



OUR BUDGET OF HUMOR.

LAUGHTER-PROVOKING STORIES FOR LOVERS OF FUN.

The Politic Burglar—Business—Another Definition—His Cash—Supporter's Information—Two Views—An Apprenticeship—A Modern Diagnosis, Etc., Etc.

"Will you please go away, sir?" she asked in a faint voice. Of the burglar she found in 'his dead of the night. A-burgling away at her plate. And the burglar politely bowed his shock head.

Business. "Do you sell on easy terms?" "Yes, if you pay on easy terms."—Chicago Record.

Another Definition. "What is a financier?" "Usually a man who makes money without earning it."—Chicago Post.

His Cash. Druggist—"Rockwell seems to have money to burn." Grocer—"I don't know. He always pays me the cold cash."

Superior Information. The Small One—"Even de rich folks can't have shad in winter." The Big One—"Oh, yes, they can, too—they eats hot-house shad."—Brooklyn Life.

Two Views. First Tramp—"I envy dem butterflicks wir nothin' ter do but sippin' de flowers." Second Tramp—"Oh! I dunno. Seems ter me dey does a lot o' hustlin'."—Puck.

An Apprenticeship. Prisoner—"B-but I'd be willing to join the band!" Pirate—"Join the band? What do you know about our business?" Prisoner—"Well, I've been in politics."—Puck.

Absence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder. Mr. Newed—"I am afraid, darling, that while I am away absence will conquer love." Mrs. Newed—"Pray don't think that, my dear; the longer you are away the more I shall love you."

A Modern Diagnosis. "Skinner got a bill the other day for his wife's automobile drives, and he's been laid up ever since." "What's the matter?" "The doctor says he is suffering from an overcharge of electricity."—Life.

His Opinion. "And what," asked the reporter, "do you consider the secret of success in life?" "I should say," replied the wealthy philosopher from the Klondike, "that it consists in being at the right place at the right time."—Puck.

Diplomacy. Census Taker—"What is your age, Madam?" Mrs. Neighbors—"Did the woman next door give her age?" Census Taker—"Certainly." Mrs. Neighbors—"Well, I'm two years younger than she is."—Chicago News.

Relative Questions. He was holding up one side of the vestibule when he milkman arrived. "What do you mean by being so late?" he thundered. "W-why, sir," stammered the milkman, "it's only 5."

One Beauty of Classical Music. Miss Gush—"Do you like classical music, Mr. Sourdripp?" Mr. Sourdripp—"Yes." Miss Gush—"Oh, I am so glad. Do you not find it great inspiration, subtle thought and true beauty?" Mr. Sourdripp—"Not exactly. I like it because no blithering idiot can beat time to it with his foot."—Baltimore American.

Envy. "I found a four-leaf clover yesterday while out walking with a young woman," said the breezy young person. "Do you consider that a sign of luck?" "Emphatically," answered the man who had his coat off and was toiling. "If being able to wander around hunting four-leaf clovers with a pretty girl isn't luck I don't know what is."—Washington Star.

Fine Intentions. "I am determined," said the man who is proud of his boy, "that this youngster shall acquire correct habits of speech." "The best way to do that is to see that he has good examples." "Of course. And that's what I'm going to do. I don't intend to let him say 'don't,' and I ain't going to tolerate the use of that vulgarism 'ain't'."—Washington Star.

Conclusive. "What does she say?" asked the crafty politician who had referred the committee to his wife for information as to his intentions. "She refuses to talk," replied the spokesman of the committee. "Then it wasn't my wife you met, gentlemen," he rejoined with great positiveness. "It was somebody else."—Chicago Tribune.

Felt's Believed. "My dear," began the extravagant young wife, "I've got several things I want to talk to you about." "Ah! that's a relief," exclaimed the husband. "What is?" "To be assured that you've got the things you wish to talk about. You generally discourse upon things you need." The wheel of fortune has turned many a man's head.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

A young Danish engineer has constructed a phonograph which will take telephone messages. It is much simpler than the Edison phonograph, and instead of a wax roller has a steel band from which the message can be wiped off after it has been delivered.

The practicability of using electric light for the forcing of vegetation is maintained by a writer in Science, who claims to have been quite successful in applying it for raising lilies. He finds that the arc light should not be used until the lily-buds are an inch long, and that it should then be passed through glass to screen out the ultra-violet rays. In his experiments a dark brown burn appeared on the plants under the naked light. The light was continued nightly for four months and the plants were taller and earlier in blossoming, but less robust and with shorter-lived flowers than those grown in the dark.

Those who speculate upon the inhabitants of other planets usually forget how slight a change of present conditions on earth would suffice to extinguish the forms of life we know. Mr. Lowell has suggested that the "canals" of Mars may be the stupendous works of beings akin to the human race, but an English astronomer points out that the force of gravity is only about a tenth as great as on earth, and that as a consequence of this must be a failure to retain the lighter gasses and probably even water. In a waterless world, under an atmosphere of nitrogen, argon and carbonic acid, life must be very different from anything we can imagine.

The sand dunes of the Gascony coast are stated by R. LeMang to occupy a belt four or five miles wide and 150 long, in which area they frequently rise to a height of 125 feet, and in one case reach 300 feet. The shifting sand has been that along the shore. Barren of vegetation this has been blown about by every wind and has buried fields, forests and villages, and has caused disastrous inundations by blocking the mouths of the streams. The evil has been finally remedied by long experiment and nearly a century of systematic work. A gently sloping half artificial dyke runs along the beach, next to which is a strip a quarter of a mile or more wide, which has been covered with stunted firs and bushes, and behind this is a great arched wall effectually checking the sand.

New Zealand is distinguished for its flightless birds. The Takahē, which was first captured in 1849, and of which the fourth and best specimen was taken two years ago, has now been described by Sir W. L. Buller as a handsome bird of the rail family, about as large as a goose, blue-breasted, having a heavy gait, and with a very noticeable beak in the form of a large equi-lateral triangle of pink horn, one angle being directed forward. Its most remarkable characteristic is that it is absolutely unable to use its wings for flying. The first two specimens obtained of this flightless rail are in the British Museum, the third was purchased by the Dresden Museum for \$500, and as much as \$1500 has been offered for this fourth specimen.

The mystery of the "wabbling" of the earth's axis may be explained, in the opinion of Dr. J. Halm, a German astronomer, by assuming that the rotation of our planet is affected by changes in the magnetic influence of the sun. He publishes a comparison of observations on sun-spots and on the irregular motions of the north pole, which appears to show a coincidence between the two phenomena. During a maximum of sun-spots the magnetic influence of the sun seems to be greatest, and after the passage of such a maximum the disturbance of the earth's axis diminishes. The fact that the earth's poles of magnetism do not correspond in location with its geographical poles may, Doctor Halm suggests, indicate how the sun's disturbing action is applied. When the magnetism of our globe is most powerfully excited then the strain along its magnetic axis may cause a distortion of the figure of the earth, which becomes less as the strain diminishes.

As we jog along, or walk by turns, we come to Buckingham street, and looking up at Alfred Jingle's lodgings says a grateful word of Mr. Pickwick, says Kate Douglas Wiggin in the Atlantic. We tell each other that much of what we know of London and England, when we come to it, seems to have been learned from Dickens.

Deny him the right to sit among the elect, if you will; talk of his tendency to farce and caricature; call his humor low comedy; and his pathos bathos—though in my presence unchallenged; but the fact remains that every child, in America at least, knows more of England—its almshouses, debtors' prisons and law courts, its villages and farmers, its headless and cheap-jacks and ostlers and coachmen and Boots, its streets and lanes, its lodgings and inns and landladies and roast beef and plum pudding, its ways, manners and customs—knows more of these things and a thousand others from all the histories, geographies, biographies and essays in the language. Where is there another novelist who has so peopled a great city with his imaginary characters that there is hardly room for the living population, as one walks along the streets?

The number of emigrants to Siberia in the last seven years has averaged 150,000 a year.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

A Weekly Review of the Happenings Throughout the Labor World in This and Other Countries.

Canadian telegraph liners have struck for a nine-hour day. Twenty-five of the hucksters of Camden, N. J., have formed an organization for mutual protection.

Three departments of the Illinois Steel Company, at South Chicago, employing 1200 men, have resumed work. The Chicago building contractors have rejected a proposition for peace made by the unions to settle the labor war in that city.

The International Seamen's Union has issued a circular denouncing Congress for not passing the labor measures put before it. Cuban and Spanish laborers on the Havana electric railroad have struck because they receive forty cents a day less than Americans.

After several weeks of idleness, the plants of the Glucose Sugar Refining Company, at Rockford, Ill., have resumed work, taking on 250 men. The journeymen plumbers' strike at St. Paul, Minn., has been declared off after six weeks of unsuccessful effort to obtain shorter hours of labor.

The National Building Trades Council has issued an edict forbidding union workmen from seeking employment in several large cities where there are strikes. Henry Finehout, aged eighty-one, believed to have been the oldest railroad conductor in the world, died at St. Paul, Minn. His railroad service extended over a period of sixty years.

The demand for harvest hands in Kansas is so great that the section hands on the Missouri Pacific Railroad are giving up their positions at \$1.25 per day to go into the fields and work for \$2 a day.

The Birmingham (Ala.) Trades Council, the general assembly of the 20,000 white union men in the Birmingham district, have withdrawn the color line and will hereafter receive negro delegates from the local unions to the Federal Council.

The new electric power plant at the Armour packing houses in Chicago replaces 93 steam boilers, 16 engines and 12 refrigerating machines. According to a San Francisco paper children of James Watt, inventor of the steam engine, are now living in California.

South Carolina is now manufacturing all the cotton she produces. North Carolina, Georgia and other States are also turning out a large part of their cotton in finished goods. The government owns many thousands of acres of land in New Mexico that have never been taken up. It is the finest country in the world for stock raising.

Buffalo county, Neb., boasts the largest alfalfa field in the world. It is under the management of H. D. Watson and is from one-half to two miles wide and eight miles or such a matter long. It yields three cuttings a season and the total yield per acre for the three cuttings averages close to eight tons.

Made Up of Malcontents. The "Boxer Society is made up of malcontents and extreme conservatives, opposed to railroads and foreign ideas in general. The first we knew of them they were destroying property along some German railway lines in Shan-tung province. The press has allowed the outbreak to get beyond her control. Her soldiers will fight the "Boxers" with great reluctance, if at all. She dismissed her generals, and that shows that she took sides with the anti-foreign element. But she is not bitter in her opposition to foreigners.

You Look Cross. What makes you look that way? There certainly must be some good reason for it. If your tongue is coated, if you are bilious, if your head aches, if your food rests heavy on your stomach, and if you are constipated, then the whole trouble is with your liver. What you need is a good liver pill, an easy liver pill, a purely vegetable liver pill. You need a box of Ayer's Pills, that's what you need. These pills cure constipation, biliousness, dyspepsia, and sick headache. 25 cents a box. All druggists. "I always keep a box of Ayer's Pills on hand. There is no pill their equal for a liver regulator. Long ago they cured me of liver complaint and chronic constipation."—S. L. SPELLMAN, Columbus, Ohio, May 31, 1900.

THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN. The chief of police at Erie, Pa., proposes to have tramps make bricks and construct buildings. Drugs have their use, but don't store them in your stomach. Beeman's Peppia Gum aids nature to perform its functions. The intense dryness of the South African air is very destructive of leather. Hence the soldiers' boots soon wear out. Frey's Vermifuge is 60 years old. As the years advance it becomes more and more popular. The imports of crude rubber to this country have in the last 30 years increased 437 per cent. Sell-O, the New Dessert. Plomes all the family. Four flavors—Lemon, Orange, Raspberry and Strawberry. At your grocers. 10 cts. The aging of timber, which formerly required long storage, is now completed by electricity in a few hours. Its permanently cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. 32 trial bottle and treatise free. Dr. R. H. KLINE, Ltd., 361 Arch St., Phila., Pa. There are 500 hotels and camps in the Adirondacks receiving guests. They have a combined capacity of 62,000. E. A. Bond, Toledo, Ohio, says: "Hall's Catarrh Cure cured my wife of catarrh fifteen years ago and she has had no return of it. It's a sure cure." Sold by Druggists, etc. A scientific person asserts that bap-pipe-planting in the vicinity of a cowshed causes the cows to yield more milk. The Best Prescription for Chills and Fever is a bottle of GROVE'S TARTARUS CHILL TONIC. It is simply iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure—no pay. Price 50c. The catalogue of the Paris Exhibition will contain the names of nearly 90,000 exhibitors of all nations. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children's teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle. The cemeteries around London cover 2,000 acres, and the land they occupy represents a capital of £20,000,000. YOUR COW'S PRODUCTION will be increased 20 per cent. by using our aluminum Cream Separator and up-to-date churns. \$4 up. 10 day trial. Catalogue free. Address, Gilt sou-Stewart Mfg. Co., Glenside, Pa. DON'T STOP TOBACCO SUDDENLY. It injures nervous system to do so. The only cure that Really Cures BAGO-CURO is the only one that cures you. It has no other you when to stop. Sold with a guarantee that three boxes will cure any case. BAGO-CURO is vegetable and harmless. It has cured thousands. It will cure you. At all druggists or by mail prepaid. \$1.00 a box; 3 boxes, \$2.50. Booklet free. Write EURIEA CHEMICAL CO., La Crosse, Wis. P. O. U. 27, '00. DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY: gives relief and cures soon. Book of testimonials and 10 days' treatment free. Dr. H. H. GREEN'S HOME, Box 5, Atlanta, Ga. If afflicted with sore eyes use Thompson's Eye Water.

The risks of death faced by a soldier in battle are more than six times as great as the dangers of railway service.

Medical Book Free. "Know Thyself," a book for men only sent free, postpaid, sealed, to any male reader mentioning this paper, for postage. The Science of Life, or Self-Prevention, the Gold Medal Prize Treatise, the best Medical Book of this or any age, 370 pp., with engravings and prescriptions. Only 25c. paper covers. Library Edition, full gilt, \$1.00. Address The Peabody Medical Institute, No. 4 Bulfinch St., Boston, Mass., the oldest and best in this country. Write to-day for these books; keys to health.

Boston will utilize sea water to extinguish fires. An experiment with salt water has proved successful.

Are You Using Allen's Foot-Powder. It is the only cure for Swollen, Smarting, Itched, Aching, Hot, Sweating Feet, Corns and Bunions. Ask for Allen's Foot-Powder, a powder to be shaken into the shoes. Cures while you walk. At all Druggists and Shoe Stores, 25c. Sample sent FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

One Woman's Letter SAYS

"I doctored with two of the best doctors in the city for two years and had no relief until I used the Pinkham remedies.

"My trouble was ulceration of the uterus. I suffered terribly, could not sleep nights and thought sometimes that death would be such a relief.

"To-day I am a well woman, able to do my own work, and have not a pain.

"I used four bottles of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and three packages of Sanative Wash and cannot praise the medicines enough."—MRS. ELIZA THOMAS, 634 Pine St., Easton, Pa.

Mrs. Pinkham advises suffering women without charge.

The Increasing Use of Metals.

In the United States steel cars are being substituted for wooden ones on railways, and to this one new departure a goodly share of steel industry activity is ascribed. The various uses to which electricity has been applied in late years the water supply of cities, and all kinds of engineering enterprises have also greatly increased the demand for iron and steel in all countries; and lastly, a new era in railway building has commenced in Russia, the United States, and some other countries, the great Siberian enterprises of Russia alone calling for immense quantities of railway material.

Charles S. Wilbur, the New York supervisor of the census, was the first to send in his compiled returns to Washington.

What Shall We Have For Dessert? This question arises in the family daily. Let us answer it to-day. Try Sell-O, a delicious and healthful dessert. Prepared in 2 min. No boiling or baking! Simply add a little hot water & set to cool. Flavors: Lemon, Orange, Raspberry and Strawberry. At grocers. 10c.

It is estimated that about 2,000,000 bicycles have been made in Europe and America.

To Cure a Cold in One Day. Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE TABLETS. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

North Carolina got along all of last year, ending May 31, without a strike.

Plo's Cure for Consumption is an infallible medicine for coughs and colds.—N. W. SAMUEL, Ocean Grove, N. J., Feb. 17, 1900.

Tarantulas are being raised in Australia for their webs, which are being used in making threads for war balloons.

A DEAD LIVER. He thinks he lives, but he's a dead one. No person is really alive whose liver is dead. During the winter most people spend nearly all their time in warm, stuffy houses or offices or workshops. Many don't get as much exercise as they ought, and everybody knows that people gain weight in winter. As a rule it is not sound weight, but means a lot of flabby fat and useless, rotting matter staying in the body when it ought to have been driven out. But the liver was overburdened, deadened—stopped work. There you are, with a dead liver, and spring is the time for resurrection. Wake up the dead! Get all the filth out of your system, and get ready for the summer's trials with clean, clear blood, body, brain free from bile. Force is dangerous and destructive unless used in a gentle persuasive way, and the right plan is to give new strength to the muscular walls of the bowels, and stir up the liver to new life and work with CASCARETS, the great spring cleaner, disinfectant and bowel tonic. Get a box to-day and see how quickly you will be BROUGHT BACK TO NEW LIFE BY Cascarets CANDY CATHARTIC BEST FOR THE BOWELS ALL DRUGGISTS 10c. 25c. 50c. To any needy mortal suffering from bowel troubles and too poor to buy CASCARETS we will send a box free. Address Sterling Remedy Company, Chicago or New York, mentioning advertisement and paper.