### Suit Over a Cherry Tree.

Four years ago two neighbors in Hebeck began a suit for the possession of a little cherry tree, value fifty pfennigs, or about twelve cents. They kept at it until now. Court costs and lawyers' fees have swallowed up about 5000 marks, ruining one of the parties, the very one who has now been accorded the cherry tree.

The tea harvest begins in China about April 1. Later in the month there are two other harvests which yield inferior trades.

### IN SOUTHERN MOUNTAINS.

**Special Rates From All Points on Southern Railway to Convention of International Christian Workers, Black Mountain, N. C., July 18th to August 5th.**

For the Christian Work and Bible Study Assembly of the International Christian Workers' Association, held on the grounds of the Mountain Retreat at Black Mountain, N. C., July 20th to 29th inclusive, the Southern Railway has granted one fare. Going tickets may be purchased July 18, 19 and 20, with final time limit August 5. This assembly is under the direction of the International Christian Workers' Association. Rev. Floyd W. Tompkins, Jr., Rector of Grace Episcopal Church, Providence, R.I., President, and Rev. John C. Collins, New Haven, Conn., Secretary. The altitude of the assembly grounds at Black Mountain varies from 2700 feet to 5700 feet. The association offers the use of its grounds for a nominal sum to any who desire to pitch their tents and make a camp during the time of the assembly. It is only 8 miles from Mt. Mitchell, the highest mountain this side of the Rockies. Full particulars can be obtained from any ticket agent on the Southern Railway, or General Eastern Office, 271 Broadway, New York City.



### A Military Guild.

The Mohammedan population of the Turkish Empire has been very aptly compared to an immense religious confraternity; it is, in fact, a vast military guild or brotherhood, according to the author of the Sultan and His Subjects, bound to obey the commands of its supreme chiefs, the Sheik-ul-Islam and the Sultan. Every Turk ought, in a certain sense, to be a priest and a warrior. Remembering this fact, we can readily understand the ease with which the spirit of fanaticism is roused in those portions of the empire where the Turks are in the majority, and the ferocity with which an otherwise docile and somewhat indifferent natured people will behave under the influence of what I may call religious intoxication."

### Bermuda Lily Bulbs.

In 1896, Bermuda lily bulbs were exported to the United States to the value of over $60,000. The quantity shipped in 1896 fell but little short of that shipped in 1895, but the value was only half the business of the former year, when a syndicate was in control of the situation putting up prices to an abnormal level. The population of Bermuda is 16,000.—American Agriculturist.



### Steam Pilot Boats.

The pilots of Sandy Hook are about to adopt the use of steam for the first time. They have always a prejudice in favor of sailing vessels, although several of the Southern ports have had steam pilot boats for many years. The new steamer being built for the New York pilots at Wilmington is entirely of steel, 155 feet long, nineteen feet seven inches deep and twenty-five-foot beam, with accomodations for twenty-five persons. She will be able to make twelve miles an hour.

### A Four-Dollar Gold Piece.

A curiosity in the shape of a $4 gold piece was offered at the sub-treasury in Cincinnati. This is probably the first time in the history of the office that a coin of that denomination was ever beheld by the attaches. The coin came from the Fifth National Bank, to which one of the depositors had taken it to find out how much it was worth. The tellers at the bank were unable to decide the question, and the coin was sent to Uncle Sam's employes in the Federal Building, but no one there would accept it for the Treasury for its face value.

Coin Teller Robert Brasher, who is a numismatist of considerable repute, as well as Teller White, who is considered one of the most expert counterfeit detectors in the country, and Cashier Stout, said that they had never heard of the Government coining a piece of money of that denomination, and that they would not accept it even at its face value. The tables giving the coinage of money from the earliest date to the present time were looked up, but there was no record of the Government ever having coined a $4 gold piece. The coin that was presented was placed on the scales and was found to weigh 108 2-10 grains, making it worth about twenty cents more than its face value.

The description of the coin is as follows: It is almost the size of a $5 gold piece. On the face around the outer edge are the words: "United States of America." Just underneath this, in small type, are the words: "E Pluribus Unum." In the center is a star bearing the following: "One stella, 400 cents." Underneath the star, in small letters, are the words: "Deo est Gloria." On the obverse side, in the centre, is a head of the Goddess of Liberty. Above this on the outer edge are thirteen small stars. Between the stars are the following letters and figures: 6, G, 3, S, 7, C, 7, G, R, A, M, S. Underneath the head is the date—1879.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

### First Sunday-School in the World.

In recounting the ministrations of John Wesley in Georgia, where the famous preacher sowed the first seeds of Methodism in America, the Rev. W. J. Scott, D. D., in the Ladies' Home Journal, claims that Wesley established the first Sunday-school in the world, at Savannah. In connection with his other labors, which were indeed prodigious, Wesley soon after his arrival in Georgia, in 1736, began to provide for the Sunday-school instruction of the children of the parish. His devotion to children at times almost amounted to infatuation. Children were likewise equally attached to him, as shown in their intercourse with him. Both on week days and Sabbaths he gave no little attention to educational work. As a preliminary labor on the Sabbath, before the evening service, he required them to convene in the church, at which time he catechised them thoroughly and furnished them with additional teaching from the Bible itself.

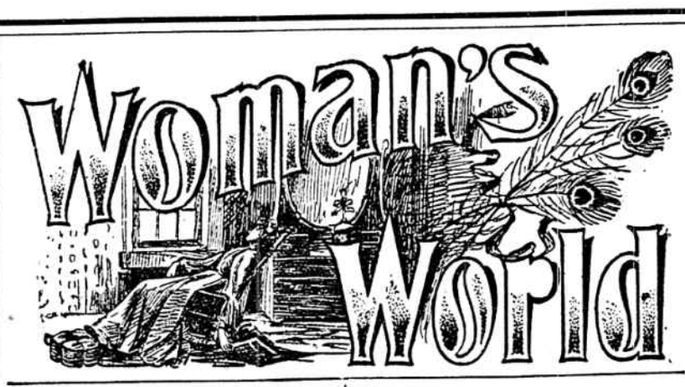
"In the present Wesleyan Memorial Church, in Savannah, Georgia, there is a Sunday-school room into which hundreds of children crowd for Sunday instruction. The original school was less in number, but it was unquestionably the first Sunday-school in the world. When taught by Wesley it numbered between sixty and seventy-five scholars, but from all accounts there were few, if any, Indian boys in his earlier classes. A very high authority, Sir Charles Reed, M. P., LL.D., of England, is clearly of the opinion that this Sunday-school was the first founded in the world, and that it antedates by a half century the secular instruction of Robert Raikes at Gloucester, England, as well as the first school in America upon Rakes' plan, which was established in the city of New York."

### Strange Clew to a Murder.

A rich Russian banker had been discovered murdered in his house in St. Petersburg, says a writer in the Green Bag. There was no clew, but in the room there was found a cigar mouth-piece containing part of a cigar of such an expensive kind that it was supposed the banker himself had been smoking it just before the crime had been committed.

On close examination the mouthpiece was found to be worn away by the teeth of its owner, but the dead man's teeth did not fit the indentation. The servants were one by one examined, and it was then found that the hollows of the mouthpiece compared exactly to the formation of the front teeth of the cook, to whom no suspicion had been attached. He afterward confessed to the murder.






### A Royal Explorer.

Princess Theresa, of Bavaria, a maiden lady of mature years and as eccentric in her appearance as in her behavior, has explored all South America, as well as unknown parts of Siberia, and her services to the cause of geography have won for her honorary membership of most of the geographical societies of Europe.

### Hymn Writer Dead.

The funeral of Miss Maria Straub, well known to Chicago and the West as a writer of hymns for the Church and Sunday-school, who died recently took place in Chicago.

Miss Straub was the author of nearly 200 hymns, all of which have been set to music by American composers. Among the best known of her works are the temperance hymn, "Gird on Your Sword of Trust," and "Wave, Columbia, Wave Thy Banner."

She was an ardent worker in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and, although contending with a life of bodily affliction, wielded an important influence through her writings.—New York Times.

### The Ornamental Parlor Maid.

It has been a growing custom for those young men of sufficient leisure to make afternoon calls on their lady friends and sip with them a cup of tea. The custom is bound to become immensely popular should the feature thus enunciated become universal.

Here is something decidedly new: It is the ornamental parlor maid, a lady-like being, whose waist belt must not measure over sixteen inches and who is consequently the embodiment of "style." She is permitted to wear a dark blue serge costume, with white cuffs and collar, while upon her perfectly dressed hair perches a coquettish white cap. Considering her corseted condition, no labor save that of handing cups of tea in the drawing room is expected of her. But, please, think what a new element of danger this modish handmaiden may introduce into certain households! She is a prize figurehead of housework; the envied of all her peers; the admired of every visitor of the masculine gender; the criticised of every other woman who hasn't thought of setting up a sixteen-inch waist tea bearer. Well, well, perhaps we had better stick to the thin-legged footman or to the butler or even to a plebeian "girl" who doesn't go to a manicure after all!—Boston Herald.

### Lounging Gowns.

Now, perhaps, at the moment, in spite of the brown linen revelations in undergarments and the augmenting splendors of the millinery displays, nothing is more refreshing to the already footsore shopper, her brain dazzled with money changing and close bargaining, than those chosen corners of the big shops where tea gowns and breakfast negligees are displayed. There is so much doing in this quarter just now for a revival of a fashion has sprung up unexpectedly, women have decided that it is both a pretty and appropriate thing to breakfast in artistic volantes, crown their heads with caps and rather make a function of the early toilet, that none but the family see.

For this reason we find, in both elaborate and simple styles, the most charming breakfasting robes, which are something of a cross between the wrapper and the too elaborate tea gown. With each and everyone, though a cap is worn, whether the wearer is a debutante or the mother of a debutante. The old women, however, rather affects caps that tie under the chin, while the spinsters and young married women cling to the coquettish topknots, snoods of ribbon and bowknots or falls of filmy lace and muslin.—New Orleans Picayune.

### Resented an Act of Politeness.

If she had been a plain-looking, middle-aged woman I don't think she would have resented it, but as she was an uncommonly handsome girl of twenty or thereabouts, and wore a stunning tailor-made suit of dark green, with a white vest, and a bunch of white cock plumes in her hat, she mistook an act of politeness for impertinence and "trun him down," as Chimmie Fadden would say, with great violence.

She was going from the ferry to the railway station, and carrying a dress-suit case in one hand and a natty umbrella in the other. He looked like a gentleman, and I am sure he was one, if physiognomy is any key to character, but Miss Disdain evidently mistook him for a "masher," and when, as the boat reached the landing, he stepped up and asked permission to carry her dress-suit case, she gave him a look that was loaded with dynamite, and said:

"It is not at all necessary, sir."

His cheeks colored crimson. He stepped back as if he had been stung, and lifting his hat again, begged her pardon and tried to hide himself in the throng. I thought she might have thanked him, and her neglect to do so showed that she was not a well-bred girl. Fifty years ago—yes, ten years ago, a woman would have expected such an attention, and a dozen men would have offered to carry her luggage between the railway train and the boat, but nowadays a gentleman dare not offer to do an act of politeness without being slapped in the face. I said something to that effect to Mrs. Worldwise, who also had witnessed the incident, when she flared up, as women will when their sex is criticised, and said:

"Girls are compelled to protect themselves from unwelcome attention."

"But if she had been a plain girl she would have accepted his offer," I suggested.

"If she had been a plain girl there would have been no offer to accept." replied the fountain of wisdom.—William E. Curtis, in Chicago Record.

### The Millinery World.

Crinoline is much used for shaping hats, and it can be twisted, tucked, doubled and waved to suit any style of face. For large faces, hats should have much ribbon and floral decoration, and if the ribbon be fancy and gauzy it should be put on in big bunches. In fact, a profusion of trimming, especially flowers, is to be observed in nearly all the season's millinery.

The fashionable hats and bonnets, particularly those from Paris, have somewhat harsh color combinations, which only a Parisian milliner can make effective. A hat of black straw may be ornamented with dark red and orange yellow, or with "fresh-leaf" green, violet and black.

Canvas sailors are now as much worn as straw ones; but they should be trimmed with ample bows of ribbon, and some fine flowers to cover the crown of the head when the hair is worn low.

Many charming toques have a foundation of pleated net, gauze, chiffon or silk muslin, trimmed with medium-sized flowers and feathers, often of two or three colors, or bird-of-paradise plumes. Toques are always becoming to young people, but for summer wear they are ruinous to the complexion. Wide, floppy hats give a rural air which can be affected at no other season.

Leghorns are very enchanting on youthful heads; but the very coarse straws now in vogue are a godsend to the middle-aged woman, because their ruggedness coincides agreeably with even a wrinkle or two.

Bonnets are much appreciated for dressy wear. The latest caprice goes up to a point in the middle. Theater bonnets are made of gold plait, or spangled and embroidered lace, and are trimmed with quanties of violets. The hair is much waved beneath them. The bonnet itself goes flat on the hair in front, and a bird-of-paradise aigrette, held by a jeweled buckle, stands up from the side, or from the centre of the crown.

### Wonderful Helen Keller.

The marvel of the modern world, Helen Keller, the blind girl of Alabama, whose wonderful progress in her studies for admission to Radcliffe College have attracted the the attention and aroused the admiration of the wise men of the world, has just celebrated her seventeenth birthday by beginning her preliminary examination. She was seventeen years old last Sunday, and she stood her first examination Friday.

Miss Keller has been studying in a preparatory school at Cambridge since last fall. Her instruction in Latin, German, French, history and geography has not been specially difficult since the great improvement in books for the blind. Her text books look like the big office books in use in counting rooms. The raised letters she can read as rapidly as if she could see, and the Brayl system, where a cipher consisting of dots and dashes takes the place of letters can be read even more rapidly, because the matter is more condensed.

Books that have never been translated for the blind, Miss Keller still reads—not by sight as do the deaf mutes, nor by listening to others, as do the blind who can hear. She simply places her hand over the fingers of one who is reading by using the sign language for the deaf, and catches every word. In this way she has covered the whole range of her preparatory studies. For her arithmetic a special slate was invented, and she has become an accurate and ready worker in mathematics.

Miss Keller has been provided with a planetarium, upon which she can feel the positions of the heavenly bodies, and has gained a clear idea of their relations to each other.

The whole world will watch the progress of this wonderful girl's examination for entrance to Radcliffe College, on which the hope of her life is staked. In studying these examinations the papers are read to her and she writes the answers on a typewriter. Her intelligence is preternaturally keen, her enthusiasm indomitable and her ambition boundless. Many thousands who do not know her will pray that she may succeed.—Atlanta Journal.

### Shown on Dry Goods Counters.

Lace insertings in leaf designs.

Cotton Japanese rugs for summer use.

Chiffon veils for general and flattering wear.

White organdie frocks lined with white lawn.

Shirt waists of black foulard or lawn for mourning.

Black China crepe for mourning evening toilettes.

Alpine hats of various styles and values ready trimmed.

White ribbon belts and collars for colored pique blouse costumes.

Turnover collars and cuffs of fancy designs of linen, batiste, etc.

Green muslin gowns trimmed with black lace inserting and velvet ribbon.

Colored linen Eton suits trimmed with heavy lace and contrasting binding.

Cotton canvas gowns lined with a color and trimmed with black velvet ribbon.

White duck gowns trimmed with accessories of colored duck braided in white.

Girls' empire and reefer jackets and long coats of colored pique, with hats or bonnets to match.

The Egyptian census returns, just published, show a population of 9,700,000, an increase of 2,900,000 since 1882.

### CAKE AND POETRY.

What art thou, Life? A fleeing day of change,
A trembling dawn on a wide-reaching, restless sea?
A fervid noon—Eve's shadow, dim and strange?
(Oh, that reminds me. I must bake some cake for tea.)

Thy morn is beautiful, oh Life! (I ought
To glance into the cook-book, so to make quite sure.
"Three eggs—a cup of cream," just as I thought.)
With all its dreams, so high, so true, so pure!

Grand is thy full, sweet noontide, ("sift the flour
And stir it in." I'm glad the oven's hot and nice.)
When lofty purpose arms the soul with power.
("Raisins and currants, one cup each, with spice.")

Night, and the day's fulfillment! Oh, how fair,
How wondrous is this mystery! ("Then add about
A teaspoonful of lemon flavoring"—there!
Now, while it bakes, I'll write my poem out.)—

Madeline S. Bridges, in Ladies' Home Journal.

### PITH AND POINT.

"Stark is a bicycle crank, isn't he?" "I should say he was. When it rains he stays home and runs his cyclometer."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The difference between the astronomer and the chorus girl is that one studies the stars and the other understudies them.—Philadelphia Record.

First Bicycle Girl—"Oh, yes; I often fall off, but I always land on my feet." Second Ditto—"I think you said you were from Chicago."—Boston Transcript.

"These lake excursions seem so lonesome." "Lonesome? Why, I am with you." "Yes, I know, but I couldn't bring my wheel along."—Chicago Record.

Fuddy—"I understand that Wigley spends most of his evenings here at your house?" Duddy—"I had an impression that it was my evenings that he spends here."—Boston Transcript.

There's the bicycle face and the bicycle back,
With its queer, altitudinous curve;
And the bicycle tongue, in the middle hung,
And the scorcher's bicycle nerve.
—Queensland Wheel.

Watts—"Getting a little rest out your way since the piano girl took to the wheel, aren't you?" Potts—"Naw. Her bicycle suit is louder than than the piano was."—Indianapolis Journal.

"What made you quit the club, Billy?" "Reason enough, I can tell you. I worked five years to be elected Treasurer and then they insisted on putting in a cash register."—Detroit Free Press.

Barrow—"That's a dandy wheel you have there, old man. I'll take a little spin on it some day. By the way, what kind of a wheel do you think I ought to ride?" Marrow—"One of your own."—Brooklyn Life.

"I told her I was afraid to kiss her while we were on the tandem for fear we would both fall off." "What did she say?" "She said she hoped I didn't call myself an experienced wheelman."—Chicago Record.

Gent (solicitously)—"Sir, I have here some indestructible pieplates." Mr. Hall Bedroome (grimly)—"Well, you have come to the right house to sell them. That's the sort of pies Mrs. Skinner gives us."—Puck.

Mrs. Eastlake—"You visited Venice while you were in Europe, I hear, Mrs. Trotter?" Mrs. Trotter—"Yes, indeed, and we were rowed about by one of the chandeliers for which that city is noted."—Harper's Bazar.

Fuddy—"They say you have a liking for Miss Spontel." Duddy—"Nonsense! The woman is insupportable." Fuddy—"That's just it. You won't have to support her. She's got enough for two."—Boston Transcript.

Gobang—"I think I'll do quite a little shooting this summer. I wonder what the close season is?" Buckshot—"Well, in your case, old man, I fancy if you applied to the legislature, they'd throw the whole year open to you."—Truth.

### First White Child.

The first child of English parents born in America was Virginia Dare, the daughter of Ananias Dare and Eleanor White, members of one of the bands of colonists sent out to the newly-discovered country by Sir Walter Raleigh.

This event took place on August 18, 1587, and, appropriately enough, one of the counties on Roanoke Islands is called Dare County. While Virginia was the first English subject born in the then distant land, a number of colonists had settled in America two years previously; but they returned to England in 1586.

In order to commemorate this settlement, a memorial has just been erected on the site of old Fort Raleigh, on Roanoke Island. This memorial bears an inscription stating that: "On this site, in August, 1585, the colonists sent from England by Sir Walter Raleigh built the fort called the New Fort, in Virginia."

It was peculiarly appropriate that the first child born in America should be christened in the name of the State which owed its own title to the desire to pay a courtly compliment to the Virgin Queen of England.

### Growing Crystals.

A method of growing crystals of unusual lustre and transparency has been described to the French Academy by P. de Wateville. The small crystal is mounted in such a manner that it can be continuously rotated several times in a second while growing in the saturated solution. Alum crystals grown in this way at fifty degrees successively lose their dodecahedron and cube faces, and at last have only those of the octahedron. Especially fine results were obtained with potassium and ammonia alums, copper sulphate and sodium chlorate.

### Peculiar Slab of Stone.

A peculiar slab of stone was found in a coal mine at Webster City, Iowa, 130 feet below the surface. It is about two feet long by one foot wide and four inches thick. The surface is artistically carved in diamond-shaped squares, with the face of an old man in each square. Of the faces all but two are looking to the right. The features of each are identical, bearing a peculiar mark in the shape of a dent in the forehead.

### A Short-Lived Island.

In 1867 a new shoal was discovered in the group of the Tonga, or Friendly Islands. In 1877 smoke was seen over the shoal. In 1885 the shoal had become a volcanic island, more than two miles long and 240 feet high, and a fierce eruption was taking place within it. In 1886 the island had begun to shrink in dimensions, although the next year its highest point was 325 feet above sea level. In 1889 its height had diminished one-half, and the ocean close around it was more than a mile deep. In 1892 the island rose only twenty-five feet above sea level. According to the latest information its complete disappearance, under the action of the waves, will not be long delayed.

### Gruesome Relics in Demand.

A Parisian mania seems to be to obtain some relic of the great Charitie Bazaar fire. Mme. Roche-Sautier, the proprietress of the hotel which abutted on the scene of the fire, sold the two remaining bars of iron which blocked up the window through which so many made their escape, for the sum of $140. Mme. Roche-Santier will distribute this money among her employes who assisted in the rescue work.

The tea crop in the best districts of China is from 300 to 400 pounds per acre.