

Judge notes that in Kansas a woman who wants to vote needn't give her age to the registry; she merely testifies that she is over twenty-one. Thus there will be more votes and less perjury in Kansas.

The Improved Industrial Dwelling Company of London accommodates 40,000 persons in its houses. It is claimed that its system has reduced the tenement death-rate from forty to only eleven in a thousand.

One reason why it is so hard to get anybody hanged legally in the mountain regions of Kentucky, suggests the New York World, is that the dwellers in the towns fear that they will be haunted by the murderer's spook.

The New York World recently printed a list of about 100 stocks sold on Wall street, with their lowest and highest selling prices the 1st of January. From this list it appears that, on the whole, these stocks have appreciated in that time something like \$300,000,000, or about ten per cent.

"It is a pity the great auk is extinct," remarks the London Globe. "A little breeding-farm of the birds, conducted with sagacity, would be so very lucrative. Things are flat in the auk-market at present, but even so, \$1750 guineas was yesterday offered and refused for a skin of the bird and an egg, though cracked, fetched \$900."

The fortune of the Rothschilds has often been mentioned in print, but the Paris Signal gives some new and interesting information about it. According to this authority, the total wealth of the Rothschild family at the present time amounts to \$2,000,000,000, of which the French branch possesses \$200,000,000. In 1875 they had less than half this sum, showing that their fortune had doubled in eighteen years. In 1800 the grandfather of the present generation of Rothschilds had nothing, his financial success beginning after the battle of Waterloo. It is estimated that in 1935 their fortune will, if continuing to grow as heretofore, amount to the stupendous sum of \$60,000,000,000. The interest of this capital would be sufficient to sustain 37,000,000 people, that is, the entire present population of France.

The trolley has everywhere come to stay, notwithstanding the long and bitter fight against it, and even in Brooklyn, where it has had an exceptional record in the destruction of life, it is a necessity, declares the New York Independent. "The feeling against the trolley in Brooklyn has risen so high that a great mass meeting was held to give expression to it. The people speak of it as the great juggernaut. Considerably over a hundred lives have been sacrificed by it, and hardly a week goes by that does not add to the list of victims. This is too high a price to pay for an admitted necessity, and it is evident that a more careful regulation of speed, particularly in narrow streets, is necessary. In Western cities, where the streets are wide, the trolley runs at a high rate of speed and has few accidents."

The bicycle epidemic is sweeping over the whole country, states the Chicago Record. In many cities the bicycle has inaugurated a serious rivalry with the street car, and in Denver the effect has been so unmistakable that the local street railway company had to cut the wages of its employes in order to meet the great reduction in the income. The daily receipts of the car lines in Denver have never been so low and that the drop is caused partly by the introduction of bicycles is beyond a doubt. On wet days, when the wheels cannot be ridden, the receipts of each car are invariably over \$30 a day. As soon as the streets dry off the receipts drop down fully one-half. Formerly the large crowd of invalids and pleasure-seekers which is constantly pouring into Denver would take the cars out to the suburbs for their daily outing. Now the wheel is used instead. It is estimated that during the last year 4000 wheels have been sold in the city by local dealers, besides the large number shipped in by individuals. The estimate of 10,000 wheels in use is probably extremely low. Each of these wheels will take out of the pocket of the street railway company twenty or thirty cents a day. Taking the low estimate of twenty cents a day for the 10,000 wheels the amount would reach \$2000 a day, or \$730,000 a year. The contingency which has presented itself in such definite shape in Denver will have to be met by street-car companies in many other cities, and instead of being abated this source of deprivation of revenue is likely to become more formidable, especially during the summer months.

WHEN BABY WAS DEAD

When baby was dead, And the golden rays of sunlight crept Into the quiet room, across the bed Where he so gently, sweetly slept— It seemed so strange not to hear him coo, And catch at the light—like he used to do!

When baby was dead, And mother's tear-scathed lips reached down To kiss the face, the eyes, the head, And smooth the folds in the little night-gown, I would have bartered my soul to hear him coo, And reach up his arms—like he used to do!

When baby was dead, Ah, my God! what a moon was wrung From a broken heart as heavy as lead— From lips where a baby song lately hung; Ears strained to catch the tiny, soft coo, And hear him laugh out—like he used to do!

When baby was dead, I could see no joy in the air of gloom— Hope into outer darkness fled! When God spoke soft through the desolate room A promise, some day we'd hear him coo, And see him reach up—like he used to do!—Atlanta Constitution.



MRS. BREWSTER sat sewing before a window which looked out upon a garden filled with flowers.

Outdoors everything seems at peace—roses blooming, bees humming, everything in tune. Indoors the air is filled with suppressed sobs, coming from a room upstairs over the one where Mrs. Brewster sat.

Mrs. Brewster is a stern-faced woman; one of those tall, thin, hard-working New England women in whom the very blood seems frozen. As she stitches away upon some new material her needle makes a rasping sound, very trying to sensitive nerves, but she doesn't know she possesses nerves, apparently.

She is making sheets and pillowcases for her daughter, soon to be married to a man she detests. It is her mother's will. Mrs. Brewster fairly willed her husband into the next world. The rasping sound stops as a gentle tap comes upon the door. She goes to the door all smiles. She is very gracious in manner in public.

"Good afternoon, Mrs. Brewster; is Mabel at home?" "Yes; she is in her room weeping because a kind old man wants to marry her."

"May I go up?" "Yes; see if you can't bring her to her senses."

The caller, Dorothy Knowles, runs up the stairs and knocks upon a door. "Mabel, dear, may I come in?"

Mabel opens the door and draws her friend in, closing the door quickly.

"Crying again, Mabel?" "Crying again? When do I ever stop crying? Think, Dorothy, think, to be married against my will to a man old enough to be my grandfather!"

"Your mother seems determined."

"Yes, she will make me marry him if she can. What shall I do? I'll run away, or do something. Oh, if Cousin Max were only here, he wouldn't let her do it. Oh, Max, Max, come home!"

If Max Bennett had only heard that cry he would have flown to his little cousin, but he was far away across the sea.

Dorothy tried to comfort her friend, and at last succeeded in stopping the tears. Mabel bathed her face and eyes and went outdoors with Dorothy.

The days flew by and Mabel's wedding day was fast approaching. A strange calm seemed to have come over her spirits. She was very docile, and went about her daily tasks as of old, and her mother thought she was subdued; but Mabel inherited some of her mother's will, and was quietly laying her plans.

Nehemiah Jenks was the name of the man who was so anxious to marry her against her will. He had been dropping in nearly every evening before he asked for Mabel. Mabel had never thought he came to see her, and was astonished when her mother told her he wanted to marry her.

Mrs. Brewster did not tell her that he had promised to destroy a mortgage he held upon their home the day Mabel became his wife. Mabel had taken his calls for her mother and never dreamed he was "courting" her, as he called it.

She begged, teased and implored her mother not to make her marry him. She might as well have tried to move a mountain as try to move that will.

But delicate Mabel might defeat her plans yet. One night she thought she'd try Nehemiah.

She was very pleasant, played cribbage with him, did all she could to please him, agreed with everything he said, and finally when her mother left the room for something, went over and laid her hand on his shoulder and said, "Yes, Mr. Jenks."

"Yes, my dear," said Nehemiah. "Why do you want to marry me when you know I don't love you? It will make us both so unhappy. I'm so young, too, Mr. Jenks."

"Why do I want to marry you? Because I do; I want a nice young housekeeper; Peggy's new old."

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at these spaces, and the mortality was increased by those run down attempting to cross the congested streets. Thus it was that London sacrificed more lives annually than those who perished crossing the Atlantic. The refugee and the ordinance enforced by the police, stopping conveyances at intersecting streets every two minutes, until the crowds on the sidewalks had passed safely over the roadway, make life and limb tolerably secure in these busy highways.

The most pretentious thing on wheels in London is the omnibus. It answers the purpose of a street car and it has advantages over the car. It takes you aboard and discharges you at the curbstone, thus doing away with the danger of being run over by having to enter or leave a public conveyance in the middle of the street, as is the case in Paris and New York. A circular stairway leads to the roof, and here a dozen travelers can be comfortably accommodated and enjoy a very interesting ride. This is not to be had in America. The people one meets on this portable observatory are agreeable and

The uniformed guardians of the law in England are known as bobbies and in Ireland as peelers. The nicknames come from Sir Robert Peel, who acted respectively as secretary of Ireland and home secretary of England. Under his administration he reorganized the police contingent of these countries and made them a formidable body of civilian soldiery. From 1812 to 1818 he held power in Ireland, and displayed a vindictiveness to Catholics that made him detested. O'Connell called him an Orange Peel and taunted him so that he challenged the Irish statesman to a duel, which the police prevented. So the latter were dubbed peelers, which they retain to this day. As home secretary he overhauled the police in 1826 and made it a much more efficient body. Up to this time they were known as Charlies—from King Charles I, who improved the system he found in 1640—and they were afterwards known as bobbies, which grew from Robert Peel's monument erected to Peel's memory near a spot where he was thrown from his horse in Hyde Park and received fatal injuries June 28, 1850.

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