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The automobile lends itself to the art and science of war with peculiar cordiality. We have "motor scouts," and "war motor cars," and according to the logic of events we shall have other implements which will render the tented field more dangerous than ever.

An absurd article by Lombroso, in the Pall Mall Magazine, on "An Epidemic of Kisses in America," has very naturally caused the sanity of the Italian sociologist to be questioned.

In Massachusetts it has just been decided that the sanitary condition of picnic grounds and summer resorts in general is not all that might be, and with a view to improving it the State Board of Health has undertaken to make a careful examination of all these places.

"I never can tell a story and have it come out all right," said a little woman plaintively the other day.

"I thought it was pretty good, and I'd try it on Charlie at supper. But when I told him to go buy ten cents' worth of potato he never said a word, and I knew another joke had fallen flat and kept still.

Scotland has forty-six parishes without paupers, poor rates or public houses.

Crises in the Cigaret Trade.

In 1889 the total production of cigarettes in the United States was 2,160,000,000. For the next eight years there was a steady increase in the number produced.

A TRUE STORY OF THE SOUTH SEAS

BY LOUIS BECKE AND WALTER JEFFERY.



It is well recognized that some yarns of an exceedingly tough and Munchausen-like character have been spun—and printed—by men of their adventures in Australian waters, or in the South Seas, but an examination of such stories by anyone with personal knowledge of the Pacific and Australasia has soon, and very deservedly so, knocked the bottom out of them.

Like Harry Bluff, John Renton "when a boy left his friends and his home, o'er the wild ocean waves all his life for to roam."

On this day they saw land, high and well-wooded, but now the trade winds failed them, and for the following two days the unfortunate men contended with baffling light airs, calms and strong currents.

On August 7th, 1875, the Queensland labor recruiting schooner Bobtail Nag was cruising off the island, trading for yams, and her captain heard from some natives who came alongside that there was a white man living ashore in a village about ten miles distant.

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By stealth they managed to stow in the boat a couple of small breakers of water, holding, together, sixteen gallons, and the forecastle bread barge, with biscuits enough for three meals a day per man for ten days.

Three days later it fell calm, and they had to take to the oars. The sun was perpendicular, the sea a sheet of glass reflecting back upon them the ball of fire overhead.

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WE MAY GROW TRUFFLES

A LOT SENT HERE FROM FRANCE FOR EXPERIMENTAL PURPOSES.

Experts of the Department of Agriculture Believe That the Industry Can Be Established in This Country—Increasing Uses For Truffles.

The United States Department of Agriculture has received from Professor Walter T. Swingle, one of the agriculture explorers sent abroad to look for rare and valuable seeds and plants likely to be grown with profit in this country, a number of seeds, plants and articles of food which it is thought may prove of value to the American producer and consumer.

Truffle raising is very interesting, and in order to carry it on successfully one must have considerable skill and patience. Truffles, it is well known, are a fungus growth like mushrooms, but instead of growing on the surface they are found from ten to twelve inches below the ground.

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WHEN PHYLLIS GOES A-FISHING.

When Phyllis goes a-fishing, All on a summer day, The birds from out of their gladness Sing each a blither lay.

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HUMOR OF THE DAY.

"It's kind o' peculiar," said the baker. "When I'm the busiest I do the most loafing."

"I don't look at all well," said the neglected doorman, "but I am able to be around the house."

"What is ideal weather?" "In summer it is twenty degrees below zero and in winter it is ninety above."

"Why did you sheathe your sword in me?" cried the wandering minstrel. "Because you're a scab-bard," replied the king's troubadour.

"Mamma (at the breakfast table)—" "You always ought to use your napkin, George." "George—" "I am usin' it, mamma. I've got the dog tied to the leg of the table with it."

"Prison Visitor—" "Tell me, my poor man, how come you to such a place as this?" "Inmate—" "Well, marm, I suspects it was all along o' the copper bein' a sprinter."

"The Minister—" "I trust, my friend, your lines are cast in pleasant places." "The Poet—" "Well, that depends on whether you would call waste-baskets pleasant places or not."

"Mrs. Lash—" "What did you get baby for a birthday present?" "Mrs. Rash—" "I took \$2 out of the little darling's bank and bought him this lovely lamp for the drawing-room."

"Mrs. Flyer—" "Harry, do you know the dirt from which diamonds are taken is blue?" "Mr. Flyer—" "No, but I know that the fellow who has to put up the dust for them generally is."

"She scorned all her wooers so long that now she is doomed to be an old maid for the rest of her life." "Well, that seems like a just sentence for such contempt of court."

"Wayfarer (to the robber)—" "I haven't any money with me, I'm sorry to say, but I will be glad to advise all my friends and acquaintances to take walks along this lonely path hereafter."