

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

A CHOICE SELECTION OF INTERESTING ITEMS.

Comments and Criticisms Based Upon the Happenings of the Day—Historical and News Notes.

There are 360 different mountain peaks within the limits of the United States, each of which exceeds 10,000 feet in height.

Mr. Chauncey M. Depew, the railroad president, does not agree with Mr. Chauncey M. Depew, the public-spirited citizen, in believing that low rates to the Fair would be a good thing.

To say that a man died of heart failure may mean that he has died of any or all the diseases in the category. The Philadelphia Board of Health has refused to accept certificates of death from physicians where the cause of death is described as heart failure.

The smokers of the United States put \$200,000,000 worth of tobacco in their pipes last year. "An appalling waste," one will say. "What a grand sum total of comfort and solace that represents," another will exclaim. And there you are. The tobacco question is not settled yet.

The young Khedive of Egypt is showing a disposition to have his own way. He wants a ministry that will help carry out his idea of government, but England is the power behind the throne, and whenever the Khedive crosses her wishes he will be promptly called upon with suggestions that he cannot ignore.

Hollis P. Macomber is a Boston cigar dealer who proposes to make smokers independent of the visible supply of matches. He has invented a chemical preparation that is rubbed on the business end of a cigar. When the pointed end of the cigar is cut off and the smoker begins to puff the preparation ignites the cigar lights itself—and there you are.

Says the United Presbyterian: We have seen it written to the praise of some that he had a "genius for helping folk in all sorts of common ways." What a splendid tribute! And yet here is a talent within the reach of almost every one. Few can be helpful in extraordinary ways; but the world has greater need of those whose genius is in the line of common, every-day services.

A physician advises: "Learn how to rest. Don't wait to make a separate business of it; let it become part of the daily routine of occupation. Above all, begin relief, however slight, at the first moment its need is indicated. Stop work at your desk; lean back and close the eyes; relax the frame so far as possible for fifteen minutes; lie down, if convenient, for the same length of time; in any way relieve the tension, however briefly, but promptly, and the result will be a large ratio of gain in endurance."

The bicyclist's stop (kyphosis bicylistanum) seems to be practically confined to boys. Girls ride bicycles more and more, but for some reason they do not find it necessary to hunch their shoulders forward and double themselves over the handles of their machines. Perhaps that is because they are valier than the boys and care more how they look. Perhaps it is merely because they have more sense. Perhaps there is another reason still, and the mothers of stooping cyclists might correct their youngsters' deformity by putting them into corsets.

OCCUPANTS of a country house near Morristown, N. J., have discovered in the garret many interesting letters of the Revolutionary period. Some of them were addressed to a young man in the West Indies. The writer begs the young man to send him some first-rate rum, in order that he may have appropriate refreshment for Gen. Washington and other officers of the patriot army, his frequent visitors. He speaks with much enthusiasm of Washington. The letters describe a drive to New York, and among other things clear up a tragic mystery of that time.

Riots in Spain have an origin which do not indicate any particular distress or want of means among the people. One of the outbreaks came because the bull engaged to furnish the sport at their national pastime would not fight, and they raised red again because the band would not play the music they demanded. The uprising was of such a serious character that the militia had to be called out, and even it met with strong resistance until a volley was fired into the ranks of the rioters. Where the worst elements of society can have their way there is always trouble.

UNDER the statutes of the State of New York cave-dropping is a misdemeanor and there are instances in

which the enforcement of the prescribed penalty is a good thing for the community afflicted by such an offender. In one of the smaller towns of that State a man was recently sent up for thirty days because of his anxiety to know what a young couple engaged to each other had to talk about when they were supposed to be alone, led him to conceal himself and listen. Young people who are under promise of marriage always have said things that sound very silly to the cool-headed outsiders who are not in love, and it is a very mean man who will listen to the tender bits of gush and foolishness which are exchanged by youthful lovers.

How MANY more Senate Hotel death-traps are there in Chicago? In how many tinderbox lodging-houses, tenements and cheap hotels are people risking their lives every night? What proportion of fire-trap buildings are supplied with fire escapes? Five persons dead and a score injured—some fatally—is the record of a fire in one of the smallest of the myriad of lodging-houses. What will be the result when a lamp explodes or a drunken man sets fire to the bed-clothes in one of the big establishments in which hundreds of people lie every night like rabbits in a warren? These questions require immediate answer. The proper authorities should lose no time in inspecting every lodging-house and hotel and condemning those that are unsafe. It is marvelous that horrors like that of the Senate have not occurred before. It must be looked to that they shall not occur again. The responsibility for the Cold Storage Warehouse holocaust has been evaded. There should be no evasion of the responsibility for the next lodging-house fire. The Chief of the Fire Department and the Building Commissioner have had warning. Let them heed it.

THE fisheries of Lake Erie are said to be threatened with practical destruction by the wanton slaughter of fish by the seiners in those waters. Hundreds of tons of young fish have been annually thrown away or sold as fertilizers, and, despite all that the Ohio state wardens have been able to do, the work of ruining the lake fisheries has gone steadily on. One great obstacle in the way of protecting the fisheries has been the fact that, while the Ohio statutes provide for a close season between June 15th and September 10th, the fishermen have gone over to the Canadian side of the lake to do the seining there, and, returning have contended that since their catches were made with American appliances, they were entitled to be brought into American ports duty free. Now, however, the United States revenue cutter Commodore Perry has been ordered to patrol the lake and every ton of fish brought in from Canada waters, unless smuggled in, will have to pay the duty of \$15 a ton. This enforcement of the revenue laws will doubtless accomplish a great deal of good, and the object of a close season will no longer be defeated.

YOUNG gentlemen who intend to compete for the prizes offered by James Gordon Bennett for the best political "leaders" written by college undergraduates may do worse than to read, learn, and inwardly digest the following remarks in Harper's Weekly: "In composing political 'leaders' for newspapers it is of importance, first to say something; second to say it so that it will be read. If any aspirant for Mr. Bennett's prizes finds that he can not do both of these desirable things, let him concentrate his energies on the second one. To say nothing in particular may seem hardly worth while; but, from the newspaper point of view, it is vastly better to say nothing to somebody than to say something to nobody. A newspaper that is published every day in the year is sure to have some dull days and some waiting days, on which the man who says nothing in particular about politics, and say it with such wisdom and grace that it is worth reading, gets ample opportunity to earn his pay. Political silence is oftentimes too invaluable golden to be marred by the alloy of actual speech; but dead silence in any company is embarrassing, and to temper it with an appearance of talk that occupies the ear without leaving any sediment in the mind, is a useful sort of jugglery by which, if nothing better offers, a pen-and-ink living may sometimes be earned."

TWO Carnations and a Potato. "I can tell you how to cross the Atlantic with a fresh carnation in your buttonhole," said an experienced traveler the other day. His recipe was to start the voyage with two carnations and a raw potato. The carnations are to be worn on alternate days, and each, when not ornamenting the buttonhole is to be firmly thrust into a hole in the potato. At the end of a week at least one of them will be fresh enough to excite the surprise of fellow passengers.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A TEXAS statistician announces that the population of the world, estimated at 1,400,000,000, if divided in families of five, could be accommodated in Texas, each family with a five-acre lot. He says that there would be 50,000,000 lots left over for parks and public buildings.

ERASTUS WIMAN is reported as saying in a late address that there are \$155,000,000 in the forty-one savings banks of New York and Brooklyn, held by more than 1,000,000 depositors, and the capital of all the National banks in the country is only \$709,000,000.

ONE curious result of the hurricane that struck the Southern coast recently was the killing of quantities of fish. For many days after the storm the coast around Savannah and throughout the stretch where its force was most vented was strewn with dead fish of all kinds.

THE whaling industry has fallen off so much as to play but a small part in the world's commerce. The latest figures obtainable show the production to average between 15,000 and 20,000 tons of 252 gallons each per year. There are two kinds of whale oil, the sperm, taken from the head of the cachot, or sperm whale, and train oil, which is derived from the common whale, or as it is more commonly known, the right whale. Sperm oil is worth from \$150 to \$500 per ton, and the ordinary train oil about \$200.

WILLIAM ARCHER, of London, thinks that people have too much trouble killing themselves, and believes that a long-felt want would be supplied by the construction of a commodious and scientific lethal chamber, which shall reduce to a minimum the physical terrors and inconveniences of suicide for the "patient" and his family and friends. To this chamber the disconsolate Briton could retire and be comfortably turned off by the latest scientific methods.

PRESIDENT POLK's tomb has been a subject of official proceedings in Tennessee, and it has been finally removed to a plot of ground within the shadow of the Capitol at Nashville. The courts decided that Mr. Polk's leaving his estate "to the whitest of his name forever," was void, as constituting a perpetuity, and the Legislature provided the money for the removal of the tomb, as the land on which it stood became liable to division.

THE Chinese in California have a chance to go to a warmer climate. They are offered \$25 a head in British Guiana to hoe sugar cane and dig for gold. The colony only wants 5,000 of them in the meantime, but if they behave themselves and do not make their queues stand out at right angles with pride, there may be a demand for more. The European cannot toil with his hands in Guiana, and John would have a monopoly of the labor market. Here he is at a disadvantage, because the white man is able to undertake a great deal more work than there is in sight.

THE discussion concerning the extent of the supply of natural gas which received an impetus from the falling off of the output of many wells near Pittsburg, is apt to be renewed by the discovery of another tremendous body of gas near Findlay, Ohio. The capacity of the well struck there is estimated to be equal to a discharge of 50,000,000 cubic feet a day. If this enormous quantity of gas can all be utilized it will, in the opinion of the San Francisco Chronicle, be a source of great prosperity to Findlay, which has profited by the presence of other large wells, but it is not likely that the supply will continue indefinitely. Its very immensity forbids the idea.

UTAH is making great strides in the development of a manufacturing interests, being in this respect an exception among territories. This fact is made apparent in the exhibit in the Utah building at the World's Fair. Referring to the manufactures of Utah the Chicago Herald says: "The leather made there is said to be as good as the best in the hide and leather building. The cotton goods find a ready market, and only recently, in competition with eastern factories, a Utah woolen mill has taken the contract to supply cloths for new uniforms for the national guards of California. Examples of all these manufactures are shown in this building, and their appearance justifies all that is claimed for them."

To investigate the rapid disappearance of the Columbia River salmon the United States Government has sent Dr. C. H. Gilbert, professor of zoology at Leland Stanford, Jr., University, and O. P. Jenkins, professor of physiology at the same institution, and one or two other scientific men upon an expedition to that stream. They have just returned to San Francisco, and report that the numerous nets, seines, traps and other devices that fill the lower Columbia from Astoria a long distance upward, and the reckless slaughter of the fish by the canners are the cause of the scarcity of salmon. Professor Jenkins said that Major Marshall MacDonald, United States Fish Commissioner, would go West this fall with a view to securing legislation in Oregon and Washington to protect the salmon.

CAPTAIN PARKER, of the Fourth Cavalry, who is superintendent of the Sequoia and General Grant national parks in California, has made his annual report to the secretary of the interior, and says that during the past year there has been no trouble with fires or trespassers. He speaks of the giant forest as probably the most magnificent body of timber in the world. It occupies an area of about three miles square on an elevated plateau east of the Marble Fork. It is a continuous forest of splendid trees, mainly red wood and sugar pine. Nearly all of the red woods reach a height of 300 feet from the ground, and are from 15 to 20 feet in diameter. To preserve this great natural curiosity and to make it accessible to the public, a good road is essential, and he recommends that \$30,000 be appropriated for the purpose of constructing such a road. He also recommends that bridges be built across the main Kaweah and the North Fork rivers; that a wire fence be built around Grant Park; that the two parks be consolidated, and that the many fine streams in the park be stocked with fish.

RECENT events show that the unsophisticated aborigine is an apt scholar in some things. He is not strong on books, perhaps, but he is not slow to appreciate the substantial rewards of smuggling. A case was brought to the attention of the treasury department the other day of an Indian who came across the Canadian frontier with some \$2,000 worth of Indian goods in his possession. Indians enjoy the right of crossing the northern frontier of the United States at will, and of carrying their effects with them, paying no duty on the same. The noble red man, it is asserted by a special treasury agent reporting the case, has evidently learned some "tricks" from his pale-faced neighbor, and is bringing into the country as his personal "effects" goods subject to duty. In this case the Indian swore that the goods were his, but it is since learned that he is a runner for a Canadian manufacturer, and that they are sold to Indians in the United States on our northern border without paying the duty the law requires. An investigation of the matter has been ordered, as it is asserted the collector of customs at the port of entry has not exercised due vigilance in the matter.

TRACING ONE'S ANCESTRY.

Something About Descent on the Female Side.

A conversation among a group of people the other day, all of whom were of good New England families, brought out some curious admissions. Only one of the party could trace his descent, in the line of mothers, farther than his grandmother, though several could trace it very much farther in the paternal line, and even in what they called the "maternal line," which meant, of course, the mother's father's family. All present could tell the maiden name of their mother's mother, but only one could tell the maiden name of her mother. Of course, many in New England among those genealogically careful people who can tell you the names of all their sixteenth great-grandfathers and grandmothers can do this; but there are comparatively few. And those who cannot carry back the line of mothers more than three generations include the representatives of some of the most aristocratic families in New England, whose line of paternal descent is unbroken to the settlement and beyond.

Let us think for a moment what this question involves. Suppose you write down your own name. Then write down on one line just above it the names of your father and mother—the father's name first on the left, the mother's second on the right. You perceive that these two people had an equal interest in your being. There is at least a chance that you are like your mother in important physical and mental respects. Now, set out on a line above these two names the names of your grandfathers and grandmothers, beginning with your father's father and ending with your mother's mother. These two couples, again, had as much interest in your father and your mother as your father and mother had in you; and there is in you as much of your mother's mother as there is of your father's father. Now above this line write down the names of your eight great-grandparents—which you should surely be able to do if you are a Yankee. Each one of these eight had an equal interest in you. Now you perceive that you have a pyramid standing on its apex. You are the apex. The left-hand edge of it is your line of fathers, and on the right-hand of it is your line of mothers. In all likelihood you derive rather more of the characteristics from the right-hand edge of the pyramid than you do from the left; and while, in all probability, if you are from a good New England family, you can go stretching out the left-hand edge of the inverted pyramid, you cannot go on with the right-hand edge any further, and this means that your genealogy is a one-sided and partial thing.—(Boston Transcript.)

Nicknames of Noted Men.

- "The Silent Man"—U. S. Grant.
"The Poet of Nature"—William C. Bryant.
"Old Rough and Ready"—Zachary Taylor.
"The Rail-splitter"—Abraham Lincoln.
"Silver-Tongued Orator"—Wendell Phillips.
"Grand Old Man"—W. E. Gladstone.
"Little Phil"—Philip Sheridan.
"Father of Greenbacks"—Salmon P. Chase.
"The Little Giant"—Stephen A. Douglas.
"Old Hickory"—Andrew Jackson.
"Black Dan"—Daniel Webster.
"Old Man Eloquent"—John Quincy Adams.
"Goldsmith of America"—Washington Irving.
"Mad Yankee"—Elisha Kane.
"Schoolmaster of Our Republic"—Noah Webster.
"Wizard of the North"—Sir Walter Scott.
"Black Jack"—John A. Logan.
"The Honest Man"—James Monroe.
"Poor Richard"—Benjamin Franklin.
"Bachelor President"—James Buchanan.
"Little Mac"—General McClellan.
"Old Rhody"—General Burnside.
"Old Tecumseh"—General Sherman.

Scavengers of the Body.

Floating about the body with the blood are numerous cells which seem to go around on their own hook. In the lungs they are found in great numbers. When they come across any disease germ or other foreign particle, they eat it up or carry it away to some place where it cannot do any harm. Thus they serve the purpose of scavengers. Unfortunately, so many wicked germs are floating about in the dust that occasionally they make their way into the system of a healthy person and cause trouble. Most dreadful of all such micro-organisms is the bacillus of consumption, which breeds in the human lungs and destroys them. Cholera has been exciting much dismay of late, but it is a complaint of trifling importance compared with consumption. In Europe 3,000 persons die every day of consumption, while in the United States the same disease kills 100,000 people a year.—(Washington Star.)

FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS.

HIDE AND SEEK.

"There's a baby moon to-night."
Cries out Floss in tones of glee.
"it gives such a pretty light!"
Tim and Tiny, come and see!
"it can see us, I suppose,
Though it lives so far away.
Tiny, do you think it knows
We were naughty girls to-day?"

Tiny's cheeks grow rosy red.
Then she cries triumphantly—
Bending low her golden head—
"Baby moon, 'ou tan't find me."
—(Yankee Blade.)

A FAMOUS ROSE.

Many flowers owe their names to famous people. Among the number are the dahlia, named for Dahl, a Swedish florist; the magnolia, for Magnol, a celebrated French botanist; and the fuchsia, for Fuchs, a distinguished German savant. But there is only one instance known when a man and a flower received a title at the same moment. How it happened is pleasantly told in the Wide Awake:
"When Niel, a brave French general, was returning from the scene of his victories in the war between France and Austria, he received from a peasant, who wished to honor the hero, a basket of beautiful pale yellow roses. One of the stems, which happened to have roots clinging to it, the general took to a florist in Paris, in whose care it remained until it became a thriving bush covered with blossoms. Niel then took the plant as a gift to Empress Eugenie. She expressed great admiration for the exquisite flowers, and on learning that the rose was nameless, said significantly: 'Then I will name it. It shall be 'The Mareschal Niel.''"

WHAT A SPANISH LADY BROUGHT TO ENGLAND.

When the unfortunate Katharine of Aragon, who was the wife of the brother of Henry VIII., and was afterwards married to Henry VIII. himself, first came to England she brought with her from Spain an article which was quite unfamiliar to English eyes. This small but necessary article had been manufactured in France, and was sent from that country to Spain as a part of the elegant outfit prepared for the bride of the King of England. Walking down Broadway you might pick up a thousand, perhaps, and a goodly number on the common road-side, but in the days of Henry VIII. it was an expensive luxury. And what do you suppose it was? Only a pin!

In general use consisted of clasps, ribbons strings, loop-holes, skewers of bone, silver, gold, brass or wood, and crudely formed hooks and eyes; but the simple pin, with its solid head and sharp point, was unknown.

France claims that all new ideas which come into the world come through her, however well they may be developed and perfected by other nations. In the evolution of the pin France deserves the credit. She made the best pins long before they could be made in other countries, and it was a Frenchman, Fournier by name, who went to Nuremberg and taught the wire drawers and makers of that city how to improve their machines, and thus draw the wire finer for the manufacture of pins with solid heads. This improvement was a much-needed one, for an act had been passed in England prohibiting the sale of pins unless they had solid or double heads which did not come off. For a long time, then, pins in England belonged to the list of imported articles, but in 1636 a manufactory was started in Gloucestershire by a man named John Filshy, who operated so successfully that he employed as many as fifteen hundred people. —(Harper's Young People.)

POLLY'S GHOST.

"O, mamma, mamma!" cried Polly, running into a neighbor's house with a white, frightened face, "there's a ghost over at home, a ghost, mamma! and Nancy and I are afraid."
"A ghost, Polly, and in the daytime?" said Mrs. Small, smiling but putting her arms around her little girl and trying to quiet her.
"O, mamma, it must be a ghost and Nancy says so. The parlor bell rang and when she opened the door, there wasn't any one there. She's all frightened to pieces, mamma."
"Then we must go back to her at once," said Mrs. Small.
Nancy, though a good girl, was an ignorant one, and was so terrified by what had just happened that she wanted to leave the house forever, as soon as Mrs. Small returned. A little persuasion and kindly talk, however, induced her to stay a while longer, for Mrs. Small assured her the trouble could come from nothing that could not be explained in some way. She herself thought rats had probably touched the wire in the cellar, and told her she must try to forget it. She had almost forgotten it and was singing at her work the next afternoon when the same thing happened again.
"An' at the same hour by the clock," she said excitedly to Mrs. Small, after which she threw her apron over her head and groaned as if in pain, saying no money would tempt her to be in the house again at that hour.
It was Polly, however, who gave her mother most uneasiness, for though she did not say much, she would start and shiver at the least sound and would look round as if she expected to see a ghost every few moments.

The next day she was sent to spend the afternoon at a neighbor's and Mrs. Small stationed herself on the front piazza, where through the slats of a blind she could see into the parlor without being seen from inside.
Later in the day she sent for Polly and told her she had seen the ghost, and had opened the door for it herself. Such a funny ghost, she told her, she wanted her to see for herself; so the next afternoon there were two pairs of eyes looking through the slats in the blind. Mrs. Small had tried to persuade Nancy to make a third, but nothing would induce her to go near the room. Before long, however, Polly rushed at her excitedly, crying with wide open eyes:

"It's pussy! It's pussy! It's pussy!"
Sure enough! Pussy had wakened from a nap before the fire, had jumped into a chair and pulled the long tell rope, and then stationed herself close to the door, ready to run as soon as it was opened.
She had learned a number of tricks from Dot, the little dog, but Polly thinks this the smartest of them all and that she has the most wonderful cat in the world.—(New York Observer.)

POPULAR SCIENCE NOTES.

THE HELIOGRAPH IN THE WEST.—The West is the true home of the heliograph. The Department of Arizona, during the recent troubles over the late lamented Geronimo, made what might have been termed a heliographic survey of the seat of the Indian troubles, and located on the maps the available points of observation, with the direction and compass bearing of the other visible stations. In this way the country was covered with a network of heliograph posts, and the observers at each station kept flashing into headquarters the latest news of the movements of the hostiles. The Indians, under this cross-fire of mysterious sun signals, decided that the devil was in league with the troopers, and their superstitious fears, added to the constant harrying from the widely scattered parties of cavalry, brought them to terms, as never would have been done but for the use of the flash signals. The distances covered by some of the heliograph stations were remarkable. Fifty or sixty miles was considered nothing unusual, and on one "reach" 125 miles were covered without an intervening station.

NEW THEORY OF SLEEP.—Some discussion has been going on concerning Herr Rosenbaum's recently proposed theory of sleep, namely, that the anemic condition of the brain is due to an excess of water in the brain cells of that body. The supposition, as stated, is that sleep is essentially a matter of nervous action, and the direct cause is thought to be fatigue of the nerve cells which communicate with the heart and bring about some change in the circulation; the nerve cells are thus supposed to be full of water when sleep comes on, and this water during sleep passes into the venous blood as waste; the nerve cells then receive nourishment from fresh arterial blood—then, when the process is entirely over, the sleeper awakes. According to this theory, sleep is not solely healthy because it rests the body and brain, but also because it invigorates them. It is also to be inferred from Rosenbaum's theory that the nerve cells and brain of infants who sleep so much must contain more water than is to be found in those of adults, and that the effectiveness of brain cells is in inverse ratio to the water contents. Of no inferior interest is the theory of Dr. James Cappel, of Edinburgh, and also held by some other eminent scientists, namely, that the veins of the piamater, the inner membrane of the skull, are capable of congesting and dispersing comparatively large quantities of blood—that congestion produces vertigo and senselessness or stupor—and that the dispersion of blood from the brain cells produces a slight compression on the surface of the brain and thus brings about sleep.

SUB-ATLANTIC TELEPHONY.—There is a general impression abroad that telegraphing through the Atlantic cables is conducted much as is telegraphing over any ordinary wire; that the telegraph operator sits by an ordinary ticking instrument and hears words spelled off by the simple dot and dash system. The cable of 1893 is not much better than it was when Cyrus Field first saw it in working order. It can only transmit about eight words a minute, and these words are not indicated by a tick, but by faint flashes of light between the poles of the cable instrument. The distinguished British electrician, Silvanus G. Thompson, before the World's Fair Electrical Congress last week explained that instead of eight words a minute, it would be possible to send through the cable 400 words in the same time through a line of the same resistance but destitute of capacity. The British electrician believes compensated cables of a new type to be practicable, and that means for attaining ocean telephony is within the grasp of electricians of this date, many prominent electricians to the contrary notwithstanding. He says: "It may be useful to begin with some shorter experience. But an Atlantic cable constructed on the new plan will not cost much more, when laid, than one of the old type, and whether or not it is successful in conveying telephonic speech it will certainly transmit telegraphic messages at a greatly accelerated speed of signaling. If only Atlantic cable can be constructed to do the work now requiring eight cables, that cable will be constructed. Acceleration of the ocean telegraphic service is in itself a desirable step in advance; but the advance will not be complete until telephonic speech is transmitted from shore to shore." It is this tremendous resistance and lack of capacity, which difficulty electricians have thus far been unable to overcome, that has made telegraphy under the ocean very slow, and telephony seem impossible. With the compensated cable which Prof. Thompson recommends, the distance between the Old and New worlds will be annihilated. Europe and America, before another decade has rolled around, will be saying, not writing, "Good morning" to each other in a dozen different languages.

Gossiping.

A gossip speaks ill of all and all of her.—Chinese.
At every word of a gossip a reputation dies.—Welsh.
Gossiping and lying go hand in hand.—Spanish.
Gossips and tale-bearers set on fire all the houses they enter.—Arabic.
Lies and gossip have a wretched offspring.—Danish.
Gossips fall out and tell each other truths.—Portuguese.
When the character of a friend is as sailed, if the hand of charity open not thy mouth, let the finger of silence rest upon thy lips.—Syrian Philosophy or Evil.