grow much worse we shall lose the use of our nasal organs entirely.

It is a well known physiological fact that unused muscles and bones gradually disappear. Fish who live in the dark, for instance, or the mole, who resides underground, become blind. Thus, if we cease to use our noses for breathing, they will cease to exist. They will become superfluous!—Pearson's Weekly.

Subtle Flattery.

A certain rector in a Suffolk village, who was disliked in the parish, had a curate who was very popular, and, on his leaving, was presented with a testimonial. This excited the envy and wrath of the rector, and, meeting with an old lady one day, he said:

"I am surprised, Mrs. Bloom, that you should have subscribed to this testimonial."

"Why, sir," said the old lady, "if you'd bin a-goin, I'd 'ave subscribed double!"—London Tit-Bits.

Queer.

Mrs. C.—Doctor, you were at the last illness of my eldest boy?

Doctor—Yes.

Mrs. C.—You also tended professionally my first husband, who died?

Doctor—Yes.

Mrs. C.—Well, my second husband is ill, and I would like you to see him.—London Fun.

Amateurs who undertake to lay a floor should remember that one-fifth more siding and flooring is needed than the number of square feet of surface to be covered because of the lap in the siding.

The Erie canal, in New York, was the first artificial waterway begun in this country. Ground was broken for this enterprise July 4, 1817.

Two Friends.

The late Mr. H. C. Bunner, the editor of Puck, and Lawrence Hutton were the closest of friends. They began, says Mr. Hutton, in his sad reminiscence of his dead friend, published in The Bookman, in that often desirable fashion, "with a little aversion." Each avoided even an introduction to the other until fate actually threw them together, not to be parted more. Their mutual "good times" were dear at the moment and "pleasant, too, to think on." There was much "excellent fooling" there, and when Hutton was married it but added a third desirable member to the company. The marriage itself shows on what terms of happy nonsense they lived. Mr. Hutton says:

He and Mr. Telford and I spent together at the Westmoreland and in Bunner's rooms the last evening of my single life. He had heard that luck would be insured if the groom, on the occasion of his marriage, would wear "something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue." He urged, therefore, my appearance next day in a pair of socks procured especially by him for me. One was absolutely uniform, the other had seen service and was darned, but they were both blue. And I must borrow them.

Mr. Telford, I remember, lent me a necktie for the same purpose, and both of those dear boys were married, when their time came, in something blue that was borrowed from me.

When Bunner was married, we sent his wife a traveling clock as a wedding gift, to which I attached a card bearing these lines:

For old time's sake
Will you and H. C. B.
At this time take
The time from mine and me?

Time is, time was.
Let time be old or new,
The times for us
Are high old times with you.

To this the lady responded:

I lack the time, in spite of time from you,
To write the heartfelt thanks I feel are due.
But every passing hour while time endures
Shall speak to me and mine of you and yours.

One of the Rarest Books.

Among the books of a comparatively recent date, if the seventeenth century can be described as such, is, as the Elzevir collector well knows, the famous "Patissier Francois," a small duodecimo printed by Louys and Daniel Elzevir at Amsterdam in 1655. A faulty and poor reimpression of a work of little value issued in Paris two years previously, this book has become the most sought after of all he Elzevir works, just because it is wrongly thought to be the scarcest. It has fetched prices reaching in France as high as 4,600 francs. The reason for the supposed rarity is of course that, instead of being placed on its first appearance on the shelves of the curious or the studious, the little volume was thumbed to pieces by the greasy hands of cooks and kitchen maids. Genuine enthusiasts in the printer's art have hoped to see the price diminished in presence of the revelations lately furnished concerning it. Its market value, however, shows no signs of diminution, and that one copy, sold in England during the last seven or eight years, fetched at Sotheby's on June 10, 1895, the sale being that of the Earl of Orford, the preposterous price of £160.—Gentleman's Magazine.

Must Conquer if They Want Shelter.

The German soldier, says the London News, carries his own house on his back—that is to say, his share of a shelter tent. The stout pieces of waterproof sheeting are joined together so as to form three sides of a square, and the men are saved from the worst in wind and rain. The idea of the shelter tent in sections is no new one. The French had it many years ago in their tente d'abri. It has many advantages. It reduces the baggage of the army, and it enables the soldier to go into lodgings at once on reaching the scene of the bivouac.

Troops often suffer miserable discomfort in waiting for hours for their heavy tents. The Germans have no faith in these cumbrous contrivances. They have often sent whole armies into the field without any sort of shelter. Their theory is that if the men win a battle they will find all they want in the towns and villages, and that if they lose it they will have no time to pitch tents. The shelter tent seems a compromise between these views.

Man's Bitterest Enemy.

"Sin is always man's bitterest enemy," writes Dwight L. Moody in "Mr. Moody's Bible Class" in the Ladies' Home Journal. "It separates him from his Maker. It separates him from his fellow beings. No position is too high for sin to debase; no place so hallowed but it seeks to corrupt; no home so sacred but it seeks to destroy. 'Sin, like holiness, is a mighty leveler,' says a distinguished divine. And what may be the cause of the thousands of suicides which have occurred during the past year if it is not a loathing of self? It is sin, then, which makes a man loathe himself. It is sin which makes man's life become a burden from which he so often seeks to free himself by his own hand."

Origin of the Sidesaddle.

The use of the side saddle for women riders is traced to the time of Anne of Bohemia, eldest daughter of the emperor of Germany, who married Richard II of England. Previous to this date all English women bestrode their horses in manly fashion, but on account of a deformity this German bride was forced to use a side saddle, and the custom became general.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

What He Asked For.

A tramp tumbled out of a store, stood on his ear a moment and then collapsed in a heap.

"Hello!" cried a bystander. "What's the matter?"

"Excuse me, pard," said the vagrant. "I just went in there and asked that feller to help me out."—Philadelphia Record.