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The new Hessian special taxes on bachelors and bicycles looks like wanton discrimination against two of the principal amusements of young women.

The United States can furnish excellent counsel on the disarmament question and also excellent battleships if Europe insists on more war material.

French Canadian papers and men are still lamenting the exodus of members of their race from the Province of Quebec, and they say that unless checked it means death to French-Canadian influence in the Dominion.

The automobile, with its big pneumatic tires, is a road builder, and not a road destroyer, like the heavy, narrow steel tired vehicle. The more automobiles there are the better will it be for our roads.

The story of the heroism of Mme Dreyfus is one of the brightest pages in the history of the century, and the age may well rejoice in the belief that hers is not an exceptional case, but that the world is rich in having millions of wives as faithful, as devoted and as heroic as she.

A Baltimorean who has been a close student of household economics has recently made a comparison of the weight of paper with the weight of food supplies purchased. In one day's purchase it is said that the paper wrapping amounted to about ten per cent. of the total.

The growth of the Christian Endeavor societies, whose eighteenth international convention has been held in Detroit, is without precedent in the history of church work. In 1882 the few societies then in existence had 481 members, and in 1883 the number enrolled had advanced to 287.

Original measures have been taken in Charleston, S. C., to protect firemen from the danger of contact with live electric wire. By the terms of an ordinance on the subject each company having the right to string electric wires must connect its station with the fire-alarm system, and on the occasion of each fire-alarm must send an emergency wagon and one or more competent men, with necessary apparatus and tools, to the locality of the fire, where they must act under the direction of the officers of the fire department.

Latest in Life Belts. M. Janet, a Frenchman of Bauvais, finds that four toy india rubber balloons attached to a yard of whipcord make a swimming belt or life buoy.

"I ain't only got but one objection to bein' moved about, house an' all, by these 'ere cyclones," remarked the veteran farmer. "What is that?" asked the eastern tourist. "Why, I've got 'dug a new cellar under my house about ever' two months."—Ohio State Journal.

THE LADDIE WHO WAS ALWAYS "GOING TO DO"

There lived long ago, in a town I once knew. A laddie who always was "going to do"—some act of great valor, some deed of renown. Some glorious feat that would win him a king's crown.

THE BOY THAT DARED.

VERY street urchin knows that up on New York's great East Side, at the foot of Eighty-sixth street, is a vacant sand lot.

It was here that The Boy That Dared was to be found on a certain very hot afternoon not so long ago. James Jackson was his name, but January was what they all called him; why, nobody—not even January—knew.

That is the proud eminence to which every little wharf-rat aspires. To be a leader of a gang one has to swim better, fight better and excel one's fellows in all other branches of athletics and art, and January so excelled.

It was a hot afternoon, then, and January and his friends were dressing themselves—or undressing themselves, rather—for a swim. There were about twenty boys in the party, and a great overgrown mongrel cur to watch the clothes while the boys were in swimming.

"What's dat?" asked a very young member of the party. "Picnic," said one of his elders, and then, whooping and howling, they ran down the beach. Suddenly a piercing shriek came through the fog.

"Don't do it, January," said half a dozen of his friends, but the leader of the gang was on his mettle now.

"I dassn't, eh?" he chuckled, and then with one leap he was in deep water and going with the side-stroke like a young seal in the direction of the excursion boat.

January swam with all his strength, and pretty soon he made out on the top of the water a little bundle of clothes bobbing around. The boy knew then that the child had, by some miracle, taken kindly to the water and escaped so far with his little lungs empty.

January reached the deck of the steamboat, and a woman threw herself upon him and began to cry. Another woman, evidently the child's mother, had the little baby in her arms, hugging it to her heart to warm it a little.

Two camels were brought into the grounds at the back of the palace and made to face each other. They were male animals, whose vicious tendencies had made it necessary for them to be kept from the rest of the cattle.

Through the fog came three shrill whistles from the steamboat. It was saluting January, and the leader of the gang and all the rest of the gang gave three cheers in answer.

Dentistry, like other useful arts, has progressed with the times. There was a time when aching teeth were believed to be inhabited by devils in distance vile, and all sorts of charms were used to drive out the troublesome demons.

Perhaps the most extraordinary spring in the world is that which gushes up from the trunk of an oak tree at Ouchy, Switzerland. The tree is an old one and of immense size, and it is a mystery just how the water ever forced its way up through the trunk from a hole through which the little stream of clear, cool water, bubbles out as from a faucet.

In Norway the average length of life is greater than in any other country on the globe.

Simplicity of Tagal Women.

The natives of the Philippine Islands—that is the pure bred natives or aborigines—are called Tagals. They are of the Malay race and are about as wild and unsophisticated as any of the savage peoples of the world.

The front gore is of narrow width at the top and joins to wide circular side gores shaped with underlaps, over which the front gore closes with double buttons and loops, as shown, or with buttons and buttonholes, if so



TAGAL PEASANT GIRL.

The illustration is made from a photograph of a native Tagal peasant girl. Her family evidently has had the benefit of contact with civilization, as her dress indicates.

Four camels were brought into the grounds at the back of the palace and made to face each other. They were male animals, whose vicious tendencies had made it necessary for them to be kept from the rest of the cattle.

As a signal from the prince the creatures were let loose and shambled toward each other. At first they merely feigned and skirmished about in clumsy fashion, their long, awkward legs an irresistibly ludicrous sight.

At length one camel seized his enemy by the leg, while the other, a large, long-haired animal, retaliated by laying hold of his opponent's ear. Blood flowed freely, and opinion was divided as to which camel would be the victor.

The Goethe Society, of Vienna, has just discovered the real story that lies back of Goethe's beautiful creation of "Mignon," which has passed into so many songs and even into an opera.

The late of the eleven-year-old Petronella, as she was called, caused a great sensation in Goettingen. Young poets of the town wrote on the theme, and Daniel Schiebler, one of the university students, collected these poems into a volume.

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NEW YORK FASHIONS. Designs For Costumes That Have Become Popular in the Metropolis.

New York City (Special).—Checked tweed in brown and beige made this stylish skirt, which may form part of a cycling or golf suit, or be used for general outing or rainy day wear.

Lisle Thread Gloves. Thread gloves, having for years been the joy of the simple and sensible, have recently been taken up with a rush by the fashionable and rather freakish element.

Foulard as Popular as Ever. The craze for foulards has by no means abated. In fact, as the season advances so are more patterns sprung upon the market.

A Rage in Jewelry. The butterfly is becoming the rage for everything, just as the bowknot was a while ago. When enamelled in natural colors it makes a pretty pin for stocks and the hair.

A Novelty in Combs. Pompadour combs, in real or even imitation shell, are considered the best taste by many. If set with semiprecious stones or genuine jewels they are prettier in dark hair than the plain shell.

Sashes of Chiffon and Silk. Wide sashes of crepe de Chine, chiffon, hemstitched taffeta and soft preferred. The centre back gore is gathered closely at the top, the fullness being invisible under the deeply laid plaits that meet closely in back.

Liberty silks in evening shades or in bright Roman stripes are telling items of dress. They fasten with a rosette and a second rosette catches the ends together a few inches below the waist.

White veils are becoming only to brunettes, to women with very large eyes or a brilliant complexion. Black veils with big dots should be worn by women with large features.

White dimity is here daintily associated with fine tucking and lace insertion which is sold all ready for yoking. The fashionable square yoke forms the upper portion from which depends the full front and back, that hangs in graceful folds from gathers at the top.

Shepherds' plaid woolen materials in black and white, petunia and white and gendarme blue and white are the very height of fashion just now for making up into skirts, and the correct thing is to wear a short jacket or coat made of same-face amazone cloth to match the color of the check material of which the skirt is made.

Child's Frocks. White dimity is here daintily associated with fine tucking and lace insertion which is sold all ready for yoking. The fashionable square yoke forms the upper portion from which depends the full front and back, that hangs in graceful folds from gathers at the top.

The mode presents opportunity for the introduction of three contrasting materials, which is oftentimes desirable when remodeling misses' waists. The bretelles may be of some material decorated with braid, ribbon or passementerie, the yoke and collar facing being all-over lace underlain with satin in white or some becoming color.

Sleeves are gathered on the upper and lower edges and completed at the wrists with bands of insertion and frills of narrow lace edging. A narrow frill to match finishes the neck. It is a very popular style.

Shooting at a Balloon. At Meudon, near Paris, a captive balloon was recently allowed to rise to a height of 150 metres and then shot at with a Lebel rifle.

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A-BRINGIN' HOME THE COWS.

It ain't no fun a-bein' corn— The sun it's b'lin' hot, And pa he keeps a feiler just A-go' at a trot.

Then when I get up to the barn Pa he picks up a stick And says, "Young man, I've told you 'nough To keep out of the creek!"

"What does the forecast bulletin say?" "Threatening weather." "Threatening what—sunstrokes or chilblains?"—Chicago Record.

"My daughter," said the father, "has always been accustomed to all the luxuries of wealth." "Yes," replied the count, bristling up. "Zat sees what I am."

Doctor (to the ruffian)—"Your eye is hopelessly smashed. I shall have to insert a glass eye." "No glass eye for me. It would be broken to-morrow."—Flying Dutchman.

"Mr. Spoonamore, will you please tell me what you came to see me for?" "I will, Miss McCurry. I came to ask you to marry me." "Well, I certainly won't. Let us now enjoy the evening. Do you play chess, Mr. Spoonamore?"—Roxbury Gazette.

In an interesting article published in the Electrical World and Engineer, Professor Francis B. Crocker tells of the curious methods of the Chinese in sending telegraphic messages and of the serious opposition of the natives in many parts of the Empire to the modern convenience.

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