

SHREDS AND RAVELINGS.

The French cavalry numbers 150,000 horses. President taxes cats and they are appearing rapidly. The permanent occupation of Pittsburg began February 17, 1754. Asparagus is the oldest known plant that has been used for food. The price of a day's board in Athens, B. C. 400, was four cents, or about \$1.20 a month.

Bolota, the product of a tree in Sumatra, is becoming a rival of India rubber and gutta percha.

About 60,000 acres has been reclaimed in Ireland during the past year from bog and marsh lands.

In 764 the cold at Constantinople was so severe that the Black sea was frozen for fifty miles from shore.

New Orleans has a vestibule train to San Francisco that covers the distance in less than seventy-eight hours.

Nearly as much pig iron is now produced in the Southern states as was made in the whole United States twenty years ago.

A residence costing over \$5,000 was recently successfully moved from Seattle to Olympia, a distance of sixty miles, without tearing it apart.

The old church at Tappan, N. Y., where the unfortunate Major Andros was tried, convicted and sentenced, has observed its 200th anniversary.

A Montana judge, before whom a chronic horse thief was convicted, could have given the latter sixty years under the statutes, but let him off with a sentence for life.

The most honorable death in China is by strangulation, and high officials condemned to death receive their sentence from the emperor in the shape of a silken cord with which they hang themselves.

The governor of Vermont thinks of making his staff useful on other than parade occasions. He proposes to appoint one Vermont resident in Boston and another in New York to purchase stores for the state on the most advantageous terms.

The Colorado mountains surpass the Alps in many respects. While Switzerland has two peaks, Mt. Blanc (15,781 feet), and the Matterhorn (14,834 feet), that exceed in height any of the Rocky mountains, there are more than 120 peaks in Colorado beyond 13,000 feet in altitude and thirty-five peaks above 14,000 feet.

Breakers Ahead! Prudence, foresight, that might have saved many a good ship that has gone to pieces among the breakers, is a quality "conspicuous by its absence" and among none more notably than persons who, when they are in duty, are in duty.

"I should relish some oysters to-day," said Mme. Morris as her husband entered. "I fear it is too late, my dear; it's a quarter past 9 o'clock."

"Justine thought that the shop at the corner might yet be open."

"Send her then; the truth is I am myself as hungry as a wolf."

The servant took a basket to get the oysters, and left the door partly open to save her master the trouble of unlocking it when she returned.

The shop at which she was to get the oysters was locked, and Justine went to the Rue Grande to procure them elsewhere, if possible.

It was some time before she found a shop open, and when she returned the clock struck 10. She had been absent three-quarters of an hour.

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The shop at which she was to get the oysters was locked, and Justine went to the Rue Grande to procure them elsewhere, if possible.

The girl hereupon pulled the bell with all her might—in vain. In her anxiety she related her trouble to several passersby. The police were sent for and an effort was made to

force the door open. The hall was dark; one of the gendarmes stumbled over an object he stooped down, and his hand touched something wet. A light was procured, and a horrible scene was revealed. Poor Morris lay in the hall with his throat cut; the whole floor was covered with blood.

In the little room lay his wife with a horrible wound across her throat. The assassin had not even spared the infant in the cradle; the poor little creature had met the same fate as his parents. The house was sacked of all its valuables.

It is impossible to describe the horror of the lookers on. The most energetic efforts of the police were in vain. The whole city was in a state of excitement, and many a heart beat timorously when night came. In a few days the citizens composed themselves, however, only to be agitated through a state of terror by another murder equally barbarous.

Eight days after the crime in the Rue des Armes several men were passing along the Rue Grellard. They had spent rather too much time over their cups and were anxious to get home. Suddenly a man clad in nothing but his shirt appeared on the roof of one of the houses, carrying a child in his arms and crying "Murder! Murder!" Passers-by could learn nothing, however, except that the murders had been committed in the house. A rush was made for the door, but it was found to be locked from within. A few crashing blows sufficed to break it, and a man ran upstairs. In the fore hall, at the head of the stairs, a man was found with his throat cut. He was dead. In the chamber a woman was found dangerously ill, but she recovered.

Lightning travels in a zigzag course because it passes through different strata of air, and being retarded in its passage, turns from side to side to find the easiest path.

SHADOW OF A HAND.

Business called me to Dieppe in the summer of 1846. The cashier of one of the largest banks in New York had absconded with the funds of the institution, and I had followed his tracks to Dieppe.

Late at the close of the 14th of August I reached my destination, and immediately repaired to my hotel. The first note of the clock awoke me. The town clock struck 4. I resolved to take a look at the city at daybreak. I was astonished, on reaching the street, to see it full of people, rushing in a ceaseless tide in one direction. Wondering what the attraction could be, I followed the ever-increasing crowd, surging down the Rue Grande.

At the foot of the street was a large open square, where the crowd formed a great jam. From a platform at the opposite side I distinguished dark outlines that froze the blood in my veins.

It was the guillotine. It was not long until a bell tolled a doleful death-clang, and the tumbrel with the condemned slowly approached. The criminal took his situation lightly, apparently in good spirits. He chatted with the gendarmes, pulling a cigar and indifferently regarding the multitude. He was a large, strong man of about 35. Dark eyes looked piercingly from under the bushy brows. Vice had stamped itself upon his face, which wore a positively sinister expression. I involuntarily shuddered as I beheld the man standing before me. The executioner addressed himself deftly to his task, and in a few moments all was over.

"Who was the man and why was he executed?" I inquired of a police agent at my side. He looked at me with astonishment and said: "Indeed, sir, it was Jacques Reynald."

No longer than four months before he lived in the Rue des Armes a huckster named Morris. They were quite respectable people, and the neighbors gladly visited the little shop. One Sunday business was unusually brisk, and Father Morris was very tired when, at last, he closed the door and entered the room where the servant was just setting the table for supper.

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FIFTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

SENATE—Washington, Dec. 3.—After the formal opening of the senate a committee to notify the president of the assembling of the senate was appointed and a recess taken until 1:30 p. m. Upon resuming the president's message was laid before the senate and read, after which the senate adjourned.

HOUSE—The house was formally called to order at noon, committee to notify the president of the assembling of the house was appointed and at 1:37 the message was received and read. Bartlett, dem., of New York, introduced a bill providing for the repeal of the income tax sections of the tariff bill. Death of Congressman Wright was announced and house adjourned till to-morrow.

SENATE—Washington, Dec. 4.—An amendment to laws, cutting off protracted debate by Yeat, Resolutions calling on the navy department for official letters of Admiral Walker while in command at Hawaii, and calling on president for correspondence concerning Bluefields were adopted. Adjourned.

HOUSE—House at once plunged into routine business. Bills appropriating \$20,000 for the dedication of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Park and for the National military park on the battle field of Shiloh, for which \$75,000 was appropriated, were passed. Richardson then presented the conference report on the printing bill. After some debate the report went over and the house adjourned.

SENATE—Washington, Dec. 5.—Bills of Arkansas introduced a bill to create the Territory of Indianola out of the present Indian Territory. Dolph introduced a bill to forfeit unearned lands granted to railroads. Quay offered an amendment to the sugar clause of the tariff bill. Resolution for information regarding Japanese-Chinese affair was referred to committee. Resolutions were reported by Foster regarding into late issues of bonds and use of troops at Chicago in Pullman strike. Referred.

HOUSE—Resolution calling for correspondence relative to war between China and Japan was referred. Bill to prevent free use of timber on public lands passed. Public printing bill conference report was agreed to. Railway pooling bill was made special order. The object of the bill is to authorize competing common carriers, subject to the provisions of the interstate commerce act, to enter into contracts for a division of their gross or net earnings and to secure the more expeditious and efficient enforcement of that law.

SENATE—Washington, Dec. 6.—Turbid spoke in favor of the resolution of election of senators by direct vote of the people. Executive session; adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE—Fortifications and pension appropriation bills were reported. Consideration of the railway pooling bill was then resumed and was still before the house when adjournment was taken.

CAUCUS—At a meeting of the democrats of the senate it was finally settled that the resolutions proposed by Foster should be passed and that no effort will be made to pass the "pop-gun" tariff bills.

ILLEGAL BOND ISSUE. Fifteen Million Dollars' Worth of New York Bonds Duplicated.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—W. J. O'Rourke, a clerk in the comptroller's office during the Tweed regime, has laid before the citizens' committee a document and papers purporting to show that twenty-five years ago \$15,000,000 worth of city bonds were duplicated, and the fact has been systematically covered up in the comptroller's office ever since. Members of the committee to whom the revelations were made have filed a petition for a summary investigation of the charges. The petition is directed against Richard A. Storrs, deputy comptroller, because he has been in the comptroller's office ever since the time that the alleged duplication took place.

ILLINOIS. Ives Completely Overwhelms the "Wizard."

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—In the great billiard match last night Ives overwhelmed Schaefer, running 600 points while his opponent gathered up 388. Total score—Ives, 2,400; Schaefer, 1,431. Ives broke the bank line record of 331 points twice during the day. When the game closed on the previous night he had an unfinished run of 218 and resuming last night he added 53, total 334. Later in the game he made a run of 395, breaking the record the second time.

Literary Notes. The show of distinguished beauty, transfixed by famous artists, which is now taking place at the Academy of Fine Arts in New York, has been anticipated by the Cosmopolitan Magazine in its November issue, in an article by Wm. A. Coffin, with illustrations of some of the more beautiful faces. The "Great Passions of History" series has for this month's subject the romantic career of Agnes Sorel, who influenced the destinies of France under Charles VII. "The Art Schools of America," "The Great British Northwest Territory," "The Chiefs of the American Press," and the "Public Library Movement" are among the Cosmopolitan's table of contents. Survivors of the war and their children will find intense interest in "The Story of a Thousand," a personal narrative begun in this number by Abbot W. Torrey, who tells a graphic story of a regiment which saw fierce service—of its organization, its marches, its sports, and its death-roll.

Notable features of Outing for December are: "A Jamestown Romance," a story of Colonial days by Sara Beaumont Kennedy; "The Japanese Theater," by Eustace B. Rogers; "With Pennsylvania Quail," by "Jovius"; "Sledging in Norway," by Charles Edwards; "Boating in Samoan Waters," by E. M. Turner; "A Woman in the Mackenzie Delta," by Elizabeth Taylor, and "Football in the South," by Lovick P. Miles. The number is interesting and well illustrated throughout.

The Atlantic Monthly for December contains a memorial article on Dr. Holmes, by the editor, in which mentions the very property of "Dr. Holmes' constancy" to that magazine, a characteristic shown still more strikingly in his passion of local patriotism.

With the beautiful December (Christmas) number the Midland Monthly, of Des Moines, closes its second volume. Its index shows a large increase in number and variety of themes. Its prospectus for 1895 is irresistible. Every midland family should have it, and at \$1.50 a year, within the December number thrown in, it is within easy reach of all.

A SNAIL TRAIN.

Where Time and Railroads Almost Move Backwards. There is a branch line in the west of Ireland where, if anything was forgotten, the train went back to recover it. On this line a traveler getting out to stretch his legs, asked the guard: "How long do you wait at this station?" "Well, go on just whenever it suits you, sir," was the obliging reply. He was the only passenger by the train. Frankfort Moore tells in a recent book of a delightful station-master who used to stroll round the carriages when the trains stopped with special inquiries after the health and comfort of each passenger. The regulars he knew intimately, and all their concerns, their ailments, etc., and everything was inquired after in detail. One day he had a commercial gentleman, whose patience had given out, attempted a sarcastic rebuke. "Look here, station-master," he cried; "is there a break-down on the line?" "I don't know, sir," was the bland reply; "but I'll try and find out for you." The station-master went off and did not return for five minutes. "I've telegraphed up the line, sir," he said, "and I am happy to inform you that no information regarding a break-down has reached any of the principal stations. It has been raining at Ballynamic, but I don't think it will continue long. Can I do anything for you, sir?" "No, thank you," said the commercial gentleman, meekly. "I can find out for you if the Holyhead steamer has had a good passage, if you don't mind waiting for a few minutes," suggested the official; "what you are anxious to get on? Certainly, sir. I'll tell the guard. Good-morning, sir." When the train was at last in motion, a very old man in a corner pulled out his watch and then turned to the commercial traveler. "Are you aware, sir," he inquired, "that your confounded inquiries kept us back just seven minutes?" You should have some consideration for your fellow-passengers, let me tell you, sir. A murmur of assent went round the compartment.

AMUSING FANCIES. Ethel, ambitious—What would you do if you had a voice like mine? Maud, spitefully—I'd try to put up with it.

Prospective Purchaser—What minerals are there in this spring? Owner. Plenty of gold and silver; if you advertise it properly.

Little Boy—Got the carache? Little Girl—No. "Then why you got all that cotton in your ears?" "I've been helpin' tend the baby."

"Have you made any special preparations for the waist party to-night?" Mrs. Singleton—Yes, I've picked up several new bits of gossip.

Cor.—That Mrs. Wabash has lost three husbands already. Clarissa—That's just like her. Why, do you know, at school she was just as careless; she couldn't keep anything.

A preacher who arrived at the Kirk wet through asked an old Scotch woman what she would do to which she replied, "Go into the pulpit as snug as ye can; ye'll be dry enough there."

Deafness Can Not Be Cured by local applications, as they can not reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure Deafness and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. No case of Deafness is cured by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that can not be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

J. C. HENNEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 7c. Hall's Family Pills, 25c.

Aquatic Finance. She—How can you afford to keep a yacht? It's an expensive amusement. He—It's; but remember it can be done on wind and water.

Want a Farm? Why not go on one of the "Home Seekers' Excursions" to Kansas, Oklahoma, Indian Territory, Texas, Colorado, etc., on Dec. 18? Round trip tickets will be sold on these dates at reduced rates. Write to or call upon nearest Santa Fe route agent, or C. A. Higgins, assistant general passenger agent, Chicago, for full particulars.

Varieties in Fruits. Not many years ago there were several varieties of grapes, each struggling to become the favorite of the public. To-day the trade is chiefly in the Concord and Delaware varieties. Early in the '60s yellow bananas could not compete with the red; to-day the latter have been almost driven out of the market, though very many still prefer them. There used to be a most popular demand. Now the Bartlett and Seckel rule supreme. Apples and berries to a less degree have undergone the same process of natural selection, and now there are one or two varieties of early apples that promises to supersede all the rest.

The Women to Blame. Professor Peal, the ethnologist, recently described to the Asiatic society the condition of the head-hunting Nagas on the borders of the Assam. The women are to blame for the continuance of the practice; they taunt the young men who are not tattooed, and the latter go out and out off heads to exhibit to them, fully half of which are those of women and children. The area occupied by the Nagas is not more than twenty miles square, but in it during the past forty years more than twelve thousand murders have been committed for the sake of these ghastly trophies.

For the Spanish Navy. The Viscaya, the bolted cruiser lately completed at Bilbao for the Spanish navy, attained in her trials under natural draught only a speed of 18.6 knots. The shipyard where she was built is in a remarkably favorable position for the raw ore can be brought in at one end and a fully equipped war vessel turned out at the other.

Down in a Diving Bell. It is said that while 150 feet is the limit at which diving work can be carried on safely under water, a depth of 201 feet has been attained by a "helmet diver"—a diver who descends by himself and not in a diving

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

TO AID EMPLOYEES.

A NEW SCHEME OF THE W. L. DOUGLAS SHOE CO.

Will Furnish Their Help With Medical Attendance.

William L. Douglas, the president of the world-famed W. L. Douglas Shoe Co., has always had a great personal interest in the army of men and women who inhabit the great factory at Montello during the working hours of the day, and who make the greatly advertised shoes.

He is a great believer in the idea that manufacturers should have this personal interest in the condition of their employes, and that if the idea is carried out to the extent that it is possible that it will result in entirely new breaking down of the barriers which have been built up between employers and those whom they employ, as it would convince the workmen that their employers were not their enemies, as some of them seem to think now, but their friends, with a desire to do all for them that was in their power.

It is only natural that Mr. Douglas should give the matter some study and acquaint himself with the results of the trials of similar plans in other places. He is satisfied that the scheme he has originated is a good one, and he has now put it to practical test.

He has handed to every person in his employ a card forming a small army—a card which will enable them to secure free medical attendance.

This is a practical illustration of Mr. Douglas' idea, and will surely be appreciated by the hundreds of employes of the shoe company.

The plan is a good one. Speaking of the W. L. Douglas Shoe Co. it may be said that it is the only one in America where the principle of arbitration is recognized and has full sway. Mr. Douglas is a firm believer in the principle and has been since the establishment of the shoe board of arbitration. He claims that labor troubles would not be as frequent as they are if manufacturers and help would recognize this great principle and adopt it.

Not Gambling. Deacon—And you admit, sinful young man, that you won the hat on election? Spruce youngster—Yes, sir! "And thus to me, sir, admit the gambling habit?" "No gambling about it. I was dead sure of the result."

To California in a Tourist Steeper. The Burlington Route's Personally Conducted Excursions to the Pacific Coast are just the thing for people of moderate means. Cheap—respectable—comfortable—expeditious. From Chicago every Wednesday evening at Omaha every Thursday morning. Through to San Francisco and Los Angeles without change of cars. Experienced Excursion Managers and uniformed Pullman porters in charge. Second class tickets accepted. Cars are carpeted and upholstered and have spring seats and backs, mattresses, blankets, curtains, pillows, towels, etc. Only \$60 from Chicago and \$50 from Omaha on a double berth. Double enough and big enough for two. The route is over the "Scenic Line of the World," through Denver, Salt Lake City and Sacramento. All the wonderful canons and peaks of the Rocky Mountains are passed during the day. If you are going west, you should arrange to join one of our parties. Write for information, J. FRANCIS, Gen'l Passenger Agent, Burlington Route, Omaha, Neb.

There may be plenty of room at the top, but happiness doesn't always get there.

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If everybody was perfect what would the gossip do for interesting material?

Piso's Remedy for Catarrh is the best medicine for that disease I have ever used.—L. C. Johnston, Iowa, June 24th, 1891.

The fellow who is trying to raise the wind usually wants to blow himself.

Hegeman's Camphor Ice with Glycerine, Cures Chapped Hands and Feet, Tender Sores, Frost Bites, Burns, etc., C. G. Clark, New Haven, Ct.

The happiest woman, like the happiest nations, have no history.

"Hanson's Magic Corn Salve," Warranted to cure or money refunded. Ask your druggist for it. Price 25c.

Society may adulterate a fool, but it wishes he were dead, all the same.

If the Baby is Cuzzing Teeth. Beware and use that old and well-tried remedy, KAS. WISLOR'S SOOTHING SYRUP for Children Teething.

Some people of forty have ambitions, but they are terribly shell-worn.

"A Cup of Parks' Tea" at night moves the bowels in the morning."

An honest man is the noblest work of God; but many that pass as such are the products of the penal code.

During the revolutionary war there were rarely more than 30,000 men in the field at one time.

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KNOWLEDGE

Brings comfort and improvement and tends to personal enjoyment when rightly used. The many, who live better than others and enjoy life more, with less expenditure, by more promptly adapting the world's best products to the needs of physical being, will attest the value to health of the pure liquid laxative principles embraced in the remedy, Syrup of Figs.

Its excellence is due to its presenting in the form most acceptable and pleasant to the taste, the refreshing and truly beneficial properties of a perfect laxative; effectually cleansing the system, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers and permanently curing constipation.

As it gives satisfaction to millions and with the approval of the medical profession, because it acts on the Kidneys and Bowels without weakening it is perfectly free from any objectionable substance.

It is for sale by all druggists and dealers, but its manufacture is confined to California Fig Syrup Co., printed on every bottle.

Syrup