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A hundred years ago what optimist would have surmised that the dawn of the twentieth century would see "American competition" become the great European hobgoblin?

a quarter of a century ago realism was announced as that which was henceforth to prevail in literature; and, behold! never had the romantic novel such vogue as it has to-day.

The Kansas City Star thinks that "the luckiest person, probably, who has ever lived on this old round earth, is the American citizen who, in this year of grace 1901, is near to middle age. That condition affords a standard the construction of the light of the condition of the light of the condition of the light of t point for comparison that is well nigh

Harper's Bazar records that a move-Harper's Bazar records that a move-ment originates among the equal suf-fragists of Illinois to add another chair to the Cabinet of the President of the United States, and install therein a woman. Believing that home interests and children are subjects of impor-tance to the nation no less than war, finance, diplomacy, agriculture, at the thirtieth annual session of the Illinois Suffrage Association a resolution was passed defining a plan for demanding of the next Congress the establishment of a domestic science department of the administrative function of government, with a respect tion of government, with a woman at the head of it.

The output of coal in France annually falls about ten million tons below the quantity required for consumption; hence that country has long been England's best customer. It is evident, then, that the French railroads and navy would be crippled if in the event of war the usual fuel supplies should navy would be crippled if in the event of war the usual fuel supplies should be withdrawn by Great Britain before France should have an opportunity to accumulate a reserve elsewhere. If the French Government could be made to see the advantage of buying Ameri-can coal it is likely that the prejudice which naw undoubtedly exists against which now undoubtedly exists against our product on the Continent on acour product on the Continent on ac-count of its friability would be over-come, and that, under favorable con-ditions of transportation, the great in-dustrial interests would also make use of it. The establishment of a steady and profitable trade would speedily follow, remarks the Philadelphia Rec-lect.

ord.

An All-British Pacific Cable.

The new all-British Pacific cable has been definitely decided upon, and a tender of \$8,985,000 for furnishing and laying the same accepted. The cable will be 7000 miles in all. The longest fink, approximately 3500 miles, will be the longest single section in the world. The route taken by this new cable from Canada to Queensland, will be transpace of the longest single section in the world. It is a considered to the longest single section in the world. The route taken by this new cable from Canada to Queensland, will be transpace to the longest in the exact route will be kept secret in order to enhance the difficulty of cable-cutters in war time. As a matter of fact the cable is being laid with the idea of affording greater security to Great Britain and her colonies in times of war by ensuring uniterrupted cable communication by

Odd Suffrage Requirements.

A BOOK, A PIPE, A FIRE.

Frank L. Stanton.

Let all the Northland breezes blow;

I've all that I desire

Here sheltered from the storm and

Old friends beneath its friendly covers.

This little room a world shall seem

With many a merry party;

Before a fire a man may dream,

And toast his friends right hearty!

Friends that wear out their welcome never,

But, friends for once, are friends for ever!

And this one's faults I may condemn—
These virtues may admire,
And get no praise nor blame from them—
My guests before my fire.
Night's dragon wings and hearts may
tire. But I've a book, a pipe, a fire.

Five Dollars.

BY ALFRED TURNER YATES.

BY ALFRED TURNER YATES. (Copyright, 1800: Daily Story Pub. Co.)
When Walter McDowell had lost his last bet on the faro table, he pulled himself away from the chair. He felt dizzy. A sickening nausea swept over him; his eyes dauced in his head. He lay down upon one of the sofas and asked the walter to bring him a drink of brandy. He knew he could get that even if he had no money. He drank the spirits and settled his head back on the leather. Presently he felt better. Then his eyes wandered aimlessly about the room; took in the excited players, the shifting of feet; heard the muttered oaths of losers, the exclamations from winners, the hoarse, mechanical voices of the callers at the roulette wheels.

In this room McDowell had spent the best of his youthful days. He had forgotten duty, friends, reputation, society, honor. He had gambled away a vast estate; he had borrowed until there were none to lend. Now he was at his row's end. He had no relatives whom he could call upon in this hour of his direst want. The last penny was gone! The men who came in and went out, passed him, looked coldly at his prostrate form, but never said a word. Many of them were as helpeless as he. The lights glared; the wheels of red and blue turned swiftly apon their axles; the clink of ivory rattled away. The room was filled with smoke; the air was foul. Presently McDowell, overcome with fatigue, dropped asleep. At midnight he awoke with a start. He stared at the clock. Then he jumped to his feet and asked the waiter for another drink. Swallowing this, he thanked he servant and walked down the steps.



She was asleep. vived. He walked onward, not knowing, nor caring, where. Vaguely he had in his mind a saloon some blocks away. The barkeeper had known him in his palmier days, and he had never asked him for a favor. Perhaps he could get enough for him to pay for a night's lodging. If that were denied—well, there was the river. He turned into a street running at right angles with the one he had been traversing. Almost at the corner, and quite hidden in a doorway, was a little girl, a walf, who eked out a precarious existence by selling gum and matches. She was asleep. Her wares were scattered about her feet. The snow had made little mounds near her. Sometimes a flake would fall on her face. But the poor child felt them not. McDowell halted and looked at the peaceful face. A smile was on her lips. Around the shoulders was a thin shawl. She did not look cold. "Ah, he thought, "if I was as contented." He moved away, but before he had made three steps his eyes became riveted to the sidewalk. Something which threw back the rays of the corner light lay near the sleeping figure. Stooping down and picking up the object McDowell's hand trembled. It was a \$5 gold piece. Evidently some kind soul, seeing the child, had placed it in her lap—some of the wandering alms-givers whose names never get in print. He, this blessed giver, had intended the money as a surprise to the waif. He would again, the gift would be in her lap. For these—well, there is the kingdom of God.

McDowell could scarcely contain himself. Vague emotions went through his mind with the swiftness of electricity. Would he take the money. The child do not move. The street was perfectly still. Far away came votees of a drunken crowd. No one was watching him. He and the child and the money were alone in that part of the big city, ** e Yes, yes.

He almost fiew back to the gamblers den. He laid his money, down—the child's money—on the green table. The cards were shuffled and he won, he was not a thief money down recklessly.

He scarcely lost a single wager. The dealer fooked on with amazement, softly adding once in a while, "Seem to be coming your way after all, Mac." The minutes passed into an hour. Still he was lucky. He threw his chips with a gesture of certainty and contempt. But all during this time there was a red-hot iron before his eyes, that and the sleeping waif he had robbed.

there was a red-hot iron before his eyes, that and the sleeping waif he had robbed.

He cashed his chips. The bills were piled high before him. He had never had so much at one time in three years. He crammed the money in his pockets. To the street he ran. Outside his feet moved as rapidly as the slippery walk would permit him. He turned the corner. In the distance he saw the child. It is wonderful the thoughts that can come to a mind in a second. McDowell's moved with all the motion of his excited faculties. God bless the child! He would take her in his arms. He would take her in his arms. He would take her in his arms. He would wait until she was grown and he would marry her. Then he would tell her the story—tell her how he had robbed her one night and the theft had been the means of his fortune. He would never drink again, never gamble again—never, never, never! Now he was at her side. He picked her up, he put the shawl closer around her little body. He kissed her on the lips. A shiver ran through him. How very cold the lips were! God, could she—

He had moved farther down the street. It was dark around him. A

lips. A shiver ran through him. How very cold the lips were! God, could she—
He bad moved farther down the street. It was dark around him. A light was burning at the corner and he hastened to it. He pressed her closer to his breast. Ten more steps and he was under the glaring lamp. He looked down into the face and saw with terror that the eyelids were half open and permitted the eyes to show fixed and glassy stares. He put his mouth quite near hers. She was not breathing!

Choked with an awful anguish McDowell awoke. There he was on the sofa where he had fallen asleep two hours before. He arose and went to his rooms. The next morning he enlisted in the army. Last week he came home—back to his mother and to his friends. His uniform is not that of a man in the ranks. He is a captain, and with the small salary attached to that office he supports his mother in splendid style. But he does not gamble. During the Christmas holidays he was walking along a street which long before had almost been deserted. He was with his sweetheart. Passing a doorway he saw a sleeping newsgirl and he put a gold piece in her lap. "You extravagant man!" exclaimed the woman. But then she did not know.

But then she did not know.

ZANZIBAR IVORY.

ZANZIBAR IVORY.

One of the Oldest of Ivory Markets—
Higher Prices Than on West Coast.
Zanzibar continues to send important quantities of ivory to Europe. It is one of the oldest ivory markets and was formerly one of the largest, but is mow surpassed in the quantity of ivory collected by Matadi on the lower Coago. Elephant tusks are gathered in the far interior and brought to the coast on the backs of men. Sometimes business is good and sometimes it is poor according to whether good luck attends the Ivory collectors. Now and then they are so fortunate as to come across some native who has a large quantity of ivory buried in the ground; then again they will find a good many tusks in native villages, where it is often used to form a part of the fortifications which every village must possess. Few animals are killed to increase the present ivory supply, but most of the tusks are those the native have been collecting for years.

The profits of the business depend in part upon the ignorance of enlightenment of the native seller. Not a few of the chiefs of east Africa are still ignorant of the fact that ivory is highly avilued by the whites, if they have not learned this fact they will sell their ivory very cheap.

The quality of the east African ivory is for some reason or other considered superior to that of the Congo or west coast ivory. It brings a somewhat higher price in the market. In order to indicate the place of origin the custom house at Zanzbar affixes its stamp to each tusk and makes a small charge for thus guaranteeing to purchasers of the commodity is east African ivory.—

ommodity is east African ivor: York Sun.

Making Cheese in Flanders.

The manufacture of cheese is one of Holland's staple industries, and yet the two Belgian provinces—East and West Fanders—have come to the front in this business recently, and even export some of their cheese to the Netherlands. Of course the Belgian cheese will never be able to compete with the famous Holland varieties—Leyden, Gouda and Edam. As there is practically no duty on Belgian cheeses entering Holland, French and Swiss cheeses are often sent here by way of Belgium to escape duty.—A. F. J. Kiehl, in Chicago Record.

Germany and France Compared.
French census figures for 1899 report births as 847,627, which is 10,000 less than the average for the past decade. The excess of births over deaths was but 31,394. M. Bertillon, in an essay on these figures, says grimly that France is in the position of a man dying under the influence of chloroform. Germany now has 55,000,000 inhabitants and France but 38,000,000.

THE HERON AS A SENTINEL.

Other Birds Have Implicit Confidence of

One of nature's sharpest sentinels is the blue heron. Not only does he stand guard for himself and immediate relatives, but he is unwittingly a sentry for other birds. Ducks and geese use him, and I have ofter wondered why sportsmen, particularly duck and geese hunters, do not employ a decoy resembling a heron, or crane, as they are often erroneously called.

I can assure the readers that the common wooden or canvas decoy is not to be compared with a neatly mounted blue heron as a lure for the teathered gobblers.

Not far from where I boarded one autumn was a reedy, muddy lake, a perfect paradise or water fowl. Where the wood road bordered on the lake was a small brook that often afforded a good bag of game. I would reach the brook some mornings perfectly certain that no one had preceded me, yet would not hear a solitary quack. I would also notice that there would not be a heron on guard. At other times the reeds would be alive, and I could not get a shot, for the blue heron sentry would give the alarm, spread his broad wing in his slow, clumsy fashion, and ducks, geese and all would follow him out of reach. Repeated glasp-pointments of this kind showed me that wittingly or not the ducks were making good use of the long legs and keen eyes of the heron. He was able to see over the rushes, while their vision was completely cut off. When he was inclined to visit the brook to get a frog or a fish for breakfast, they gathered round him, feeling perfectly secure. So long as he was throwing his searchight glances over the reeds and into the bushes. When his hersonship took occasion to visit other scenes not a living paddle would disturb the placid eddy at the mouth of the brook.

I watched the situation carefully and found the heron one morning entirely alone. I sat down where I could get a good view without being seen and awaited developments. A flock of ducks came winging their way down the lake, casting glances on all sides as if uncertain where to go. They were swinging their long line for a sandy spit away down a

Fat Man Got a Lesse

Fat Man Got a Lesson.

There was a triffing fire in a west side street the other day which caused a good deal of excitement and incidentally gave a fat man a lesson in courtesy. The fire started in the apartments where the man and his mother lived. The man started about the time the fire did and got down four flights of stairs to the street before his mother knew what was up. When she discovered the fire she promptly fainted.

Meanwhile the fat man stood in the street yelling, "Save my mother! Save my mother! Save my mother! Save my mother! A messence boy, who was passing, stopped, saw the smoke, ran up the stairs, aroused the woman and brought her out in safety. The neighbors cheered and the fat man looked uncomfortable.

"Here, boy," he whispered. "Here's a quarter for you."

The boy's face expressed his disgust.

"Aw, save it," he said, "and buy

The boy's face expressed his disgust.
"Aw. save it," he said, "and buy yourself some nerve food."
The crowd laughed, the fat man blushed and the boy went whistling down the street. He didn't know that he had been a hero, and the fat man felt himself a coward.—New York Mail and Express.

Helt himself a coward.—New York Mail and Express.

Bricks in Moscow.

In a recent report the French consul general in Moscow writes of the scarcity of bricks in that city, owing to the extensive building now going on. The supply is not equal to the demand, and bricks which formerly sold at \$10 per 1000 are now worth \$11.20. The factories from which the supply is drawn are spread over an area of 20 miles. Some of the works are of considerable size, and employ the most modern machinery. But the supply of dry clay is giving out and thus the domestic manufacturers are handicapped. Manufacturers are now on the lookout for machinery for the making of bricks not of clay. It is likely that bricks of sand will be largely employed when the machinery is once set in motion. In the meantime, there is a good opportunity for American brick manufacturers.

An Invention Probably Lost.

An Invention Probably Lost.

John G. Carter, the inventor of the process of making a substitute for rubber from cotton-seed oil, died recently at Savannah, Ga. The process was known only to Mr. Carter, and unless it is found that he left instruction and directions for the continuance of the work, it is probable that the secret died with him. This is a valuable fillustration of the wisdom of paten' I wallet, and not leaving the matter a secret. Very valuable inventions have been lost to the world owing to a mistaken belief that our patent laws do not give adequate protection.



CREPE DE CHINE'S POPULARITY. Worn in All Shades For Street and Ever ing Gowns.

Crepe de chine is having its innings this year and throws into the shade some old favorites in the way of dress goods. The favorite material is worn in all shades and appears in street as well as evening gowns, house gowns, and in everything in the way of a gown that a clever modiste can suggest. The identical material, shade and all, may masquerade in any number of different gowns, the simplicity or claborateness of the making determining the position of the gown in the wardrobe of the wearer.

There is not a shade that can be mentioned that is not being, worn, though black and white vie with each other for the first rank in popularity. The pastel shades are as popular in the crepes as in other goods of all kinds and descriptions. There are the tans and grays, the browns and blues in the latter the bright marine blue, in the latter the bright marine blue, the electric, and the navy being popular. Other shades are coming in in the spring, rumors which are well grounded say, and a bright red of nearly the golf shade will be among them, and a cerise red.

Crepes come in all prices as well as in all shades and range from \$1 to \$8 a yard. There is not as great a variation as might seem in these prices, for the lower priced goods are from twenty-one to twenty-four inches wide, while the more expensive goods come at fifty-four inches and cut to infinite by better advantage. It hardly pays to buy the cheapest goods, as they are lighter in weight and have not the wearing qualities of the heavier or the the body to give them good lines. The plain colors have the advantage this season, and they are more popular in all goods than fancy designs.

With the plain crepe acchines are the satin finished, crepe metiores, the crinkled crepes, and crepe acconne, or broche, with figures of pretty rosebud designs and various medium and small squues. These latter crepes, which are exceedingly attractive, range at the satin finished, crepe metiores, the trinkled crepes, and treps declines for the gowns. The sound of the place of the s

Chinchillas For Pets.

Of the thousands of women wearing chinchilla hats, mufts and trimmings how many know anything about the history of these costly fragile skins? Yet it is unusually interesting. The chinchilla is a pretty, nimble-footed liftle creature, no larger than a small rabbit, and is found in the South American highlands. The districts it inhabits are practically rainless, which accounts for the damage done to chinchilla fur by fog and showers in this country. Until lately the Indian trapers used to spear the little creatures at the bottom of their holes with long cactus prongs fastened to a rod. This punctured the skins, however, and lessened their value; so smoking out was tried.

That also had to be given up as

punctured the skins, however, and lessened their value; so smoking out was tried.

That also had to be given up as smoks turned the fur yellow, and yellowed chinchilla is unsaleable. Nowadays dynamite is used to ceare the creatures out of the holes. A chinchilla warren is fenced in, and a big carridge exploded in its midst by a fuse. The clinchillas, terrified out of their wits, rush from their burrows, and are promptly clubbed on the head—Ugh!—by the Indians. Even in South America, the roughly cured skins bring the bunters from twelve shillings to three pounds apiece.

The chinchilla, by the way, makes a very charming, though timid, pet, and one or two society women have provided themselves with them as a pleasing novelty. The fur of the little creatures is much more fluffy and siky in life than in death, and their beautiful large dark eyes add to the charm of their dainty appearance. They are clever, self-indulgen little beasts, fond of fruit and sweets, and much given to lying in the blaze of a good fire, or rolling in the sun on some veived window seat covering.—Modern Society.

College Girl Life.

dow seat covering.—Modern Society,

College Girl Life.

The idea that there is anything abnormal in a college life for girls is fast passing away. The college girl may still be a problem to some persons, she is not in the least one to herself, or to those who know her best. The average girl goes to college for the reason that her brother goes, to get a little longer training of mind and discipline of character before the work of life, whatever that may be, is entered upon. Matthew Vassar, me stablishing the college which bears his name, had a sharp appreciation of the value of knowledge, but his appreciation was equally keen of "De value to the world at large of the true woman. His ideal was to develop a strong woman who should yet be gentle. for

he knew, as other perceiving minds have known before and since his time, that strength without gentleness is odious, while the gentleness strength is intolerable.

The institution was, perhaps, somewhat handleapped in the early years of its life because of its very leadership in the college movement for women. If, however, it has had occasionally, in the more distant past, to make a stepping-stone of its "dead seif" it has always been, truly, to reach "higher things."—Harper's Bazar,

Good Taste in Stationery

Good Taste in Stationery.

White paper, of medium thickness, rough or smooth, according to individual choice, and oblong rather than square, is in favor at present. A monogram in gold, silver, or some delicate tint may be used, but must not be too large. The street and number of one's place if the residence be in the country, may be engraved in black, blue, silver or gold at the top of the note-paper, and in the middle of the sheet. Eccentricities in shape and style are to be sedulously avoided; they are never in good taste for a lady's correspondence. A broad, flat-topped desk with drawers to hold letters and papers is now an ordinary feature of a well-furnished morning room, and as part of every woman's day is taken up with writing and answering her letters, a portfolio on the lap is hardly sufficient to accommodate her paper, pens and envelopes.

The Glorified Shirt Walst.

The Glorified Shirt Walst.

An odd waist for evening wear
the new water silk gauze, soft
filmy as chiffon, patterned with a
tracery of seed pearls. Made sim
just pouched and drawn into a w
band of gold tissue at the waist,
the neck velted in folds of deep-t
lace, and a puly reschild tracked. band of gold tissue at the waist, with the neck veiled in folds of deep-toned lace, and a pink rosebud tucked away among the lace—this blouse is one, in-deed, to covet and nequire. Almost, if not quite, on a par with it are blouses of white chiffon, traced with gold thread. A change of slips under-neath these transparent blouses ad-mits of great variety, such as white under black, or vice versa. Blues and pinks under white muslin are not fav-orites, being suggestive to many of a draped toilet table.

Helen Gould's Attractive Handsh

Helen Gould's Attractive Handsha Miss Gould has an interesting handshake. She has evidently lea that to protect and preserve her hand when giving it to hundred others, she must do most of the sing herself. She takes the profiband firmly in her own at about ellevel, holds it there for an ins then raises it quickly in an all exactly perpendicular line, then denly releases it. She looks direinto the eyes of the person she meeting, and probably not one hundred passed on without carry with him the conviction that the if faced young woman he has just sincerely enjoyed the meeting.—Bo Post.

The Hemstitched Edge.

The Hemstitched Edge.

A broad hemstitched edge adorm newer chiffon veilling, and d guishes it from last senson's as one inch is the standard width o tem. Black, blue and brown clabow this fancy border. It is brising what amount of wenr on set out of a really good chiffon it doesn't seem to tear or split like the and sliken tissues, and it ca aundered like a pocket handkere it seems thin, but it proves at ectual protection from the colust or raw wind upon a disagree lay. It feels soft on the face, we so more tunn can be said of the cils.



Gold tissue roses are a stylish touch of color in the all black hats.

Writing with white ink on blue paper is said to be one of the uitra fashionable fads in Paris.

Accordion pleated chiffon finds many uses this season, one of which is the entire lining of an evening cloak over another lining of silk.

High crowned and broad trimmed lasts are in prospect for the coming season as a suitable accompaniment for the wide lace collars.

A yoke of fur shaping down to the

A yoke of fur shaping down to the belt as a vest in front is the novel feature of a velvet blouse and the new lace collar falls from underneath this all around. all around.

French knots in either black or white-silk beautify some of the narrow golds.

They are done by hand and-one row through the centre is sufficient for the narrow widths.

tion.

A pretty blouse to wear with a cloth-skirt is made of meteor crepe matching the cloth in color. Lines of lace-insertion are set in intervals all around between groups of tucks and small gold buttons decorate the front plent.

gold buttons decorate the front picat. Pretty trimmings for collar bands, wrist bands and waist decorations of various sorts are made by joining runs of braid with a lace stitch, or alternating narrow ribbon with braid and joining them in the same manner, Crepe de chine is one of the most popular materials for the bridesmaid's