

WONDERFUL SCALES.

Weight Accurately a Pound of Feathers or Two Big Cannon.

While Washington is not a manufacturing city, with large industrial enterprises requiring the use of monster weighing machines, or "scales," as they are commonly called, it has many weights determining balances, and one, at least, which leads all others in this country.

Every undertaking in life has its critical moments. History is full of instances where the fate of nations hung on the issue of a single minute.



Nearly every man and woman can recall some individual experience when an instant's decision has made months or years of happiness or misery.

It is the same way when a man's health is at stake upon the care he gives to it within twenty-four hours. He may be up and on his feet, and going about his work, but his system has become run-down and weakened to that point that a few hours are as critical as if he were at the turning point of a dangerous fever, but he doesn't realize it.

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There is nothing attractive about the scales. From the surface of the ground they look like ordinary hay scales. Their delicate mechanism, like the vital organs of the human body, is invisible to the eye.

When the government sought bids for the erection of the machine notice was sent to all the leading scale manufacturers in the country, and the lowest bidder received the contract.

In order to illustrate the accuracy of the counterpoise of the huge machine to a reporter an officer in the bureau of yards and docks picked up a half brick which was lying near by and tossed it upon the platform of the big scales.

Turning to the reporter he said the machine is so sensitive that it will give the exact weight of anything, from a pound of feathers to a pair of 12-inch guns, and do it accurately.

The nearest approach to the navy yard scales to be found in this city are the big weighing machines of the railroads. Though the navy yard machines now compel them to take a back seat, they were once envied by the smaller scales as the giants of the capital.

The soft hat was introduced to America about 1850 by Louis Kossuth. The army campaign hat and the rough rider hat had their origin in a Tyrolean hat that was brought here by an American traveler.

Is Woman the Head of the House?

From the Chicago Tribune.

Is woman the head of the house? Judge Purnell of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, at Richmond, Va., thinks she is, and has so announced in his judicial capacity. Therein he differs from District Judge Waddill, who holds that a woman living with her husband is not the head of the house.

The new woman thus enters upon the new century under new conditions. Under the unwritten household law, there has long been an impression that many women are the "heads of the house."

It will be interesting to watch the effects of this Virginia decision upon those who have heretofore been considered the "weaker vessels," as well as upon men who have followed the precedents laid down so emphatically by Paul.

Not a Fault Finder. "You are not one of these men who find fault with the cooking at home?" "No," answered Mr. Meekton. "I don't exactly find fault, but occasionally I do feel called on to apologize for the way things taste when Henrietta gets home from the club. You see, I never could learn to make good coffee."

THE Pendleton East Oregonian has this new version of the doxology, as adapted to the Republican hosts: Praise Ted from whom all terrors flow. Praise trusts and tories here below; Praise Mark above all earthly hosts; Praise Sulu, Mack and Allah most.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of J. C. Watson.

STATE NEWS. A Farmer's institute convened at Fairfield to-day. The North Yakima new high school was dedicated Friday. Pulp of the Waverly sugar factory will be used to fatten stock this winter.

Rockford on the 15th inst. A TRACHERS' meeting will be held at Rockford on the 15th inst.

An American medical authority

ventures the prediction that "if the present increase of cancer in New York State continues during the next ten years, the mortality from this cause will become greater than that from consumption, typhoid fever and smallpox put together."

In San Francisco cancer has increased from 165 cases in 100,000 of population in 1875, to 1035 per 100,000 in 1895. A British specialist has stated that he is convinced that the disease is due largely to high living, and especially to over-feeding. But whatever may be the truth as to the origin of cancer, the fact remains, established by years of observation and research, that it is extremely rare in such countries as Arabia, Africa and Persia, where the masses live on a plain and limited diet, and that it is increasing in England and the United States, where the people generally have an abundance and variety of food.

They are only bubbles, those maiden fancies of love, marriage and motherhood. But what beautiful bubbles they are! Who does not wish that all these fancies could be sent to the fairies, and that they lived happy ever after? Pain soon pricks the bubbles, and nothing remains of all the hope, gladness of the bride but a bridal veil and a piece of stale wedding cake.

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It was so weak I did not have breath to walk across my room," writes Miss Isabel of New York. "I was suffering from the loss of blood very severely, and the doctor said my stomach would cramp until I could not straighten. I did not gain strength from any medicine, but when I was very weak and nervous all the time, the doctor told me to try Dr. Pierce's Pink Pills. I have never had a return of this trouble since."

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