

It's the early spring bird that catches cold.

The man who proposes to cross the Sahara desert in a balloon has sand.

Renewed health to Ian MacLaren of Drumtochty. We really couldn't spare him.

It isn't at all likely, however, that the empress dowager will consent to stay dead.

Mr. Rockefeller has given \$100,000 to the Brooklyn Y. M. C. A.—ten seconds' income.

Things that seem serious to you might look funny if they happened to someone else.

It is rumored that Miss Thaw of Pittsburg has melted the icy heart of the Earl of Yarmouth.

John W. Gates talking of retiring? He has never yet shown himself to be of a retiring disposition.

Probably those French explorers will find the south pole fully as coy and evasive as the north pole.

Discretion is not exactly a brilliant or fascinating characteristic, but it is most indispensable to success.

The discovery of gold in Indiana has not affected the price of rings, so far as we have been able to find out.

And now Mexico puts in a claim. Venezuela seems to be the Mme. Humbert of the international money market.

A Kansas editor printed an elaborate notice of "Calomel," meaning "Camille." Probably it affected him that way.

If Edward Atkinson succeeds in his experiments toward making cheap fuel out of mud the coal dealer's name will be the same.

Now that a veteran Yankee whaling captain is to make a dash for the pole amateur contestants may as well pull out of the race.

Still, if you run out of breakfast food and the grocery store is closed, there is always a chance to fall back on ham and eggs.

Some people seem to get a great deal of solace and satisfaction out of moralizing over Mr. Rockefeller's dyspepsia and insomnia.

Automobilists who will race through a foot of snow would probably want to keep right on scorching if the earth were buried under soft soap.

In Utah drug stores are allowed to sell not more than five gallons of liquor at a time. Those who are real thirsty, however, can go back a second time.

The St. Louis girl to whom a rejected suitor has left a bequest of \$35,000 is more than ever impressed with the usefulness of the old adage, "Learn to say 'No.'"

A Chicago milk dealer has given up his business because he has become converted. Evidently he didn't put water enough in the milk to wash away his sins.

A Baltimore specialist comes to the front with the declaration that all Americans are neurotics. Well, who wouldn't prefer being neurotic to being an oyster?

China commenced to coin money long before any of the other nations thought of the idea. The trouble within China is that she didn't coin enough of it.

A New York playwright assaulted an editor for calling him "Gussie." It is to be hoped that the playwright has asserted his manhood.

For consistency's sake the enthusiast who wants "anywhere" incorporated into the language should advocate it in all ways and at all times—anyhow and anywhen, so to speak.

While looking for the causes of the divorce evil which Cardinal Gibbons so properly deplores some attention at least should be paid to the causative factors contributed by the reckless marriages.

When little Prince George of Wales was baptized the other day he yelled like a young wild cat and seemed to be half scared to death. Royalty has to grow on a person, like whiskeys and some other things.

April a Lucky Month

American People Have Settled Great Problems During Its Thirty Days—Momentous in the Annals of Our National History.

"Did you know that the month of April has played a more conspicuous part in American history than any other month of the year?" asked a man who is fond of things historical. "From the way I look at the events involved April is the most important of all the months and I have often wondered why the American people show so much indifference to the fact. Why, when you come to think of it, the Fourth of July, while, of course, important enough, is yet not quite so momentous in the annals of American history as some other days one might mention. April has been the one month of the year which has really settled the great problems with which the American people have had to deal. Suppose we glance at the record for a moment."

"The war of the revolution began April 19, 1775, and ended April 11, 1783. Coming on down we find the Sabine disturbance, involving the southwestern frontier, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas, and which began in April, 1836, running through to June of the next year. The Mexican war began April 24, 1846. The Yuma expedition into California ended in April, 1852, having begun in December the year previous. The Gila expedition into New Mexico was launched April 16, 1857. The Colorado river expedition in California ended April 28, 1859. The Pecos expedition into Texas was launched April 15, 1859.

There was the war of the rebellion, which started April 19, 1861. Hostilities actually began when Fort Sumpter was fired upon April 12, 1861.

"The Ute expedition in Colorado began April 3, 1878. It is a rather curious coincidence that the late war with Spain began April 21, in the same month and but two days later, with respect to the day of the month, than the war of the rebellion, which began April 19th. The Spanish-American war began April 21, 1898, and ended April 11, 1899. These are some of the more important things which have taken place in the month of April, and many of the events have been of deep import from the viewpoint of Americans. What reason can you assign for the conspicuous part April has played in the history of America? Do men feel more like fighting in April than in the other months of the year? Is the spirit of war and revolution influenced by the rising of the sap? I do not know, but there must be some good reason for the happening of these great things, wars, explorations, adventures and events of this sort in the month of April. At any rate they have happened in April and it would be unreasonable and altogether absurd to assume that these things are due to haphazard, that they are mere coincidences. April cannot be explained out of its rightful inheritance among the more important months in American history."

Buried in Old Cathedral

Famous Prelates That Have Been Laid to Rest Within the Walls of the Famous Structure of Canterbury.

Although since the Reformation, says the London Chronicle, no Protestant Archbishop of Canterbury was buried in his metropolitan cathedral until leave was obtained for the interment of Archbishop Benson in 1895, the dust of many famous prelates lies within these ancient precincts. Cuthbert, the eleventh Archbishop of Canterbury, powerfully affected the fortunes of the cathedral by obtaining permission from Pope Gregory nearly twelve centuries ago, that henceforth all the Archbishops might be buried within the walls of their own cathedral. Accordingly, from Cuthbert to Cardinal Pole, in 1559, the early remains of all the Bishops lie there at rest, including those of St. Odo, St. Dunstan, St. Alphege, St. Anselm, St. Thomas a Becket, Hubert Walter, Stephen Langton, Archbishops Peckham, Winchelsey, Bradwardine, Islip, Simon de Sudbury, Courtenay, Arundel, Chicheley, Bouchier, Morton, Warsam and other saints and statesmen, famous in history for their high services to church and commonwealth. The interior of Canterbury cathedral is so carefully preserved that it gives one the impression of extreme newness. Yet the whole choir and east end of the cathedral, as it now stands, is mainly the work of William of Sens and William the Englishman, who flourished toward the end of the twelfth century. But the cathedral and the many buildings in its precincts are a perfect museum of medieval architecture. Next to the transitional style, which is represented in the choir, comes the first pointed or early English style, which came about half a century later. To this period belongs the far famed "Archbishops' chair," usually called the "chair of St. Augustine," on which the archbishops are enthroned, and which was naturally the object of much interest at the funeral of recent date. It is elaborately carved, and is made of three pieces of Purbeck marble. From the style of its decoration it is believed to have been first placed in the cathedral in 1220, at the superb ceremony of the translation of Becket's remains from the crypt to his priceless shrine.

Iron a Valuable Metal

Its Importance Is Far Greater Than That of Both Silver and Gold—Precious Things From Mother Earth's Treasure House.

What are the precious metals? "Gold and silver," you answer.

That depends. If by preciousness is meant the value of the product in dollars and cents—our golden rule of measurement—then gold and silver are not the precious metals, according to the recently issued report of the United States geological survey, which gives the money value of the products wrested by man from the earth's dark laboratory in 1901.

The gold, the precious yellow metal, poured from nature's crucible in this land last year, is valued at \$78,000,000, and if to this we add the metal value of the silver we have \$111,000,000.

But what is that compared with the pig iron product of the same time, which is valued at \$241,000,000?

The iron produced is more precious than the gold and silver combined by \$130,000,000.

Modest copper, Indian complexioned copper, can put the oriental hued gold to the blush, for last year it enriched us in the sum of \$87,000,000.

Different American Voices.

Funds to enable Yale university to collect phonographic records of American voices, especially those of the disappearing tribes of American Indians, have been granted by the Carnegie Institute.

\$9,000,000 more than the value of the yellow metal.

Even the base lead that was mined is one-third the value of the gold.

When we go a little deeper and measure structural purposes gold and silver are again distanced, for the building stone, clay and cements that were launched by us into the channels of commerce in 1901 are valued at \$182,000,000.

The gold and silver produced in the same time was \$71,000,000 short of being enough to purchase this output.

When we go a little deeper and measure the value of coal, petroleum and natural gas that we purloined from beneath the fruitful breast of Mother Earth we find its value four times that of all the gold and silver taken from the same treasure-house in the same time.

Gold and silver may dazzle up with their brightness and charm us with their nimbleness, but in preciousness measured by worth of production and real usefulness they sink by their own gravity to the bottom of the list of minerals.

The Tyrant Man Analyzed.

What is man? Man that is born of woman is small cabbages and few in a patch. In infancy he is full of colic, paregoric and catnip tea, and in old age he is full of cuss words and rheumatism.

POPULAR SCIENCE

A Simple Typewriter.

In cheap and simple typewriters it has heretofore been unusual in printing a character to perform three distinct operations—to find the letter, see that the parts were brought accurately to the proper position and then to impress the character on the paper, this



Operates by the Sense of Touch. Last portion of the work being often done with the other hand than the one which adjusts the mechanism. In the drawing is presented a machine for which the inventor—William H. Young of Athens, Ga.—claims great simplicity of action, in that the sense of touch may be more fully utilized than is possible with most machines of this character.

This machine has the type on spring fingers, and all the fingers are secured to the bar, which slides on a horizontal rod. To print the proper character it is only necessary to insert the finger in the wire bale which lies above the flat plate on which the letters of the alphabet are embossed, printed or countersunk; move the bale along until the finger is in line with the letter desired, and depress the plate. A spring tongue on the plate transmits the motion to the type finger, which is forced downward until it strikes the ribbon overlying the paper. At each depression of the plate a ratchet feed moves the paper forward to the next space.

It is the sliding of the wire bale back and forth to insert the finger in the proper character which brings the type finger beneath the tongue for printing, and as there is no adjustment of the mechanism in addition to this movement the machine could probably be worked by a blind man, if the selecting characters were embossed on the plate.

Water Curtains for Fire Protection.

The principle of the so-called water curtain which was proposed quite a number of years ago for fire protection in theaters, being intended to cut off the auditorium from the stage, has of late been applied in many instances for ordinary building protection the arrangement being such as to cause water to fall in a sheet—either all around a structure or down one side or several sides of it. In the case of one large public building, of which particulars have recently been given, a 7-inch steel water main is laid around the top of the structure, upon the broad stone table formed by the top of the coping. This pipe is connected with force pumps in the basement, and, through perforations properly arranged, insures the introduction of a substantial sheet of water from cornice to pavement, around the whole or any imperiled portion of the building. The arrangement of the system of piping is said to be such as to permit of operating in prescribed sections, and additional relays of smaller pipe are placed in position above windows and doors in order to complete the curtaining of these points in the most serviceable manner, should the curtain in the main be broken by wind impinging against the building or through some other cause.

For Use in the Kitchen.

Alfred Anderson of Frazer, Minn., has undertaken to catch the bad odors



Stove Hood for Kitchen Use.

of the kitchen and pass them up the chimney, instead of allowing them to permeate all parts of the house. His invention consists of a metallic hood, suspended above the stove and having an entrance directly into the pipe which leads to the chimney. Each cooking pot is provided with a cover having a tube extending from one side,

through which the vapors are passed directly into the hood. Should the boiling up of the contents of the pot elevate the cover the resulting puff of steam is also drawn into the hood by means of draft conduits arranged around the interior of the hood, the suction of air into the conduits being stimulated by the steam rising to the chimney through the tubes in the covers of the pots.

Revolving Tooth Brush.

The dentist will tell you that it is of vital importance in cleaning the teeth that the brush be moved toward the edge of the teeth instead of toward the gums, as the improper use of the brush will cause the gums to recede from the teeth and expose the roots to the action of decaying acids and other detrimental matter. The new brush shown in the accompanying drawing has been designed with a view to meeting this demand for movement in a single direction, having a mechanism which prevents backward rotation when the handles are relaxed for giving a fresh impetus to the brush. As will be seen, the handle is designed to contract in the hand, and is expanded again by the V-shaped spring at the ends. The shaft which carries the circular brush has a toothed wheel at the opposite end, and a reversible rack bar is attached to the upper handle to rotate the shaft as the handles are contracted. This rack bar can be shifted to either side of the shaft to move the brush in opposite direction, and as a ratchet is located inside the gear wheel to transmit the motion to the shaft the latter remains motionless while the rack bar is moving backward. With a little practice the operator can produce a rapid rotation of the bristles in the proper direction on either side of the face, cleaning the teeth much more



Bristles Move Only in One Direction, rapidly and effectively than with the old style brush. The inventor is Homer Poling of Curtin, W. Va.

Wonderful Meat Preservative.

The ships of the Russian navy are now carrying meat for use on board that is preserved by a process which is said to keep it in good condition as long as seven years. The invention is that of Dr. F. T. Schidlovsky, who injects a compound through the heart to the aorta, so that all the blood in the slaughtered animal's body is replaced by the preservative fluid. The carcass is divided and packed in tinned iron boxes and strewn slightly with salt. Taus prepared, it is said, to retain for a long time and under trying conditions its nutritious and digestible qualities. Some of it was found recently at the end of a six months' voyage in the tropics, during which the temperature of the ship's stores rose to 100 degrees, to be without perceptible deterioration and it is said that other samples which were found to have retained their principal qualities. The preservative solution is, of course, harmless, or said to be, to the human stomach.

Pressure of Light Waves.

Nichols and Hull made, before the late meeting of the American Astronomical Society, a demonstration of the pressure of light waves. The apparatus was an hour glass vacuum tube which contained some carbon sponge dust of particles only one or two microns in diameter, the chamber having been very carefully exhausted to as high a vacuum as possible. When the dust was allowed to fall from the upper to the lower chamber in a powerful arc-light beam the larger particles were seen to fall vertically, while the finer ones fell out of plumb and away from the light. The angle of deviation was stated to be about that to be expected on the radiant push hypothesis.

Natural Colored Silk.

Recent experiments in France have shown that the yellow and green colors possessed by the silk spun by certain caterpillars are due to coloring matter derived from the food, and passed through the blood of the spinners. By impregnating leaves with artificial colors the experimenters caused some species of caterpillars to produce silk of bright orange-yellow and fine rose hues. By the aid of the spectroscopic presence and nature of colored pigments in the blood of the little animals was established.