

London youths debate on growing beards. A hair-raising question.

A farmer who is dying from ossification probably thinks life a stony road to travel.

"American wives are spoiled," says Editor Stend. If he expects us to rush in and agree with him he's foolish.

It is reported from Jamestown that only a remnant remains of Powhatan's tribe. John Smith's tribe, however, continues to hold its own.

We haven't found hly yet, but expect to some day discover a man who can tell by his corns when there is going to be an earthquake.

A Paola, Kan., man recently eloped with two girls. It seems as if people will never get over the foolish practice of loading themselves with trouble.

Since learning that May Irwin is also an excellent cook, we are ready to believe that her chances of happiness are much better than those of the average footlight favorite.

A half dozen Carnegie hero medals have been found in pawn shops. This will be a revelation to people who have wondered what a hero medal could possibly be good for.

The New York Sun asks: Can nothing be done about those people who take cold baths in the morning? That's easy. Induce them to change the temperature of the water.

If King Alfonso should have a second son it may embarrass him to find a suitable name for him. All the honored family nomenclature has been lavished on the first born.

Gabrielle Stewart Mulliner writes to the New York Times that women enjoy cooking. If Gabrielle is right it will have to be generally admitted that women exhibit great powers in the art of disguising their feelings.

Women, according to the decision of a Cleveland lady who has investigated the matter, can never be the equals of men as long as they wear fine clothes. There are plenty of men who will gladly do all they can to assist in spreading this doctrine.

A physician, who called recently to attend a wealthy stockman who had a pain in his side, diagnosed the case as appendicitis, secured the patient's permission to operate next week and then went home and wrote to the nearest city for an automobile price list.

The American government has been keeping house for Cuba while the mistress of the house was sick. Now that the temporary caretaker is preparing to leave, it has been decided that Cuba will have to pay the expenses of the American occupation. Since Cuba is poor, however, there will be no unneighborly haste in collecting the bill, which will amount to two or three million dollars.

When Prince Fushimi, the cousin of the Emperor of Japan, visited English waters with a small fleet, the British naval bands on one occasion of welcome played selections from the comic opera, "The Mikado." Upon learning the fact, the Admiralty, with equal tactlessness, issued orders, and made them public, that the bands must not do so any more. But the Japanese, who politely protested that they were not at all disturbed by the matter, since they quite understood the humor of the opera, may avail themselves of a delightful revenge. When next a British fleet visits the Mikado's waters the Japanese bands can greet them with airs from "Pinafore."

Wife desertion is a cowardly thing and deserves punishment, but it is to be doubted whether putting the wife deserter in the penitentiary, as is suggested, would not make the lot of the wife harder than ever. So long as a man is at liberty there is a chance of making him support his wife, but if he is in the penitentiary that chance vanishes. Of course, the putting of a few recalcitrant husbands in prison might exercise a salutary effect upon the others, but that remains to be demonstrated. The problem is to compel men to support the women to whom they are married. Putting them in a position where they have no earning capacity will hardly accomplish the desired end.

The New York Assembly has approved a very interesting idea that promises to become popular, especially in agricultural states. It has passed a supply bill containing an appropriation of \$5,000 for an extension of the excellent work of farmers' institutes to the feminine members of the rural households. The item has been put into the bill for the express purpose of establishing separate institutes for farmers' wives and daughters. The idea is of course very simple. If the farmer can learn a good deal about his work and its economy from the discussions and exchanges of experiences at the institutes, why should not similar meetings be held for the women of the farms? Isn't the work of the latter of real and recognized importance? Does it not contribute to the success of the farm, and would not greater knowledge and more intelligent interest make for larger financial returns? Moreover, the institutes have a moral value. They make the life of the farm less narrow and monotonous; they stimulate thought and introduce an element of recreation and pleasure. It seems that the idea was borrowed from Canada, where women's institutes have been in successful operation for eight years and now claim a membership of more than 30,000. The topics at these institutes relate to the home life of the farm, to domestic science, food, sanitation, decoration, and so on. The

state department of agriculture has done something to promote these farmers' wives' meetings, but the initiative and inspiration came from leading women of the clubs and reading circles of the Dominion. Give the farmer's wife and daughter a chance.

The principle of old-age pensions has been fully accepted by the present Liberal government of Great Britain. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his budget speech last month, "enmarked" a million and a half pounds of next year's surplus as the nucleus of a fund for the purpose. It is estimated that not less than ten million pounds will be required annually for a comprehensive old-age pension fund. The plan which will probably be adopted in Great Britain differs radically from the systems in France and in Germany. In Germany both the laboring man and the employer are required to contribute a certain sum every year to an insurance fund. If the laborer falls ill he receives a small sum weekly, and when he becomes old an annuity is paid to him. Although the government supplements the fund thus raised, the system was originally one of mutual insurance against sickness and against need in old age. The French old-age pension law, passed last year, is based on that in force in Germany. The Liberal cabinet, following the lead of the British experts on poor relief, has rejected the compulsory insurance form of old-age relief, and has adopted the principle of the laws of New Zealand. In that colony no contributions are required from working men, but an annual appropriation is made by the government, out of which a pension of ninety dollars a year is paid to every worker who has passed the age of 65 and has lived in the colony twenty-five years. The New Zealand plan is appealing forcibly to the advocates of the pension system in other countries, for in Germany the abolition of the payment of premiums for the insurance is urged, and it is demanded that the government endow old age itself rather than strive to encourage men in their vigor to insure against poverty in their declining years. The spread of the old-age pension idea is a most striking proof of the growing acceptance by governments of the once ridiculed theory that the state owes every man a living.

Disappearing paper is a novelty for use by those whose correspondents forget to burn the letters after their utility has ceased. It is steeped in sulphuric acid, dried and glazed, the acid being partly neutralized by ammonia vapor. It falls to pieces after a given time.

The largest screw wrench yet reported is made by a firm of Worcester, Mass., for tightening the large nuts used in bridges. The wrench is 72 inches long and has a full jaw opening of 12 inches with a depth of 8 inches. The total weight is 160 pounds, of which the jaw supplies 33 1/2 pounds, the screw 8 1/2 pounds and the bar 114 pounds.

A new type of vacuum tube for use in X-ray experiments has just been brought out in Germany. An aluminum "filter" is placed inside the tube, and it is claimed that this serves to absorb all the rays emanating from the anticathode, and which, by striking the glass walls, are responsible for the heating effects and chemical changes that gradually change the character of an ordinary vacuum tube.

At Young's pier, Atlantic City, a new wave motor is lighting a portion of the pier. It is the first really successful contrivance of the kind in use. It is a big float or buoy, and so arranged that the motion of the swells will work it, no matter at what angle the waves run. The motor drives a compressed-air engine, which fills large tanks. The tanks in turn feed a compressed-air motor, which drives the dynamo that furnishes the current for the lighting.

An unusually perfect and beautiful example of the atmospheric spokes, which may occasionally be seen radiating from the setting sun, was witnessed in England by a correspondent of Knowledge in July last. Five distinct bands of a light salmon-pink color, separated by five corresponding bands of pale blue, were visible, stretching up into the heavens from the sinking sun. The phenomenon lasted about an hour, and later on the same evening a violent thunder-storm broke over the place where the spectacle had been witnessed. There are a number of other instances on record in which similar phenomena have been followed by thunder-storms.

It is thought that the old Cayllano silver mines in Peru are probably situated at a greater elevation than any other considerable mines in the world. Their altitude varies between 14,000 and 17,000 feet. They were worked by the Spaniards in the sixteenth century, and before that, it is believed, by the Incas. An English company is now preparing a hydroelectric plant for them. This plant will be situated at an altitude of between 15,000 and 16,000 feet. It will derive its power from a waterfall on the Santiago River, and in a dry season from Lake Huaillocho, one of the sources of the Amazon. The power will be transmitted by cable about three miles. At the highest mines the pressure of the atmosphere is only 8 1/2 pounds per square inch, and water boils 20 degrees below the ordinary boiling-point.

Nails. America has the honor of having made the first cut nails, toward the close of the eighteenth century. Before that nails were made by hand, and their manufacture was a household industry. Cut nails are made by machinery from plates rolled to the proper width and thickness. They may be made of steel or of malleable iron. Wire nails, though originally a French invention, were brought to perfection in the United States.



The husband who never goes out deserves a wife who never stays in.—The Cynic.

"Is Willie still paying attention to Tillie?" "No." "Did he jilt her?" "No, he married her!"—Punch.

"Anna, you wished to buy a dictionary?" "I have married a professor instead."—Magendorfer Blatterer.

"Look, Arthur, that is our baby." "How do you know?" "I recognize the back of our nurse."—Der Wahre Jacob.

Madge—Has she a good memory? Marjorie—So-so. She's always remembering things she's forgotten.—Town Topics.

She—You can always tell a Harvard man. He (from New Haven)—Yes; but you can't tell him much.—Harper's Weekly.

Mater—What is it, pa? Has Henry been expelled? Pater—Worse! He writes that he's going to take a female part in the college play.—Puck.

"Is her husband so unendurably stupid?" "Oh, dreadful. The only time he brightens up is when she talks of divorce!"—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Harker—Slowboy is all right, when it comes to looking ahead. Parker—Yes; but he's all wrong when it comes to going ahead.—Chicago Daily News.

The society reporters always speak of a bride being "led to the altar," just as though a bride couldn't find her way there blindfold.—Philadelphia Ledger.

"I hear you are having trouble in meeting your creditors." "Trouble in meeting 'em? Great Scott! My trouble is dodging 'em."—Cleveland Leader.

Politician—Before you send in your report of this interview I want to see it. Reporter—Impossible! I sent it in half an hour before I interviewed you!—Life.

Sapleigh—I'm learning to play the aw—harp, doncher know. Miss Causitque—Indeed! Has your physician given up all hopes?—Chicago Daily News.

"Pardon me, sir, but isn't there another artist in this building?" Artist—Well, that is a matter of opinion. There is another fellow who paints.—The Model.

"My mistress isn't at home, ma'am." "Please tell her when I saw her peeping from the front window as I came up, I felt so afraid she was."—Baltimore American.

Judge—Prisoner, have you anything to say to the court before sentence is pronounced? Prisoner—I beg the court to consider the youth of my attorney. —White and Black.

"When your mother-in-law fell into the water, why didn't you help to get her out?" "My dear madam, you must know that nothing I've ever done has pleased her."—Judy.

Mabel (shocked with the recollection of it)—Isn't Edith's new hat just a horrid fright? Ethel (as if receiving congratulations)—Isn't it? I helped her select it.—Browning's Magazine.

First Reporter—I see by the last edition that our old schoolmate, Jones, has committed suicide. Second Reporter—Hurry down and you may be in time to prevent his doing it.—Smart Set.

"Money doesn't always bring happiness and peace of mind." "You are right there," answered the man with an anxious look. "Sometimes it tempts you to buy automobiles."—Washington Star.

There are nervous women; but there are hyper-nervous women. But women so nervous that the continual rustle of a silk skirt makes them nervous—no, there are no women so nervous as that!—Flegende Blatterer.

Man (to a friend)—I am done with doctors henceforth! One of them advised me to sleep with my windows open. I did so, and the very next morning my gold watch was gone from the bureau.—Flegende Blatterer.

"Why have you taken your son out of school without permission?" Father (a grocer)—But they were ruining him; I wish to bring him up to carry on my business, and they were teaching him that there are sixteen ounces in a pound.—Il Motto per Ridere.

The Wealth of Nations. The United States is the richest nation in the world, exceeding Great Britain by almost forty-five thousand million dollars. The latest estimate of the wealth of the United States sets the figure at one hundred thousand million dollars. Great Britain is next with fifty-eight thousand two hundred million.

WOMAN TO INVESTIGATE

Receives Government Appointment to Seek Truth About Panama. Miss Gertrude Beeks, of New York, secretary of the Welfare Department of the Civic Federation, has gone to Panama to investigate the housing, food and amusements of laborers in the canal zone. This is regarded as being one of the most important commissions ever awarded to a woman by the government. Secretary Taft gave her the appointment, and the errand has the sanction and support of President Roosevelt. While this is the first important Federal commission which Miss Beeks has had, she has traveled from one end of the country to the other in the interest of Welfare work. "Welfare Work for Government Employees" is the latest departure in the



MISS GERTRUDE BEEKS.

work of the Civic Federation, and for this purpose a national committee, of which Secretary Taft is chairman, has just been created. John C. W. Beckham, Governor of Kentucky, is first vice chairman; George W. Guthrie, Mayor of Pittsburg, second vice chairman; William H. Wilcox, postmaster of New York, third vice chairman, and Miss Beeks, secretary.

Miss Beeks, who is a southern girl, having gone to New York from Tennessee, is not at all dismayed by the immensity of her commission, for it is in the line of work in which she has been engaged for a number of years. The entire planning of operations after arriving on the isthmus is left with her.

When Debtors Were Imprisoned. In nearly every country, until comparatively recent times, debtors have been subject to imprisonment. After the panic of 1825, one hundred and one thousand writs for debt were issued in England. In 1830, seven thousand persons were sent to London prisons for debt, and on January 1, 1840, seventeen hundred persons were held for debt in England and Wales, one thousand in Ireland, and less than one hundred in Scotland. From time to time modifications in the laws governing the imprisonment of debtors have been made, so that fewer debtors are imprisoned for this crime each year.

In 1829 there were three thousand debtors in prison in Massachusetts, ten thousand in New York, seven thousand in Pennsylvania, three thousand in Maryland, and a like proportion in other States. Many of these persons were jailed for debts of one dollar. The law providing for the imprisonment of men who could not pay their debts as shown to be impracticable by statistics taken from Philadelphia, where in 1828 there were one thousand and eighty-five debtors imprisoned for debts amounting to twenty-five thousand dollars. The expense of keeping these persons in confinement was three hundred and sixty-two thousand dollars, which was paid by the city, and the amount recovered by this method was two hundred and ninety-five dollars. Imprisonment for debt was abolished by Congress in the United States in 1833, though this measure was not fully enforced until 1839.

To Tell the Age of an Egg.



A fresh egg will sink when placed in water and rest on its side; if three weeks old it will incline slightly with the small end down; if three months old it will float with large end out of water more or less, according to age.

Rule Working Both Ways. An English judge expresses the opinion that husbands should have the legal right to inspect and revise their wives' visiting lists. The women problem would be glad to acquiesce, provided they were granted the same privilege in respect to their husbands' visiting lists.—Washington Herald.

He Clucked At. "My boy, I like you, and I want you to marry my daughter, but have you spoken to her mother about it?" "No, sir." "Then, to cluck it for you, I'll expose the match."—Denver Post.

"It isn't right," a man said to-day, pathetically and indignantly. A great many things go on that are not right, and indignation will not stop them.

It's nice not to be at home when some people call.

PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

ADVOCATES A NEW BIBLE.

By Professor Smith of Cornell. The Bible of the future will have a very important place in our religious life, but it will not be the Bible of the present. It will be much larger and will contain all of the books that were venerated by the synagogue and early Christian church, many of which have been eliminated. The future Bible will also be newly translated. Some of the present translations are atrocious. There must also be introductory notes and commentaries. The most important change will be the entirely new viewpoint in which it will be regarded and a changed estimate of its value, religious and historic. The idea that the Bible is the sole source of religious knowledge and the standard of faith will fade away. It is preposterous to draw a single doctrine from the writings of a hundred different men who had different religious viewpoints. We want all the books of the Hebrews and Christians, and all of the good in the other religions must be incorporated in it.

MINISTERS AND THEIR USEFULNESS.

By Dr. Charles W. Elliot. Does the ministry nowadays afford a reasonable expectation of serviceableness, freedom, and growth? First, let us look at the serviceableness of the ministry. I dare say most young men who are going into the ministry think of city churches with cultivated audiences. A life there is a serviceable life. It is difficult to exaggerate the influence of a competent preacher. It is an enormous opportunity the preacher has in addressing large congregations of intelligent persons each week. Then there is another kind of ministry which I sometimes think is more attractive than that of the ministry in the city, and that is the ministry in the country, where the opportunities for intellectual betterment are immense. Country ministers are frequently the intellectual leaders of their flocks. This is the function which awaits our young men, particularly where the towns are deserted by the young people for the cities. There is another service of the ministry which is frequently noted in American communities. The ethical

BEAUTIFUL THINGS.

- Beautiful faces are those that wear— Silent rivers of happiness. Whole-souled honesty printed there. Beautiful eyes are those that show Like crystal panes where heart-fires burn with no small degree of interest. Beautiful thoughts that burn below. Beautiful lips are those whose words Leap from the heart like songs of birds, Yet whose utterance prudently guards. Beautiful hands are those that do Work that is earnest and brave and true, Moment by moment, the long day through. Beautiful feet are those that go On kindly ministries to and fro— Down lowliest ways, if God wills it so. Beautiful shoulders are those that bear Ceaseless burdens of homely care, With patient grace and daily prayer. Beautiful lives are those that bless— Silent rivers of happiness, Whose hidden fountains but few may guess. Beautiful twilight, at set of sun: Beautiful goal, with race well won; Beautiful rest, with work well done. Beautiful graves, where grasses creep, Where brown leaves fall, where drifts lie deep Over worn-out hands—oh, beautiful sleep!

THE MORTGAGED BRIDE

Hiram Patton had used his credit for so many deals of different kinds that he had reached the point where none would trust him for a penny. For an unmarried man of the mature twenties he was exceedingly unfortunate, for oftentimes his trade so languished that he could barely eke out the most meager livelihood. His blacksmith shop was his only hope, and of that the contents alone were his. When a neighboring smith decided to sell out his business—building, contents and all—the chance of a lifetime seemed to have come to Hiram's very shop-door.

Mr. Patton exerted himself most heroically to renew his long since threadbare credit in order to purchase the shop. As a last resort the young man determined to bombard the bank account of a crusty old bachelor of the vicinity, one Bartimeus Graves, whose reputation for close deals and miserly favors was unvaried. But Hiram was desperate. And, resolving to secure the money on whatever terms might seem necessary, he approached the ill-tempered Bart with the blindest smile he could command. Bart, on the other hand, was mistrustful of Hiram Patton and his creditless reputation; but an opportunity to loan money at good interest was to him something not to be despised.

Yes; he would loan the money, provided Patton would give a first-class mortgage on the lot, building, contents and trade, meaning by the last item that everything purchased or in any way secured with the money earned in the shop—whether it be live stock, furnishings or horseshoe nails—should belong to "the said Bartimeus Graves" by virtue of the mortgage. The papers were signed up and the new proprietor at work in his shop, ere the neighbors knew that the trade had been made. They flocked thither to congratulate him on his good fortune, every one volunteering to help him transfer the best of his belongings from the old place of business to the new. Early and late did the youth hammer away, his now doubled custom making such labor necessary. The first payment was met without accident; also the second. This so elated him that he relaxed his purse strings just a

little, and the third one was met with barely enough of a surplus to pay his board and lodging for the next few days. He stocked up his shop with up-to-date appliances, Bart Graves looking on with no small degree of interest. It was about that time that a new arrival in the neighborhood was reported, a certain Miss Sarah Ann Mills, who had come to make her home with a venerable uncle. The event caused on little stir among the unmarried male element. Hiram met the young lady, and for the first time in his life felt a tugging at his heart-strings. There was no denying the fact. He was in love! His attentions to the blushing Sarah Ann were regarded with favor, and soon they were engaged. Not long afterward they were married, both being satisfied to dispense with the usual ceremonious display. A neat cottage was rented near the blacksmith shop—so near that the bride could listen all day long to the music of her lord's hammer. After his marriage it was impossible for Hiram to save money. And when Bart Graves appeared at the shop door the day before Christmas, to remind him that the mortgage would fall due on the morrow it seemed that a thunderbolt had been hurled at him from the clear sky above.

ABUSE OF THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

By Richard Giney. Within a comparatively short time strange doctrines have been officially and unofficially announced and given prestige and currency by being described as the Monroe doctrine or as necessary corollaries from it. Under these new doctrines it is intimated that if an American State does not behave itself well in either its external or internal relations—good behavior according to our own standards, of course—it may be forced by the United States and coerced into doing the right thing, but if necessary may have its revenue sequestered and applied by the United States according to the latter's notions of justice and equity. It is too plain for discussion that the Monroe doctrine cannot be invoked in support of any such pretensions; that they are seriously objectionable as calculated to wound the pride and excite the enmity of all other American States and as committing the United States to undertakings of the most vexatious, burdensome and dangerous character. Our institutions will surely live and our people continue to prosper without the United States converting itself into an international policeman for the American continents or into a debt collecting agency for the benefit of foreign creditor States and their citizens. That the new doctrines, particularly if urged by officials in high places, must have unfortunate tendencies is clear. They are calculated to put the United States in the odious position of a possessor of enormous power who is eagerly looking for opportunity to exert it.

ORIGIN OF CHINESE LILIES.

Very few people who see and admire the beautiful Chinese lilies know the reason why this particular flower is held in such favor in the Orient. This is the story of the origin as told by a Chinaman: Years and years ago a member of the celestial empire had two wives whom he loved dearly because each had borne him a son. While they were still lads the father died and in settling up the estate some difficulty was encountered, for the man left his heirs two pieces of land, one a strip lying in a fertile and beautiful valley, the other a small ribbon of land bordering the bed of a narrow stream. The former land was known to grow anything the country produced, while the latter was counted utterly worthless. It was at first proposed that each of the two strips be divided in half and a section of each be given to the two heirs. But the mothers could not agree upon the division and it was finally arranged that one son should take the rich land, while the other should take the sterile piece.

Story as Told and How the Bulbs Brought Good Luck.

The valley strip yielded bountiful harvests season after season and the rocky one gave nothing until one day the boy owner happened to notice a tiny white, sweet-scented flower blooming among the rocks and after a careful study and examination it was found to be the only one of its kind in China. The flower grew from a bulb and the boy discovered that these bulbs could be transplanted to similar rock soil without destroying their growth. Soon the bulbs were in great demand and when it was learned that the flowers brought good luck to the owner of the plant the boy had all he could do to supply the market. From the sale of the bulbs he grew enormously wealthy, while his brother never made more than a good living out of his valuable valley property.

The Father of West Point.

George Washington must be given the credit of causing the first steps to be taken toward the founding of a national military academy. In 1794, while serving his second term as President Washington succeeded in having Congress create the grade of cadet in the army. West Point was chosen as the best army post at which cadets could be trained, for the reason that it was then the most important station of the artilleryists and engineers. The cadets of those days did not pass entrance examinations, and the standard of proficiency in studies did not amount to the tenth part of what is exacted nowadays. A smattering of engineering, mathematics and artillery practice was all that was deemed necessary.—St. Nicholas.

An Inference.

"When I awoke from the operation I felt as if I was burning up." "I see. You must have thought that it had been unsuccessful."—Smart Set.

Any woman with a train to her gown should be able to draw her own conclusions.

Other way to settle the matter. Will that suit you? "It'll have to," replied her husband, meekly. While with a sudden nod of approbation Mr. Graves hurried away from the spot, declaring it to be the first and avowedly the last dealings he should ever have with a woman.

That was the last mortgage ever given by Hiram Patton, for with the judicious Sarah Ann to prevent unnecessary expense, he managed to save, not only the shop, but to purchase a home as well. And thereafter, whenever times were dull or the dollars scarce, Sarah Ann had merely to offer to give a mortgage on herself to banish all traces of blues, prospective debts, or other impediments.—Montreal Star.

What! Can't you pay it? demanded Graves, gruffly. "You ought to be ready, goodness knows, as it's the last payment on a good trade. Well, I'll have to do the next best thing."

"Close the mortgage." "Can't you give me another six months?" implored Hiram. "Nary a day. Remember, young man, you're dealing with Old Bart Graves, and there's no backing down. Is this all you've bought?"

"No; there's the stuff at the house?"

"What! And give you over to him?" "Certainly." At which both men began to fear that a trip to the insane asylum would be next in order. "That will free you from this obligation, you see, and I'll immediately pledge myself to pay Mr. Graves the cash balance on the present encumbrance, you making the money and I saving it. Neither you nor he can definitely estimate my value, you know," and she bowed with provoking modesty—"so there is no