SOMEWHAT STRANGE.

ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS OF EVERY-DAY LIFE.

Queer Facts and Thrilling Adventures Which Show That Truth is Stranger Than Fiction.

A PARTY of four Sacramento (Cal.) anglers went up the river the other day to catch some fish. They agreed that whenever one should land a fish each of the other should pay him a quarter. One of the quartet was especially unlucky in his piscatoral venture, and was soon out of pocket $4.25, and down to his last quarter. He wanted to break up the compact, but the others wouldn't let him. Just then he stole one of the fishes caught by another of the party, slipped it upon his hook and into the water. He soon landed it with a great deal of splutter and noise, and received six bits. When the others were not looking he replaced it on his hook and again went through the act of landing a fish. He managed to work the dodge until he had not only got back his $4.25, but broke the rest of the crowd.

SOME time ago a store in the town of Perry, Mo., was robbed and about $200 worth of clothing stolen. Suspicion fell on Henry King, a young man of good character, but no arrest was made, as the majority of the people believed him innocent. Three weeks after the robbery the people were astonished at the news that King had married a woman fifteen years his senior. Shortly afterward the young husband attempted suicide by taking poison. While his friends were at work trying to save him he told them it was true that he was guilty of the robbery and the fact was only known to one other person, the woman he married. She secured proof of his guilt before the marriage, and calling him up showed her proofs and told him that she would give him his choice of marrying her or going to the penitentiary. He pleaded in vain that he was too young to marry yet and that she was old enough to be his mother. The old girl knew the value of her hand and was relentless. Honeymoon or the jail was her ultimatum, and the poor fellow waited and consented to be married. After hard work the doctors saved him, and he says he prefers the penitentiary to his antique spouse. The woman was a spinster and her reputation was without a flaw.

POLICE LIEUTENANT WM. B. DALY, of Boston, is undergoing a rigorous treatment to get cured of a spinal trouble caused by a fall from a horse car in 1887. It is nothing more nor less than a systematic course of hanging. He is suspended by the neck until he is almost unconscious, this process being the only way in which the spinal chord can be properly strengthened. The machine is shaped very much like a gallows. It consists of an iron rod, with eyes in the centre and hooks at each end, in which are loops that pass down under each shoulder to take the strain off the patient's neck. Along the horizontal bar is a series of notches, from which hang the supports for the head and chin. Lieutenant Daly's head is placed in the support, and he is then swung from the floor. He says the experience is anything but pleasant, but as a cure is being effected he keeps at it. He is generally strung up about two minutes and a half. When released he cannot stand, and it is fully five minutes before he recovers from the effect of the hanging. He has control of his lower limbs now, while less than six months ago he staggered like a drunken man.

IT was not a jackdaw, like that of Rheims, that was the cause of all the servants in a certain household in Berlin being dismissed summarily some four years ago, but a valuable ring did disappear in an unaccountable way, and its loss gave rising to much shedding of tears and commotion. The jewel has now been found, and all is explained, but in a marvelous manner. The gardener was trimming some trees in the grounds of the house a few days ago, and discovered the missing trinket lying on a bough, where it had braved the breeze, snow and rain all these years. Here it would doubtless in time have grown into the tree, to have been the subject in after years of scientific speculation, had not the eyes of the horticulturist been especially sharp on the morning in question. It is supposed that the little circle of gold adorned with precious stones had been left on the breakfast table, and that the servant, in shaking the table-cloth out of the window, had unwittingly thrown it away with the crumbs.

A FRIEND in Wisconsin tells me of an amusing incident he noticed in the woods up there, says a writer in Forest and Stream. Himself and a companion were riding along together when there suddenly stepped into the road ahead of them a little army of skunks—one old skunk and five half grown kittens. These seemed perfectly fearless, and halting by the wayside the gentleman's companion began firing at them with a six shooter, although he did not hit any of them. At the sound of every shot the skunks, which had marshalled themselves into perfect line, through up their tails in perfect unison, as straight and stiff as a ramrod, above their backs, making no further hostile demonstration, and simply standing at a ready until their fear had partly subsided. He repeated this manœuvre a dozen times, and my informant says the total effect was funny in the extreme.

WILLIAM GRIFFIN, who follows the profession of sword-swallowing for a living, came to grief at his last performance, and had to be taken to the Receiving Hospital, San Francisco, for relief. Griffin has an abnormal breadth of throat, combined with an exceedingly elongated person, and the feats he is in the habit of performing are astonishing by reason of the length and sharpness of the knives and swords that he uses. On a Saturday night he surpassed himself by swallowing a sword at least three feet long, with the result that he injured some internal organ, and yesterday hemorrhage resulted which nearly finished his career as a freak. The amount of blood which was discharged from his stomach so weakened him that when taken to the hospital he fainted away, and was with great difficulty revived.

WHILE a circus company was unloading its paraphernalia from a small steamboat and barges at Metropolis, Ill., one of the elephants showed a great disinclination to go ashore. Several employes seized pike poles and began a systematic course of prodding, which threw the beast into a terrible rage. His long trunk was suddenly twisted around the body of his nearest tormentor. The man was raised high in the air and cast unceremoniously into the Ohio River, thirty feet distant. The excitement was great, and by the time the elephant was ready for another instalment, the men had all scampered out of danger. The regular keeper having come to the rescue, the maddened animal was quieted, and the two marched ashore without accident. The man was unhurt and swam ashore.

A NUMBER of small American flags, placed at the graves of the dead veterans of the war in Valley Cemetery, New Hampshire, have disappeared from time to time, and it was supposed they had been made away with by vandals. The other day a party of visitors at the cemetery noticed one of these national emblems making its way across the ground at a good speed with no visible means of propulsion. Unable to account for the phenomenon the visitors stood spellbound, and watched the flag traveling across the driveway and down a bank, up another, and pause near a hole in the bank. Then the mystery was solved. A red squirrel came out from under the flag, and, seizing it by a corner, dragged it into the orifice.

THE German steamship Argentine, had a curious experience in her last passage across the Atlantic. When north of the Cape Verde Islands the sun suddenly became obscured by clouds of small reddish yellow dust which covered every thing. Though the sky was cloudless, the sun could scarcely be seen. This lasted four days, and at times the dust was so thick that it interfered with the machinery of the vessel. The Argentine was steaming constantly all the time, and when she got out of the dust and Captain Scheon was able to make an observation he found that he was several hundred miles north of the Cape Verde Islands. It is supposed that the dust was swept from the Islands by some wind storm.

AMONG 210 immigrants that arrived at Philadelphia a few days ago on the steamship Switzerland from Antwerp, were two young girls, Marie Meyer, from Eberfeld, Germany, and Pauline Volz, from Friedburg, Germany. The immigration inspector informed them that they would not be permitted to land, as they were penniless, unless they should first find husbands for themselves. In less time than it takes to tell it, a couple of young men came forward, who were willing to help the young women out of their difficulty, and at once a double wedding ceremony was performed on board, the steward meanwhile having called up witnesses by ringing the dinner bell. In one case the young man was expecting his bride, in the other the bridegroom had been a passenger on the vessel, and had been casting sly glances at Miss Mayer during the voyage.

A DISCOVERY of the wealth of a miserly old farmer was made near New Castle, Ind., recently. Some of his relatives went to his home and insisted that his money be deposited. He brought out a bundle containing $2,000, and after much persuasion produced from various places in the old farm house his wealth. In the garret stowed under the rafters were found bundles of bills, and from beneath the floor were brought boxes and tin cans filled with gold and silver coins. The money, $26,200, was brought to New Castle and deposited. Many of the bills and coins bear old dates.

A MAN at Covington, Pa., who is fattening a twenty-pound snapping turtle, was aroused early a few mornings ago by the noise of a scuffle in his yard. Repairing there he found the turtle hanging to the nose of a 300-pound bear. Bruin was near the fence, endeavoring to get over, but his efforts were interfered with by the turtle. Eventually the bear reached the next yard, but the man followed and shot him dead. The turtle all the time retained his hold, and refused to let go until the dead beast's nose was cut off. Then it crawled away, carrying the piece of flesh in its mouth.

THE employment of dynamite for the purpose of committing outrages has made its way to Japan. Quite recently the Higashi Hongwanji, in Kioto, one of the most famous temples in the country, was restored, and among other presents sent to celebrate the restoration were 500 candles. Two days later one of these was lighted, and almost immediately exploded with a loud report, filling the building with smoke and flame. On examination it turned out that all the candles were filled with dynamite. The beautiful ceiling of the temple was not injured.

A COUPLE of young men living at Wellsville, Mo., were rivals for the hand of one of the fair Wellsville daughters. They were inclined to settle the matter by duel. When she learned of the affair she sent for them to meet her at the hour set for the fight, and, after reminding them that duels were unlawful, and the victor would be a fugitive from justice the rest of his days, she suggested that they run a foot-race, her hand to be the prize. The young men accepted her proposition, and she umpired the race and walked of the field with the victor.

A SINGULAR adventure recently befell a Government Surveyor in the wilds of Sumatra. After a hard day's work on a mountain side he passed the night in the open air in a hut hastily run up by his coolies. As he was falling asleep after long watching the sight of two fiery eyes glaring in at the entrance of the hut almost paralysed him with terror. An enormous royal tiger soon glided in, smelled him all over, and then set to work devouring the remains of his evening meal to the last morsel. Afterward his terrible guest disappeared.

HENRY BACH is the name of a hunter who recently made a remarkable shot on Beaver River, in the Adirondacks. He saw two deer standing in the water no more than ten yards apart. He fired, and his bullet passed through the first deer and inflicted a mortal wound on the second.

Advantages of Lemonade.

Lemonade made from the juice of the lemon is one of the best and safest drinks for any person, whether in health or not. It is suitable for all stomach diseases, excellent in sickness, in cases of jaundice, gravel, liver complaint, inflammation of the bowels and fevers. It is a specific against worms and skin complaints. The pippin crushed may be used with sugar and water and taken as a drink. Lemon juice is the best anti-scorbutic remedy known. It not only cures the disease, but prevents it. Sailors make daily use of it for this purpose. We advise every one to rub their gums with lemon juice to keep them in a healthy condition. The hands and nails are also kept clean, white, soft and supple by the daily use of lemon instead of soap. It also prevents chilblains. Lemon is used in intermittent fevers, mixed with strong, hot, black coffee, without sugar. Neuralgia, it is said, may be cured by rubbing the part affected with a cut lemon. It is valuable also to cure warts. It will remove dandruff by rubbing the roots of the hair with it. It will alleviate and finally cure coughs and colds and heal diseased lungs, if taken hot on going to bed at night. Its uses are manifold, and the more we employ it internally the better we shall find ourselves. A doctor in Rome is trying it experimentally in malarial fevers with great success, and thinks that it will in time supersede quinine.—[Rehoboth Herald.

KILLED MANY TIGERS.

A WOMAN'S WONDERFUL PROWESS WITH A RIFLE.

Hunting Kangaroos—She Tells of a Miraculous Escape From an Old Man-Eater in Madras.

A noble lady, with curious experiences, enough each of itself to furnish a separate story, talked to a San Francisco Chronicle reporter at the Occidental Hotel. It was the Countess Edele Von Amerling of Austria, who had just arrived from Los Angeles and San Diego.

Three years ago the Count Von Amerling died, and since then the Countess has been traveling almost constantly. During the first year she made a circuit of the globe, and returning home, she remained but a couple of months, when she set out on her present travels. Since then she has spent many months in India, China, Japan, Corea and Australia.

"I would dearly like to go hunting for grizzly bears in California, only just now I can not do it," said the Countess. "In the Yosemite, where I was before I went to Los Angeles, I caught sight of a bear. How I longed for my Henry rifle that I used so successfully in tiger hunting in India.

"Do not be surprised. I have hunted tigers in the jungles of Lahore, as well as lions, and I have killed dozens of kangaroos out on the great deserts of the antipodes. Yes, I am a very good shot. I learned to shoot when but a little girl, and many a time, with my husband in Austria, I have killed deer. Tiger-hunting is, however, the most exciting sport. The English officers in India gave me some very good points about them. Before I came away I was quite an expert, and had killed no less than five tigers. Three of them were very big ones, too. I hunted in the broken country about Madras for a week, but only succeeded in killing an old lion and two wolves. I was beginning to learn the ways of the tigers, however, and when I visited Lahore the sportsmen thereabout took me with them, and on several trips I was very successful.

"Tigers are very plentiful there. They oftentimes come right up to the houses. The tigers had been attacking and killing horses, so one evening our party surrounded some of them on a narrow, wooded tongue of land, which was broken up by rolling hills.

"We had a lot of natives, who, with dogs and wild cries, surrounded the wood. The natives out on the sides carried blazing torches, and were armed with spears. I think the English officers who commanded the hunt favored me somewhat by driving the tigers my way, but at any rate I killed one and wounded another that was afterward killed by an officer near at hand. The tiger I killed was a very ferocious one, and was coming right at me with his mouth open when I shot him. Had I lost my presence of mind, or been unsteady in my aim, I would surely have fallen his victim. It was good for me that I had plenty of practice in shooting before.

"After this I killed several tigers and some smaller game, as well as a big cobra that I saw one day distending its hood near the foot of a big tree.

"The old lioness that I killed in Madras was very vicious. The lionesses are really the man-eaters. They have a soft, cushiony tread, and slip up on you from behind, leap on you and kill you. This lioness was one that my native guides had routed out of the jungle. She did not see me till she escaped from under the palm trees and came round a knoll at the open. There was a baleful look in the eye of the old lioness as she made for me, not a hard run, but with long, stealthy strides. As she came up closer I could see that she was furious. Dogs were coming down the palms after her, and she was almost hedged about completely. I did not wait for her to get too close. At the distance probably of one hundred yards I fired. I shot too low, and it was not fatal, and then she made for me with a bound. Then I fired volley after volley into her, and when she lay dead, but little more than ten feet away, I found that I had hit her no less than five times.

"This sport was very dangerous, but there was all the more excitement about it on this account. It is excessively hot in India, else I would have hunted more than I did.

"In Australia there was much sport killing the kangaroos. Away out on the great plains of Australia they have what they call the kangaroo roundup—the same as you have your rabbit roundup here. Hundreds upon hundreds of men gather, and, scattering over the great plain, round up the kangaroos and drive them in a large corral. There they are dispatched. To kill a kangaroo with a rifle one must be very quick, or once they are started they send themselves through the air with such amazing bounds that it is difficult to locate them.

"In China I ascended some of the higher mountains by means of eight coolies, who bore me on a sedan chair. My muleteer brought along my bed and camp equipage, and my servants, among whom was a cook, provided for all my wants. That was a very pleasant part of my experience. There was no big game to be had, however, when I was in China, so I contented myself by killing a few birds.

"Do I always travel alone? I do except when I need servants. You see, all my immediate relatives being no longer living, I have no pleasanter way of spending the remainder of my life. Before I quit traveling I shall probably see the whole world, and shall gratify my taste for hunting in the greater portion of it. What kind of a garb do I use in hunting? When it is not too hot I wear stout boots and a strong, but not very long dress and strong gloves, besides a plain hat, such as a man would wear, according to the weather. Of course, when I am expecting to get a shot at any kind of game, my gloves are always off. My hands and face often get quite bronzed, but I do not mind that."

A Twin Watermelon.

Aleck West, colored, we believe, is entitled to the ginger cake, for the greatest curiosity in the way of a water melon. He exhibited two perfect melons joined together. Both melons were fully developed, and the meat was juicy and sweet—just like an ordinary melon. Aleck states that he first noticed that the runners from the vine grew double. They moved side by side, and the result was the double melon. It was certainly a curiosity.

IF MRS. Harriet Coe, of Grand Rapids, Mich., lives until January 11, 1890, she will be 103 years old. She was born in Hartford, Conn., in 1787. Her father, Alexander McNeil, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and her grandfather, General McNeil, was a soldier in the war of the Revolution. In her 100th year she had a paralytic stroke, and it was thought she could not recover, but she did, and now is in a fair state of health.

WILY PORPOISES.

Slippery as Trout, Cunning as Monkeys, and Strong as Ponies.

Advices from the south of France intimate that the porpoise is lording it in a most annoying fashion on the Mediterranean flood. Your sea-swine is an aggravating beast, full of cunning and prompt at a practical joke, and he is more than the Municipal Council of St. Nazaire can any longer put up with. This body has requested the French Minister of Marine to form a Commission "to study the physiology of porpoises," that by so doing it may be discovered how to secure their absence from the neighborhood of the shore during the fishing season.

It appears that it is an old complaint that the porpoises of the Mediterranean commit intolerable depredations. It appears that each generation of porpoises is a little cleverer than its forbears; and, whereas the porcine rascal's used only to drive the fish into nets or sallow water, they now encourage them to be caught, that they may themselves feast on the netted captives. The Department of Marine has often been asked to interfere, and as early as 1865 the commander of the Mediterranean fleet formed a scheme for the destruction of porpoises, which was like one of the wolf laws of the middle ages. A fee of 5 francs was offered for every head of a porpoise, a sum raised at last to 25 francs. Special nets were devised, and the fishermen of Marseilles, Narbonne and Port Vendres put their heads together to entrap their enemies. As a matter of fact they found it easy enough to catch the porpoises, and plenty of fish as well. But here came out original sin in the wicked cetacean. The nets were slyly drawn close; the porposes meanwhile ate the fish, their fellow prisoners, until, just when the space within the net began to lessen seriously, with the inimitable grace of a flap of their tail fins, they lightly sprang, like salmon, over the edge of the net and into the ocean. The fishermen of Marseilles, Narbonne and Port Vendres, wild with rage at being fooled in this way, once more brought the conduct of the porpoises before the notice of the Government.

The Minister was shocked, but could suggest nothing. Three other communes thereupon requested the department itself to undertake the chastisement of the porpoises. There was a long delay; but at length two gunboats, the Ayene in 1883, and the Albatross in 1884, were sent to punish the sportive pirates. They shot torpedoes among them, and fired cannon galore. The result was melancholy in the extreme. A few porpoises were killed, but not many; the majority fled out to deeper waters; but alas! the fish fled with them, so that it was more than a week in each case before the fishery could be recommenced. And when the fish came back, like the ghost in the laureate's poem, the irrepressible porpoises returned in their company. The new report is not more encouraging than former ones have been. It says that the porpoise is an animal "fort agile," and that the use of artillery against him is worse than useless. It can only suggest in a melancholy way that "the fishermen who complain of the depredations of these cetaceans would do well to unite in organizing porpoise hunts, or else in forming a mutual insurance against the injuries they commit. Meanwhile the department might continue to indemnify to a certain degree the proprietors of nets which have been injured in any very preposterous degree." This is cold comfort, and is, in fact, another way of saying that nothing can be done with beasts that are as slippery as trout, as cunning as monkeys, and as strong as ponies.—[Saturday Review.

Hunting Prairie Chickens.

During the months of August and September, the prairies of Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota and Dakota fairly teem with prairie chickens, and it is considered in some localities little of an exploit to slaughter a hundred birds in a day's shooting. The birds are young and scarcely able to fly, and not having been shot at, are very tame. Hot weather causes them to lie close when pursued by a dog, so that when flushed they are rarely more than a few yards from the hunter. The large mark which they present and the unvarying direction of their line of flight makes them an easy bird to kill, and the large bags which are so often boasted of are the result.

A month later tells a different tale. Let, then, the alleged good shot of August try his hand on October birds. Strong of wing and fully fledged, rendered cautious to extreme by their constant persecution, and rising at from forty to fifty yards from the sportsman, it takes a good gun well held to bring down the bird.—[Chicago Herald.

In Battak Land.

The Battaks are a people of common origin with the Malays and resembling them in many respects, who live along the western coast and in the interior of the island of Sumatra. The district chiefs form a confederation, the strongest one among them residing near the Toba Lake. They have enjoyed the advantages of civilization, and are good agriculturists, have an original system of writing, and take care to have their children instructed in such arts and knowledge as they appreciate; and yet they eat enemies who are taken armed, and criminals of a certain class. As sentimental people in western countries practice in a "language of flowers," so the young people of either sex among the Pattaks correspond by means of a language of leaves. The leaves themselves have no significance, but their names modified perhaps, within the bounds of poetic license, indicate or rhyme with the word which the correspondent wishes to suggest.

The Force of Habit.

Speaking of force of habit reminds me of a story that might bear repeating, says a writer. In most colleges it is the custom for one member of the faculty, usually the president, to have the supervision of all absent and dilatory students, and to him every such one must go to explain the cause of his absence or tardiness. In one of these was a very kind and indulgent guardian of the college discipline. Every student knew well his stereotyped way of saying, "Well, I'll excuse you this time, but don't let it happen again." Although not in accordance with the usual rule, a married man had been admitted to pursue the studies of the regular course. One day he was absent; on the next, appearing with his class in the doctor's room, he explained with great embarrassment that the arrival of an heir had been the cause of his detention. Without looking up from his table, and apparently without a thought as to the nature of the excuse, so long as there was one, the doctor graciously remarked: "Well, I'll excuse you this time, but don't let it happen again."

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE Spanish and the Germans have adopted the policy of sending out floating commercial exhibitions, and Spain has sent a large vessel, having on board an exhibition of raw products and manufactured goods, to make a tour of all the ports of South and Central America and of Mexico.

AN old man in North Carolina, who had lived all his life without even seeing a railroad, recently got on a train, and before he had traveled a mile was thrown off and killed. Yet, on the other hand, according to a writer in "Scribner's," a man might travel 51,000,000,000 miles before being killed.

JUSTICE MILLER, of the United States Supreme Court, tells this of Block Island, R. I.: "Of the 1,200 inhabitants of the island, fully 1,000 of them have only four different family names. They have inter-married to great extent, and I did not perceive any deterioration either mental or physical in consequence of it."

A WITNESS who has been engaged in the cattle business for thirty years testified before the Senate Committee in Chicago that the price of live cattle had fallen from $38 per hundred weight in 1883 to $18 in the present year. At the same time it was stated that the price of beef to the consumer had remained substantially the same.

CENTRAL AMERICA is enormously rich in natural resources. The principal natural source of her wealth is her minerals. These are not mined because of lack of capital and transportation. Gold, silver, copper, iron, zinc, opals and coal are plentiful. The rare woods occupy the second place as a source of wealth. There is not a saw mill in the whole country, and all sawed lumber now comes from the United States, although pine forests abound on the Aguan river.

W. H. SMITH, the leader of the Conservative party in the English House of Commons, is extremely fond of flowers, and in his hot-houses he finds employment for thirty persons, while his expenditure upon this particular fancy amounts to several thousand pounds a year. His father was a poor newspaper boy, who at times peddled "button-holes" as well as the daily journals in the London streets. He left his son a great fortune and the largest newspaper selling business in the world.

THE subject of desertions from the army will be treated at length in the forthcoming report of the Secretary of War. It is one that has had Secretary Proctor's earnest consideration from the beginning, as well as that of the Adjutant-General's staff. Various changes in camp and barrack life, with a view to increasing the soldier's comfort and interest in his command, have been instituted, notably the consolidated mess and the canteen systems. These have worked well wherever tried, and the results have been that the percentage of desertions have decreased since 1883.

A FIRM of bookmakers have hit on a novelty in the advertising line which must possess irresistible attraction for every genuine snob. They announce best boots and shoes at ready-money prices, made on selected lasts of the following gentlemen, perfect feet only having been chosen for the stock models." Then follows a list of the owners of these perfect feet in assorted sizes, including such a distinguished collection of eminence as the Duke of Roxburghe, the Marquis of Hamilton, Earl Cadogan Prince Dolgourki and many others. This arrangement has the double advantage that any one going to this establishment has a chance of being chosen as a stock model, and finding his name enshrined on this roll of fame as owner of a perfect pair of feet.

HISTORY occasionally seems to repeat itself geographically, as we might term it, abnormal or altogether unusual events occurring almost simultaneously in different parts of the world. On the 21st of August a score of passengers were killed or wounded on the trial trip of the new Herraduras branch of the Cordova Railway in the Argentine Republic, and on the same day an Associated Press dispatch stated that "A new steamer, just completed, was making her *first trip* from the Port of Shanghai last Sunday, when her boiler burst, and 30 persons on board were killed." Only a day later a Knoxville dispatch reported the disastrous collapse of a railway trestle in Grainger County, Tenn., where 23 persons were killed or wounded on the *trial trip* of the new Cumberland Gap and Kentucky Railroad.

SIXTY years ago railroads were unknown in this country, and the population of the United States consisted of 12,000,000 people. To-day we operate upward of 165,000 miles of railroad, and our population has increased to 60,000,000. Sixty years ago the aggregate wealth of the United States was less than $1,000,000,000; at present it is estimated at $56,000,000,000. Over our 165,000 miles of railroad there was carried last year 475,000,000 people, and 600,000,000 tons of freight were transported. Upon these lines are engaged 1,000,000 employees. Their equipment consists of 30,000 locomotives, 21,000 passenger cars, 7,000 baggage cars, and 1,000,000 freight cars. The capital invested in construction and equipment amounts to $8,000,000, and the yearly disbursements for labor and supplies exceed $600,000,000.

Borneo Rubber Fields.

The relative value of the rubber fields of the world has lately been discussed, and prominent among these is Borneo. Borneo rubber is the product of two, if not more, species of plants of the genus Willoughbeia, a creeper which attains a length of 150 feet or thereabouts, and grows wild and untended in the forests. The rubber is simply its hardened sap, which flows freely from the stem if wounded. To obtain it rings are chiseled in the bark at intervals of about fourteen or fifteen inches apart. As much as half a hundred-weight of rubber is occasionally obtained from a very old creeper, but the usual quantity may be put down as half that. The plant is necessarily killed in the operation. It is not yet clearly ascertained at what age it is best to take the rubber, though six years is the time usually spoken of. Only the very slightest attention has been required for any of these plants, and there is no reason why the cultivation should not be indefinitely extended.—[San Francisco Chronicle.

Artesian Wells of Antiquity.

It is worthy of mention that it is certain that artesian wells have been common in China from a very remote antiquity. Some of the Chinese wells are said to be 3,000 feet deep. The simple method used by the Chinese—where the drill is raised and let fall by a rope instead of a rigid rod—has lately been employed in Europe with advantage.

Chinese Maxims.

Forbearance is attended with profit.

Life is a journey, and death a return home.

The straightest trees are the first felled.

Causeless anger resembles waves without wind.

The loftiest building arises from small accretions.

It is better to suffer an injury than to commit one.

A discontented man is like a snake who would swallow an elephant.

While silent, consider your own faults, and while speaking spare those of others.

To persecute the unfortunate is like throwing stones on one fallen into a well.

If men will have no care for the future, they will soon have sorrow for the past.

Hear both sides, and all will be clear; hear but one, and you will still be in the dark.

Kind feeling may be paid with kind feeling, but debts must be paid in hard cash.

Those above should not oppress those below, nor those below encroach on those above.

The people are the roots of the State; if the roots are flourishing, the State will endure.

The house wherein learning abounds will rise; that in which pleasure prevails will fall.

To be fully fed and warmly clothed, and to dwell at ease, without learning, is little better than a bestial state.

The wisest must in a thousand times be once mistaken; the most foolish in a thousand times must be once right.

Fortune Telling.

Fortune telling is traced to the early astrologers, by whom the planets Jupiter and Venus were supposed to betoken happiness. The Sibyllae were women who flourished in different parts of the world, and who were said to have been inspired by Heaven. In England the laws against fortune telling were at one time very severe. A declaration was published in France, Jan. 11, 1680, of exceeding severity against fortune tellers and poisoners, under which several persons suffered death. Fortune tellers, although liable to be imprisoned as rogues and vagabonds, still flourish in England.

A FEW nights ago the gong in the Washington Hose House, Harrisburg, Penn., began a series of raps, and kept it up for over an hour, striking all manner of signals. The apparatus was wound up four or five times, and finally was left alone. It was then discovered that an industrious rat had eaten the insulation from the wire, and the exposed part hung dangerously near an electric light wire.

Her Face Was Her Fortune.

She was as pretty as a picture and so animated and lively that it did one good to look at her. She was all this but she is not now. Poor soul, the roses linger no more in her cheeks, the former luster of her eyes is gone. She's a woe-begone looking piece of humanity now. She has one of those troubles so common to women and needs Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It recuperates the wasted strength, puts the whole system right, restores the roses and the luster and makes the woman what she once was, bright, well and happy. "Favorite Prescription" is the only medicine for women, sold by drugists, *under a positive guarantee* from the manufacturers, that it will give satisfaction in every case, or money will be refunded. This guarantee has been printed on the bottle-wrapper, and faithfully carried out for many years.

For all derangements of the liver, stomach and bowels, take Dr. Pierce's Pellets. One a dose.

Wisconsin educators are discussing a proposition to establish baths in the public schools.

"The days of miracles are past." That may be, and yet some of the most wonderful things ever witnessed by the human family have occurred within the last decade. Not the least of these wonders is the success which the agents of B. F. Johnson & Co., Richmond, Va., are meeting. Write them for particulars. They will show *you* how to work wonders.

There's talk abroad of holding an international electrical exhibition in Edinburgh next year.

If not above being taught by a man, take this *good* advice. Try *Dobbins's* Electric Soap next *Monday*. It won't cost much, and you will then know for *yourself* just how good it is. To sure to get no imitation. There are lots of them.

Statsitics just published show that there are 2,272 soldiers six feet or over in height in the British Army.

Forced to Leave Home.

Over 60 people were forced to leave their homes yesterday to call for a *free* trial package of Lane's Family Medicine. If your blood is bad, your liver and kidneys out of order, if you are constipated and have headache and an unsightly complexion, don't fail to call on any druggist to-day for a *free* sample of this grand remedy. The ladies praise it. Everyone likes it. Large-size package 50 cents.

A new enterprise at Bangor, Me., is the shipping of sawdust in bales to various cities.

A box of wind matches free to smokers of "Tansill's Punch" 5c. Cigar.

The Hon. Redfield Proctor, Secretary of War, has purchased a handsome estate on Marblehead Neck, Mass. U38

Out of Sorts

Is a feeling peculiar to persons of dyspeptic tendency, or it may be caused by change of climate, season or life. The stomach is out of order, the head aches or does not feel right, appetite is capricious, the nerves seem overworked, the mind is confused and irritable. This condition finds an excellent corrective in Hood's Sarsaparilla, which, by its regulating and toning powers, soon restores harmony to the system, and gives that strength of mind, nerves, and body, which makes one feel perfectly well.

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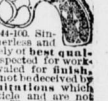

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