

Since Spain lost her colonies she has turned her attention to sugar beet culture, thus her home industries have been benefited by her losses abroad.

The muster roll of one of the companies of Concord Minute Men, once offered to the town of Concord for \$25 was sold in Boston the other day for 10 times that amount.

The popularity of Earl Roberts is likely to restore the gaiter to favor on masculine chins in England. It fell into disuse after cavalier days and stayed out until Louis Napoleon returned it to vogue.

The Adirondack guides have struck against the danger of the modern small bore rifle in the woods. This weapon sends bullets far beyond necessary range, and should be barred from the forest, where it is likely to kill people who are out of sight.

Professor Lee, the well-known astronomer, seems not to put much faith in the sun, as he has calculated that in the next 3,000,000 years it will freeze to death. This is sad, if true but there should be some interesting American to invent something, if only another sun, with which to avert the calamity.

English girls are growing so tall thanks to athletics and an outdoor life generally, that Lady Violet Greville expresses alarm for the future of the sex if they continue to increase in stature. Even now they dominate the men in height to such an extent that they are correspondingly diminishing their matrimonial chances.

The habit of considering the Mormon church as essentially an establishment of Utah in the far west is rudely broken by news of 1000 converts reported to the conference of the southern states within the past year. This conference covers Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

The Rev. S. Baring-Gould (who among other interesting things wrote the "Onward, Christian Soldier" hymn which Sullivan set to music) is credited with being the most prolific of English authors, the British Museum showing 140 titles in its catalogue under his name. Andrew Lang comes next with 130 and Dr. Furnivall who won a boat race at 75, is third with 120.

It is noticed in England that penmanship is rapidly deteriorating, ever among clerks who have ample leisure and opportunity for good work with the pen. One of the busiest of Americans, Thomas A. Edison, writes rapidly in a hand that is described as "like copper-plate, every curve fully formed and distinct." This expertness is a survival of the inventor's early experience as a telegraph operator.

During last year the deaths of 291 members of the Society of Friends were reported in Great Britain and Ireland. A table compiled from the returns shows that the mortality among children was very small when compared with the death-rate statistics of the general population. Only 14 of the 299 deaths reported were of children under five years. There were 10 deaths of Quakers over 90 years old including two over 100 years.

According to a recent writer of "Municipal Baths in England and the United States," out of 304 towns in England and Wales one-third maintain one or more of these establishments. Of these 45 have a population less than 40,000. The loans sanctioned for the purpose in the last 12 years amount to over \$7,000,000. In the United States, out of 17 of its largest cities, municipal baths are found in only seven of them, aggregating 15 establishments, as against 75 in London alone. Chicago has four free public baths, Boston two and San Francisco one. New York's free floating baths are for summer use only.

It looked at one time as if the international marrying fad would never die out, but if reports are true it may soon go the way of the bicycle craze. It is stated that but two English dukes remain in the matrimonial market and neither of them can be considered eligible, one being almost a lunatic and the other an invalid. International marriages have not, as a rule, been prolific of much happiness to the brides. Money and titles cannot guarantee happiness. The titles have a glamor for a certain class of rich people, but as an investment they often bring loss of money with misery than they do wealth and happiness. A contented person is rich and happy. The American girl does not make any mistake by fitting herself to become the wife of a sober, industrious and well-educated American. By marrying in her own social sphere her chances of happiness are 100 fold better than if she marries out of it abroad.

THE LOOM OF DREAMS.

I broider the world upon a loom; I broider with dreams my tapestry. Here in a little lonely room I am master of earth and sea. And the planets come to me.

I broider my life into the frame, I broider my love, thread upon thread. The world goes by with its glory and shame; Crowns are battered, and blood is shed; I sit and broider my dreams instead.

And the only world is the world of my dreams, And my weaving the only happiness, For what is the world, but what it seems, And who knows but that God, beyond our guess, Sits weaving worlds out of loneliness?—Arthur Symons, in the Saturday Review.

In a Toy Shop.

ME walked into the toy shop with the uncertain air bred by unfamiliarity. He was not old—perhaps fifty; he may, indeed, have been younger. The lines about his mouth and the crow's-feet about the eyes told of a life that had been none too easy, and yet there was that subtle air of prosperity about him, too, that in turn told its tale.

Outside in the street the sun beat down on the white sidewalk with a glare that reflected even into the carefully shaded shop. Behind the counters the young women stood or sat in small groups. They looked cool and pretty in their light summer frocks. On the counters were toys, heaps piled on heaps, it seemed to the man, although the arrangement was orderly enough.

For a moment he stood in the doorway. After the glare of the street the shop seemed almost darkness. Gradually the forms of the young women were outlined to his sight, and then he saw dimly the things on the counters.

An officious and osequious young man came forward rubbing his hands. Within a minute the man was in charge of a cool-looking young woman, with a pretty smile and a gracious manner. Almost before he knew it the man was talking with her and explaining things that needed no explanation.

"I want to get a er—er, a toy, you know," he said.

"Yes, sir," said the young woman. "Here is a very pretty doll. How would that do?" and she brought out a wonderful creation with eyes that opened and shut, and long blonde curls. It was dressed in a pale blue silk gown. "How do you like that?"

asked the young woman, holding the doll up for inspection. Then she pressed a hidden spring. "Mamma, mamma, papa, papa," said the doll.

"Great Scott! what's that?" almost shouted the man.

"I was making the doll talk," replied the girl.

"Do they make dolls that talk?" asked the man.

"Why," said the girl, with a pitying smile, "they did that ten years ago."

"Did they?" said the man; "well, you see, it's a good many years since I've seen any toys."

"Shall I send it home?" asked the young woman.

"No," said the man, "I don't think that would do at all. I suppose you think I'm a pretty old man to be buying toys," he continued, irrelevantly, "but you see, I've been so busy trying to get rich that I never had time to think of getting married till about two years ago. Been out West all the time," he continued, half sadly, "and, somehow, I didn't see many things like that out there."

"Here is something else that you might like, sir," interposed the young woman, as she brought out a wonderful locomotive and train of cars. She pressed a spring and the engine bell rang, the whistle blew, and off the train started on the circular track.

"Is that what they call a toy?" asked the man.

"That is certainly a toy," replied the girl, with a laugh.

"I wish I could remember some of the things I had to play with when I was a boy," mused the man; "I don't suppose you could get a Noah's ark, could you?" he continued doubtfully.

"I'll see, sir," said the young woman, "but they're awfully old-fashioned."

"Mebbe so; mebbe so," said the man absently.

The young woman walked to the rear of the shop and soon returned with the toy in question.

Yes, there it was. The Noah's ark! It hadn't changed a bit in all the years that had fled. The same old gabled roof, one side of which opened like the lid of a box. The same square windows, the same narrow ledge around the bottom, and the picture of the dove, bearing the branch of olive painted on the side.

Slowly the man opened the box and began to take out the little figures. His hands actually trembled with delight. The wonderfully made green trees, standing on the little brown bits of wood that are meant to represent mother earth. The quaint figures of men and women; the soldiers with their little wooden staffs. And then the animals. Where has their like ever been seen before?

He spread them out before him and looked at and beyond them, and the shop and the glare of the sidewalk without vanished from his vision. Green fields stretched before him, and deep in their hollows nestled the little white house with the bright green blinds and the red chimney.

In front of the house was a narrow little walk bordered on each side with sweet peas in bloom. How they smelled! He could even smell them here in the shop. Then he looked up. The girl was wearing a bunch of those wonderful blossoms in her belt. He had not noticed them before, and he had almost forgotten how sweet those blossoms can smell. There is a small lad running up the narrow walk toward the house. One arm, broken by a fall from a tree, hangs limp by his side. A sweet-faced woman comes rushing out to meet him, and with a cry of tender love gathers him in her arms. He lies in her arms, sobbing while they rush for a doctor. And as he lies there, bearing the pain as best he can, the little sister came toddling up with something in her hand for him.

"Take this, Tommy; oo hurt," and

VICTORIA AS AN AUTHORESS.

The Late Queen of England Enjoyed Novel Distinction.

Among the queens of England, both consorts and those regnant in their own right, Queen Victoria stands forth as the sole authoress.

Her efforts in this line have been modest enough, consisting merely of a diary, faithfully kept, and valuable not so much for its literary worth as because of the view it affords into her life not as queen, but as woman. This work, after some hesitation, she gave to the public under the title, "Leaves from the Journal of Our Life in the Highlands," a second edition being issued later, as "More Leaves from the Journal."

As one historian comments, "royal authors in the British Isles have been extremely few and far between—rarer than comets." First of those to appear in literature was the great Anglo-Saxon King, Alfred, the father of his people, as he is now styled. It is recorded that he was devoted to literary pursuits, and that he translated into Anglo-Saxon, Orosius, Bede, Boetius and the Parables. In addition to these, he labored for some time on the translation into this tongue of the hymns of David, but had not yet completed the first part when fatal illness seized him.

Three of Queen Victoria's ancestors varied the cares of state by essays at authorship. King James I of Scotland adventured as a poet, and it is simple and sentimental rhyming he came popular with his people. He never attempted more serious literary labors.

James I of England set himself the work of translating the Hebrew Psalms into English. The first 30 of these he rendered, the other translations being the work of scholarly Lord Sterling. The work of royalty was very thorough, and the poet Beattie commended it as doing honor "to the learned monarch," asserting that it formed the foundation of the metrical version arranged at a later date by the Provost of Eton, Lord Rouse. Gratitude must also be rendered this king for the "special command" which set commentators and translators at work on the English Bible.

King Charles I, whose uneasy reign and turbulent times might have excused him from such labors, devoted some considerable time to writing upon polemical subjects, matters of controversy appertaining to the day.

Beginnings of a Great Career.

"What is the matter, my boy," asked the elderly philanthropist, pausing in his morning walk.

The boy who had been digging at the edge of the wooden sidewalk turned a tear stained face upward and responded:

"I'm huntin' for de penny I dropped 'trough a hole in de walk. My ma'll whip me if I don't find it."

"Is that all?" the good man rejoined, feeling in his pocket for a coin. "Dry your tears, little fellow. Here's another one just as good, and here's a nickel to go with it."

With the warm feeling at his heart that invariably accompanies the performance of a good deed he passed on.

The next day, walking abroad at the same hour, he observed a boy digging at the edge of a wooden sidewalk.

"What's the matter, little fellow?" he asked.

"I'm looking fur a half dollar I dropped 'trough a hole in de walk and my ma'll whip me if I don't find it."—Chicago Tribune.

Domestic Animals Gone Wild.

The bureau of American republics the other day, received a statement made to the government of Ecuador by Captain John Reiman, in which he said that many hundreds of black cats whose ancestors had been brought to the Galapagos islands by settlers who afterward returned to the mainland are now living there as wild as any animals of the woods. They subsist on the fish and crabs they catch and live in the crevices of the lava formation near the coast.

This is merely a new statement of a well-known fact. There is probably no other place in the world where there are so many animals in a perfectly wild state that are descended from common domestic animals. In the interior of the islands, the ox, ass, pig, sheep, goat, cat and poultry have completely reverted to wildness, and an official report estimates at 25,000 the horn cattle that are now roaming around the archipelago.

A School for Waiters.

In former times most things were done by rule of thumb or after a long apprenticeship. Now apprenticeship is becoming a thing of the past and rule of thumb is giving way to scientific training. In Vienna there is a school for waiters. The first course is devoted to a theoretical exposition of the art of serving at table. When the pupils have sufficiently mastered the principles of the art they are allowed to practise on two ladies and two gentlemen in evening dress who dine at one table. The professor watches the operation and sharply calls the waiter to account if he uses an ordinary corker instead of an automatic one or carelessly puts his finger in the soup. If he should be without gloves he is shown how to conceal the fact by means of the serviette, and so forth. There are 1900 pupils in this school alone.—London Chronicle.

Costly Carpets.

Two magnificent carpets, presented by the Infanta Donna Sanche to the Royal Convent of St. Antonio in 1500, have just been sold by auction at the municipal chamber here to pay for repairs at the convent and church. The sale of the carpets, which were Persian, about 18 feet square, embroidered with real gold, caused much excitement. The most eager bidders were two groups, French and German. Bidding began at £888, and the Frenchmen secured the prize for £1708, which is regarded as nearly £1000 below the real value.—Lisbon Correspondence London Mail.

Some Polynesian languages have only seven consonants.

FUN IN CHINESE COLUMNS.

Curious Advertisements of the Wily Oriental.

A noticeable feature of the Chinese newspapers is the "exuberant verbosity" of their advertisements.

This is due to cheap advertising rates, as well as to the flowery language of the Kingdom. All sorts of communications get into the newspapers, but the business system of Chinese editors is so admirable that instead of airing private and public grievances in "letters to the editor," they are inserted in the advertising columns, and thus help the editor to get an honest living.

An announcement inserted by a Jilted swain whose lady love eloped with Chou Ling, closes with these heartfelt words:

"I cannot control my wrath and bitterness. My loved one has, it is plain, been enticed away by this rascal's deceit. How, I wonder, can a mere tailor's dummy like this succeed in winning her?"

"Surely he has no law or justice before his eyes. It is on this account that I am advertising. Should any kind-hearted gentlemen give me information of her whereabouts by letter, I will reward him with \$20; should he bring her back to her parents, I will joyfully give him \$40. I will most certainly not eat my words. His kindness and benevolence for a myriad generations, to all eternity, shall not be forgotten."

Quacks in China advertise in beautiful language. One such ad reads:

"Our recipe has come down to us from a physician of the Ming Dynasty. A certain Mandarin was journeying in the hill country when he saw a woman passing southward over the mountains, as though flying."

"In her hand she held a stick, and she was pursuing an old fellow of a hundred years. The Mandarin asked: 'Why do you beat the old man?'"

She answered: "He is my grandson, for I am 500 years old and he is 114. He will not purify himself by taking his medicine, and so I am beating him."

"The Mandarin alighted from his horse and knelt down and did obeisance to her, saying: 'Give me, I pray you, this drug, that I may hand it down to posterity for the salvation of mankind.'"

"Hence it got its name—'Fairy Recipe for Lengthening Life.' Take it for five days, and the body will feel light; take it for ten days, and your spirits will become brisk; for twenty days, and the voice will be strong and clear, and the hands and feet supple; for one year, and white hairs will become black again, and you move as though flying."

"Take it constantly, and all troubles will vanish, and you will pass a long life without growing old. Two dollars a bottle."

Hedgehogs and Moles.

Writing to a sporting contemporary a gentleman offers to receive any number of hedgehogs "up to a thousand," as he believes they would do good on his estates in Devonshire. Some people may be disposed to wonder what service can be rendered to agriculture by creatures that do occasionally make a late supper of chickens and partridges. The truth is, the hedgehog has never received full justice. He is, take him all in all, an admirable beast. Everybody knows that the hedgehog eats snails and slugs, but few people, perhaps, have realized that he is also a liberal consumer of moles. Now, there are many estates in Devonshire where the mole employs a band of men to keep his family down, and there are places in Surrey, quite near London, where neither man nor trap can stop the ravages of these creatures on what is intended to be the lawn. Where the soil is sandy the mole lives deep, and he will fling up a chain of veritable mountains in his journeys under one's lawn in the course of a single night. This conduct may be borne with in parks and meadows, but in gardens it becomes intolerable. It may be suggested, therefore, to those householders whose lawns are ravaged by moles whom neither trap nor professional trapper can control that a few hedgehogs in the garden might bring the pestiferous moles to some sense of the fitness of things.—London Globe.

Wardrobe as a Gallery.

An enterprising photographer in Washington, D. C., who is making money right and left, keeps an elaborate equipment of opera cloaks, Parisian hats, ball dresses and other feminine apparel constantly on hand for his sitters, says the National Photo News and Views. Thus, the young woman who comes to him clad in a home-made "tailor" gown and a fifty-cent hat may appear before the eyes of admiring relatives and friends in other cities arrayed in sable furs and a beplumed chapeau, or looking the ingenue to perfection in a debutante's gown of white richly-trimmed with pearls, which for all the fortunate ones who receive the photographs know, are of great price.

King Edward's Curious Property.

King Edward VII. is proprietor of the beds of all British tidal rivers, such as the Thames, the Mersey, the Tyne, and others. He also owns that part of the shore all round the coast line which lies between high and low-water mark.

FRED L. SANDOZ, BRIDGEVILLE.

DRY GOODS AND GROCERIES.

Boots, Shoes & Hats.

Notions, Hardware, Tinware, Crockery, etc.

Country Produce

A specialty. Chickens, eggs, etc., always on hand. Orders by mail promptly filled. Prices to suit the times. First corner west of bridge, on Landry Street, Opelousas.

ACADEMY OF THE—IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, OPELOUSAS, LA.

Under the Direction of the Sisters Mariadites of Holy Cross.

Offers to young ladies every facility for acquiring a thorough christian education. Constant attention is paid to home and social culture. Lessons are given in music, painting and other useful arts. The sisters also have charge of the boys' school. The course of instruction is two-fold—Preparatory and Commercial. French is taught in the two courses. For particulars, address SISTER SUPERIOR.

25 Cents, Postpaid.

—A TREATISE ON—

The Horse AND HIS DISEASES.

Containing an index to diseases which gives the symptoms, cause and the best treatment of each. A table giving all the principal drugs used for the horse, with the ordinary dose, effects, and antidote with a poison. A table with an engraving of the horse's teeth at different ages, with rules for telling the age. A valuable collection of receipts and much other valuable information. Both in English and German. 100-page book sent postpaid to any address, for 25 cents. Address

The Courier,

OPELOUSAS, LA.

MONEY TO LOAN.

Office of St. Landry Homestead and Loan Association, Opelousas, Sept. 19, '99.

The undersigned is authorized by the Board of Directors of the St. Landry Homestead and Loan Association to offer to its members loans at eight per centum. For particulars apply to E. D. ESTLETTE, Pres. St. Landry H. & L. Ass'n.

Hotel Denechaud

Cor. Perdido and Carondelet Sts., N. O.

American and European Plans.

This Hotel has just been enlarged and renovated. An electric elevator and all modern improvements have been placed in the building.

T. C. GIBBENS,

Washington, La., Dealer in—

Cypress and Pine Split and SAWED LUMBER.

SHINGLES, BOARDS, FLOORING, CISTERNS, LUMBER, CEILING, DOORS, SASH, BLINDS.

Bills sawed to order on short notice.

The Best

—ALWAYS—

The Cheapest

—THE—

Opelousas Courier

—IS THE—

BEST NEWSPAPER

—IN THE—

Parish of St. Landry.

Standing squarely and uncompromisingly upon the Democratic Platform

Opelousas Courier

is the advocate of Democratic principles and the friend of the people.

Their welfare is its welfare, and it will ever be found defending their rights with all of its ability.

The value of a newspaper as an advertising medium consists in its circulation.

When you can secure the combined circulation of two papers for the price of one, it is money saved!

"The St. Landry Democrat" was consolidated on the 8d of March, 1894, with "The Opelousas Courier." The advertising rates have not been increased while the price of subscription has been reduced to \$2 a year.

THE COURIER being by odds the best paper in the empire Parish of St. Landry is therefore the cheapest.

ESTABLISHED 25 YEARS.

JAMES H. HOUSTON,

Real Estate Agent,

OPELOUSAS, LA.

PROPERTIES BOUGHT AND SOLD.

I am prepared to handle your real estate upon the most satisfactory terms. If you desire to sell or purchase real estate in this section of the State, I would be pleased to have you write or call and see me before going elsewhere. My new catalogue for 1901, describing a large number of extraordinary bargains is in the hands of the printer and will soon be ready for distribution. If you are interested, send for one, sent free postpaid to any address.

JAS. H. HOUSTON.

Opelousas Ice and Bottling Works,

Manufacturers of...

ICE AND CARBONATED DRINKS

Pure Water used. Careful attention to orders. Quick delivery in the city limits.

ICE AS CHEAP AS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD.

ANDREW MORESI, President.

MT. PLEASANT BRICK AND TILE WORKS.

WASHINGTON, LOUISIANA.

H. L. Bidstrup - - - - - Proprietor.

Best quality of Building and Paving Brick and Tiles, &c. Speciality. Large stock on hand for immediate delivery at Lowest Prices. Large bricks 2 1/2 inches thick at \$6.50 per M at the yard.

If you want a hard, well made, well burned cheap brick, this is the place to get it. Factory back of the saw mill.

M. Boagni, President; J. J. Thompson, Vice-President; Fritz Dietlein, Cashier.

St. Landry State Bank,

Of Opelousas, La.

CAPITAL, \$50,000.00.

Safety Deposit Boxes for Rent.—A general banking business transacted. Foreign exchange bought and sold. Careful attention given to collections. Money to loan on good security.

Directors.—E. M. Boagni, J. J. Thompson, Fritz Dietlein, E. D. Estlette, Ant. Dietlein.

DAVID ROOS, President. J. J. FERRODIN, Cashier.

The Peoples' State Bank,

Of Opelousas, La.

CAPITAL, \$25,000.00.

Your Accounts and Collections Solicited.

DIRECTORS—David Roos, Isaac Roos, J. W. Castles, Lewis Goldstein, Jr., J. A. Haas.

OFFICERS—David Roos, President; Isaac Roos, Vice-President; J. J. Perrodin, Cashier; J. A. Haas, Assistant Cashier.

WE LEAD IN LOW PRICES, OTHERS FOLLOW US.

A. C. SKILES,

(Successor to E. R. WHITE.)

New Lumber Yard

Near Southern Pacific Depot, Opelousas, where a full and complete stock of

Atchafalaya Red Cypress and Long Leaf Yellow Pine

Lumber, Shingles and Siding.

Also Sash, Doors, Blinds, Mouldings, Coal and Sand. We only ask to make you our figures and your better judgment will do the rest.

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Two Hundred Complete Stories

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This mammoth collection of amusing and entertaining complete stories is comprised in a large and handsome volume of 192 large quarto pages, printed in clear, bold readable type, and neatly bound in attractive colored paper covers. This great book contains Two Hundred Complete Stories, each story being complete and unaltered, and they are written by such famous authors as Oliver Optic, Horatio Alger, Jr., Ned Buntline, Sylvanus Cobb, Jr., Josiah Allen's Wife, Mrs. May Agnes Fleming, Mrs. Mary A. Denison, Esther Serle, Kenneth, Ella Rodman Church, Mary Grace Hays, Clara Augusta, A New York Detective, Mary Cecil Hay, George R. Sims, Emma Garrison, Jones, Mary Kyle Dallas, M. T. Candler, Dr. J. R. Booth, Jr., New Buntline, Sylvanus Cobb, Jr., Josiah Allen's Wife, Mrs. May Agnes Fleming, Mrs. Mary A. Denison, Esther Serle, Kenneth, Ella Rodman Church, Mary Grace Hays, Clara Augusta, A New York Detective, Mary Cecil Hay, George R. Sims, Emma Garrison, Jones, Mary Kyle Dallas, M. T. Candler, Dr. J. R. Booth, Jr., New Buntline, Sylvanus Cobb, Jr., Josiah Allen's Wife, Mrs. May Agnes Fleming, Mrs. Mary A. Denison, Esther Serle, Kenneth, Ella Rodman Church, Mary Grace Hays, Clara Augusta, A New York Detective, Mary Cecil Hay, George R. Sims, Emma Garrison, Jones, Mary Kyle Dallas, M. T. Candler, Dr. J. R. Booth, Jr., New Buntline, Sylvanus Cobb, Jr., Josiah Allen's Wife, Mrs. May Agnes Fleming, Mrs. Mary A. Denison, Esther Serle, Kenneth, Ella Rodman Church, Mary Grace Hays, Clara Augusta, A New York Detective, Mary Cecil Hay, George R. Sims, Emma Garrison, Jones, Mary Kyle Dallas, M. T. Candler, Dr. J. R. Booth, Jr., New Buntline, Sylvanus Cobb, Jr., Josiah Allen's Wife, Mrs. May Agnes Fleming, Mrs. Mary A. Denison, Esther Serle, Kenneth, Ella Rodman