

Naturally a man would rather part as hair than part with it.

After hearing some men talk you are surprised at the small hats they wear.

Russia has had an earthquake, but it failed to shake any of the grand ducks loose.

Always be polite to everybody. But don't let that interfere with your getting your fair share.

Reports from Cuba say the treasury is fast to bursting. It will be well to keep a sharp eye the revolutionists.

The blood-is-thicker-than-water sentiment doesn't seem to appeal very strongly to Englishmen of the Swettenham-Sir Alfred Jones type.

Dr. Wiley says cold meat isn't good after three months. Some of the cold meat served at boarding-houses doesn't taste good after three days.

The man who says blondes will disappear in 600 years has perhaps overlooked the fact that the drug stores expect to be working right along.

A bank is now issuing \$25 bills, but as they will be just as scarce as all other kinds, the change does not appeal to the average bread-winner.

A western political club is said to have adopted the strawberry as its emblem. Then the members ought to know each other by their strawberry marks.

It may be true, as scientists allege, that the man of the future will be taller. But the man of the present who dabbles in futures usually finds himself shorter.

Germany is becoming aroused to the necessity of putting a stop to robberies on railway trains. Is the train boy equally practical and unconscionable over there?

Some of the people of Porto Rico are talking of "winning liberty with sword and gun from the servitude imposed by the United States." It may be necessary for Taft to pack his grip again.

The secret of Senator Beveridge's great interest in children has been discovered. Somebody who has been digging into his record has found that Mr. Beveridge was once a child himself.

The Chicago university is said to have received from Mr. Rockefeller, in round numbers, about \$19,000,000. The least it can do to show its gratitude is to discover an efficient hair restorer.

The circus freaks are reported to be forming a union. The word "circus" will, of course, bar from membership a good many people who are going up and down this country posing as reformers.

British merchants propose to demand indemnities for the losses they expect to sustain through the suppression of the opium traffic in China. The British merchant continues to regard it as an outrage when an uplift of any kind interferes with his profits.

A committee of English and American admirers of the poets Keats and Shelley have purchased the house in Rome in which Keats died. In 1821, Shelley, who occupied a house opposite, was drowned in 1822. It is planned to make the Keats house a memorial of the two poets, and to gather in it a collection of books, manuscripts and portraits relating to them and their works. The memorial association also purposes assuming the care of the graves of the poets at the Protestant cemetery in Rome.

The proposition of President McCrea to increase the age at which men may enter the employment of the Pennsylvania railroad to 45 years is recognized as the result of the scarcity of labor. It would be correct to recognize that the scarcity is in its ratio to the demand. There are more laborers, skilled and unskilled, in the country than ever before, but the demand for their services has increased in greater proportion than the supply. We need not claim that there is not much improvement yet to be sought. But it is certainly the historical fact that the competitive era has, as one of its chief results, wrought an immense improvement in the compensation of labor and its industrial liberty.

Someone, discussing the ways of women in business recently, says a partial explanation of their success in many callings is due to their thinking they are still on trial, which leads them to take a great deal more pains to please their patrons than do men engaged in the same kind of work. To a certain extent this may be true; that is, women do feel that they are still serving an apprenticeship in undertaking work that has been the exclusive field of men for generations. But as women have been housekeepers since the world began and as they are as faithful and steadfast in this profession in the present time as they were centuries ago it seems safe to argue that a similar thing may be said of their years hence in commenting on their success in business.

Alfred Mosely, the English philanthropist, is a warm friend of America. He has shown his appreciation of this country in a number of convincing ways. He has sent several special commissions across the water in order that England might be improved by reason of the advances made in America. He has given added impetus to the schools of England by sending many teachers to the United States to observe and learn. He himself has studied this country from many points of view, and studied it not from the standpoint of a hostile critic but from

that of one who seeks to know in order to improve himself. For these reasons the opinions of Mr. Mosely are entitled to great respect, and when he expresses his belief that the high standard of living is a real peril to America it is worth while to consider the subject. This high living often approaches ruthless extravagance, he says, the luxuries of yesterday being counted the necessities of to-day. A reaction is bound to come, and when it does it will be attended by disaster. No one can doubt that Americans, as a rule, live well. But they can afford to. Some of them are spending all they make, some more than they make, but others have accounts in the savings banks to show that they are not unmindful of the possible "rainy day" ahead of them. There are some features of present American social conditions which are distinctly gratifying and which are working directly against the dangers which appear on the surface when a foreigner looks at some particular phase of life. The danger from the high living does not seem so important as the other suggestion that American prosperity is leading to inefficiency and corruption. "In hygienic years," Mr. Mosely notes, "one was impressed with the thorough way in which everything was done and every detail thought out, but the same is not true to-day. On the contrary, there are signs that everything is becoming slipshod. Work is inefficiently done and badly finished." That is a common charge brought by foreigners against American methods. It is said that we do not build for all time but for a few years only. It is said that our products are not comparable for nicety and precision with the output of the manufacturing establishments of the old world. We have been fairly content with the results when American made goods have come into competition with those of other nations, and yet even this good record should not blind us if there is such a marked deterioration in workmanship that it is noticed by a careful observer. Mr. Mosely thinks everything overdone and overworked. Everybody appears to be in too great a hurry, so that in the race for success and wealth many of the former good characteristics of the country are disappearing. But the same things have been noted by travelers for a hundred years. Americans have always been in a hurry.

THE BARNYARD HEN HEARS OF THE "EGG TRUST"



Chicago Tribune.

SAHARA DESERT.

A Sun-Baked Region of Desolation and Ever Shifting Sands. In the event that it becomes necessary for France to intervene in the affairs of Morocco, in the interests of international order, the scene of her first operations will be in the desert region where the French colony of Algeria and the country of the Moors join. French troops are now posted in that region and a more dismal setting for military operations it would be difficult to find. Under the name of the Algerian Sahara the great desert of Sahara extends into Algeria, along the southern base of the Atlas mountains and closely approaches the Mediterranean west of the Gulf of Gabes. The immensity of this great barren region can scarcely be realized. The Sahara desert embraces some 3,200,000 square miles and presents an alternation of



SAND WAVES OF A DESERT SEA.

immense burning wastes of loose and moving sand, with tracts of barren rock, stony plains of gravel and loaves and rocky plateaus rising into mountains, with extensive valleys and expanses of sand between. Some of the valleys are depressed below the level of the ocean. Under the influences of meteorological conditions operating for centuries the particles composing the sandstone and other rocks are disintegrated and these particles carried away by the mighty wind that sweeps the soil, wander afar until they come to a standstill in the hollows. Such is the origin of the extensive sandy tracts of which the accompanying illustration gives a good idea. In these belts or strips the sand halting against the smallest obstacles accumulates around them and generally the dunes thus created assume the form of the waves of the sea, their fall and motion being with the direction of the prevailing wind. Rain is utterly unknown except in the oases and on the mountains, where it sometimes falls with such violence as to produce torrents that suddenly

fields would be overrun with them at this rate. However, there are many flocks of the birds and they are killed every year in great numbers. The sleek storms are particularly hard on them, as the water freezes on their long plumage and they are unable either to fly or run fast. When in this condition they are easy prey to dogs and wolves.

One of the queerest habits the birds have is to migrate in the late winter thirty-five miles. It is claimed that the birds always migrate exactly thirty-five miles and always to the south. The young never stay where they were hatched, but make this move as soon as they are large enough. Naturalists have never been able to explain this. The only theory advanced is that the birds know if they stay where they were hatched the country would soon be overstocked with them.—Kansas City Journal.

The Hessians Played. It is a matter of record that upon the first official celebration of Independence day by the Continental Congress music was secured for the occa-



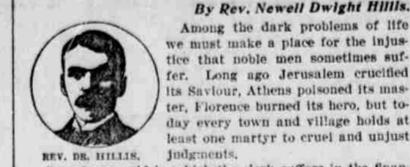
A CONTRAST OF TWO CIVILIZATIONS IN THE DESERT.

pour down into the valleys and almost as suddenly disappear beneath the sands. These rains fall at long intervals, 9, 12 and even 20 years intervening between them. Notwithstanding the obstacles of the desert, it is constantly crossed on various routes by caravans of traders and many nomadic Arabs make it their home. The camel is the chief beast of burden and were it not for this "ship of the desert" the burning wastes would be impassable for man.

Along these caravan routes oases are found in places where underground sources of water exist. Vegetation flourishes in these restricted areas and date palms, affording a grateful shade, thrive. Of late strange sights to the natives have been seen along some of these caravan routes. Modernism has invaded them. Daring tourists have run their automobiles, to the consternation of the Arabs, into the oases which

LAYERS BY THE PEOPLE

JUSTICE THE NEED OF THE HOUR.



Among the dark problems of life we must make a place for the injustice that noble men sometimes suffer. Long ago Jerusalem crucified its Saviour, Athens poisoned its master, Florence burned its hero, but today every town and village holds at least one martyr to cruel and unjust judgments.

Ours is a world in which the clerk suffers in the financial failure of his employer; where the officeholder is ruined by the political mistakes of the party leader; where the child is destroyed by the sins of the father. Employers sometimes suffer grievously by reason of economic events over which they have no control; sometimes the author or editor suffers through cruel criticism over events for whose evil consequences he is in no wise responsible. This problem of unjust judgment and this bearing of injustice in silence is one of the hardest problems that man experiences. Injustice public men have to endure in silence.

THE MATTER OF FIRE INSURANCE.

Since 1860 we have paid in insurance premiums \$3,622,000,000, or just in the last ten years, \$1,610,885,000. In 1905 we carried into the insurance companies, over \$198,000,000 in premiums and got back in paid losses the sum of \$65,000,000, which was supposed to console us for the loss of about \$180,000,000 in smoke and fully that much more for fire departments and other alleged "protection." San Francisco offers the latest illustration of how much insurance really does protect. Property to the value of fully \$350,000,000 was destroyed; the city and country suffered a business loss by the fire in that city of nearly a billion dollars; it will take at least \$12,000,000 to clean up the city, and undoubtedly \$100,000,000 and twenty years' time to rebuild it. For all of that terrific loss and cost the citizens will receive from the insurance

GOLD MINING IN SIBERIA.



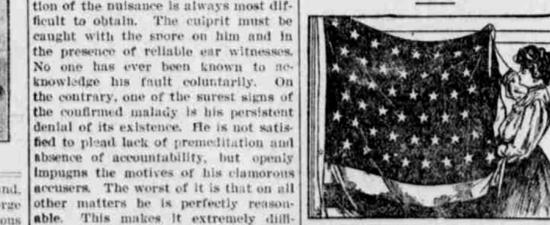
SIBERIAN PEASANTS WORKING THEIR OWN MINE.

Siberia is phenomenally rich in the precious metals and has developed a system of mining peculiarly its own. A curious feature is the way the ground is prospected and opened up by the peasant "tributors," as they are called. Permission is readily granted to sink shafts wherever they like, subject to the conditions that they can only go down as far as water-level, usually about sixty feet, and that all the quartz extracted must be treated at the mill of the ground landlord, and all gold extracted sold to him at a rate previously decided upon, leaving a fair profit for the peasant and an extra good one for the landlord. There is no philanthropy about the transaction, and the peasant is in no way bound to accept the terms. No charge whatever is made for the use of mill. The field is thus practically developed for nothing—rich reefs which would probably remain undiscovered are opened by up "tributors," who frequently make fortunes out of rich strikes. The mine owner is thus continually in touch with all that is going on, and duly records the results of the operations for his own benefit. In the mining operations women

NOVEL CURES FOR SNORING.

Case of Offending Policeman Suggests Remedies for Disease. Very many of our readers will be interested in the ultimate fate of the unfortunate snoring policeman who has been banished from his fellow sleepers and caged at night in sound-proof quarters. Perhaps the dreadful infirmity, now that it has the official recognition of his superiors, may call for some suitable scientific treatment. If so the great army of snorers can covertly watch the outcome with all the cunning and complacency of undiscovered transgressors.

NEW STAR ON THE FLAG.



The War Department has ordered the alteration of the flag made necessary by the admission of Oklahoma into the Union, now an aggregation of forty-six States. The department has also fixed on the spot for the new star, and now flagmakers are hard at work preparing new banners with an additional star in the lower right-hand corner. It is now in order for every patriotic American either to provide himself with a new flag or to add a star to the old one.

Each Willing to Wed.

Maiden lady (rescued from drowning, to her rescuer)—How can I ever thank you, noble young man? Are you married?
"No; have you a pretty daughter?"—Mezzendorfer Bisetier.

PURE FOOD IS GREAT TRIUMPH.

Well and properly administered, the pure food law cannot fail to work an immense improvement in the condition of the general people, to elevate and dignify the tone of the nation. It is indeed high time for it to come, for serious and pressing is the need of it. If there is one thing in the world that needs looking after and repairing it is the American stomach. It has long been the most abused and outraged of organs, with the result that we have almost become a nation of dyspeptics. It has been the victim of legalized wholesale poisoners before whom the Borgias of Italy and all other infamous toxicologists of history fade into insignificance. There is no more ominous and appalling sight in the world than the innumerable red lights that flash from the drug stores of American cities; they are the danger signals that tell every citizen of the continual menace to health and life that lurks in his daily food.

The world keeps moving, and the march of science and civilization goes on over shams, frauds, and humbugs of every kind. Without reviving the days when every man smoked his own bacon and grew his own cabbage, we are getting so that every man may obtain genuine and wholesome diet, be he carnivorous or vegetarian, that every man may know what he is eating, even if he be newly married and his wife does the cooking. The era of the wooden nutmeg is gone, the era of the painted strawberry is going. The clouds of gastronomic doubt and danger drift away behind; the sun of health and digestion glows in front; and soon, according to the signs, we may reach the happy period when the food color artists cease from troubling and the adulterators are at rest.

HOME FROM ADAM TILL NOW.

Place Where Painters and Plumbers Meet at Intervals. The home is supposed to be a place where children can congregate, protected from the attentions of the neighbors, and where parents can quarrel judiciously without too much interruption, says Life. In reality, however, the home is a place where decorators, painters, furniture men and plumbers meet at intervals in order that they may revel in luxury of their own.

HOME FROM ADAM TILL NOW.

Homes have been in vogue for some little time. Adam and Eve started the first one, and it would have been well with them had it not been necessary to send out the washing. Thus the servant question was started and the ruin of man followed.

A home is what is left after you have paid the taxes, the interest on the mortgage and the installment man. To own more than one home is not to have any. Homes were at one time popular in this country. When, by going out in the back yard to milk the cow, one was in danger of being scaped, the home was at the height of its popularity. Owing, however, to the decreasing demand for babies and the increasing demand for alimony, homes are being locked upon with disfavor.

In the suburbs the home still flickers on, kept alive by certain instincts handed down from a past age. It is impossible at present to say just how long the home will continue to exist. It is hard to raise children and mortgages at the same time. It is quite evident that cooks and children are gradually disappearing. This greatly simplifies the problem.

In all probability the race of the future will be divided into two classes—those who, having become worn out looking for servants, are now in sanitariums being taken care of by the government, and those who still continue to work for the trusts, unincumbered by babies or bank accounts.

Virtues in Various Gens.

There is hardly a precious stone that has not some superstition connected with it. The Neapolitans will wear amulets of coral to avert the evil eye, and perhaps some will remember wearing a string of amber beads about their necks during their childhood to ward off sore throats. A piece of agate worn on the person is supposed to be an infallible guard against lightning and some persons have asserted that it was a cure for thirst—what kind they did not mention.

The beryl was by the ancients supposed to be a sure cure for leprosy and to promote happiness between man and wife. Turquoise is said to be a protection against falls and sudden injuries. The topaz was highly prized by the ancients, who believed that it had magical powers of dispelling enchantments and calming frenzy.

The sapphire was believed by the ancients to be emblematic of chastity. The pagans dedicated it to Apollo. The green emerald is held in highest esteem by the Peruvians and the worshippers of Mantu still believe that the mines whence are extracted all emeralds are guarded by terrible giant and dragons.

Perhaps more superstition attaches itself to the opal nowadays than to any other stone. On the contrary, the ancients considered that this fiery gem had the power of rendering its owner lovable and also of bestowing on him the gift of invisibility.

You can live way off on a lonely farm, but trouble will come to you ect there.

A critic is a man who couldn't have done it himself.