

That legless man who was married in Milwaukee the other day is in luck; his wife will have to foot all the bills.

In all climates cleanliness is among the primary conditions of health, and health means the first gift of God to man.

Niagara was astonished at Li Hung Chang's queue, and Li was astonished at Niagara's waterfall. Honors are even.

J. J. Corbett is running for Congress in the Charleston, Mass., district. If there is anything in a name we predict that he will win in a talk.

It is announced that Li Hung Chang's name literally translated means "Plum Blooming Literary Ability." Then it's a misnomer; Li is a pea.

True charity does not consist in dispensing what we no longer need or have lost our liking for, but in giving that which necessitates some self-denial.

That Ohio girl who took arsenic to remove freckles will never be bothered by them again. As a freckle remover arsenic knocks the spots off most cosmetics.

Treasurer Legg, of Pike County, Ohio, is a defaulter for several thousand dollars and a fugitive from justice. Pike County's Legg should be pulled at the first opportunity.

There are but few people who live by rule. The majority neither eat, sleep, work, rest, pray, meditate, nor reach a conclusion of any kind except as it suits them. Method is the means by which expectation reaches the top of the ladder of life—that is, the summit of real power and influence.

A dispatch from Fort Scott, Kan., says that Allen Six of that place has been arrested and locked up for having ten wives simultaneously and no souvenir collection of divorcees. Perhaps Allen deserves to be disciplined, but it must be remembered that although he has had ten marital partners each of his wives has had Six. Six semper tyrannis.

There has recently been furnished perhaps the severest test ever made of the practicability of bicycles for military purposes. An officer and eight soldiers, heavily accoutred and carrying four days' rations, wheeled nearly a thousand miles, including the passage of the Rocky Mountain range, in better time than foot soldiers or troopers could have made on a sustained march in a mountainous region.

There is a striking antithesis in the recent newspaper headline, "Paposes to Become Students." The title is over a paragraph telling of steps toward the erection of school buildings for Indian children on the northern shore of Lake Superior. There is now in the United States no frontier of civilization in the old sense, and there is no human being within its borders that cannot enjoy most of the substantial benefits of civilization.

A large proportion of the deaths by lightning every summer occur in cases of persons standing under trees. Emphatic warnings against the danger of seeking protection in such a place during the prevalence of an electric storm are contained in almost every practical treatise on atmospheric electricity. The caution seems to be unheeded, however, by city people and country people alike, and again and again in the course of the season of thunderstorms the newspapers are called upon to record these distressing fatalities, which could probably have been avoided in most instances if the victims had only kept away from trees.

One safeguard of the country is a judge who refuses to grant naturalization papers to applicants unable to comprehend our form of government or to read English. The Supreme Court of the District of Columbia is reported to have set an admirable example in recent naturalization cases. One applicant frankly admitted that he did not understand the Constitution, and the judge refused to admit him to citizenship. The safety of the republic demands that naturalization tests should be made more rigid, rather than easier. The time is past when the subject can be dismissed with the careless assertion that our body politic is proof against poisonous material in the form of citizenship indiscriminately conferred on ignorant immigrants.

Natural gas has proved a most valuable fuel in Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana and throughout the region within easy reach of the wells, and its use has been of especial importance to the iron industries. At first it was supposed that the supply was inexhaustible and great enterprises were projected upon the basis of this supposition. Experience has shown that this is not the case and the decline in the supply, evidenced by the rapidly decreasing pressure, has of late begun to excite alarm. It is shown by a recent report that the value of the gas consumed in Pennsylvania, which rose to \$19,000,000 in 1888, has since that year gone down at a decreasing ratio, till it was less than \$6,000,000 in 1905. The supply in Ohio and Indiana has likewise fallen off, and though manufacturers have learned the need of economy, so that there is much less waste than formerly, it is apparent that

natural gas cannot be counted upon as a fuel of the future. Still, it is not exhausted yet and it has served already a good purpose in diminishing the consumption of coal and thus prolonging to some extent the store of that fuel. The scientific men are warning us that the coal supply also is not inexhaustible, but before the coal gives out no doubt some other fuel will be discovered, or science will have found a way to make a little fuel produce so much more heat that posterity will not be left to perish.

A correspondent of a London religious journal solemnly avers that it is a "regular custom" for people in San Francisco and other hot districts in the United States to vary their summer church services in this effective way: The worshippers "get up and stretch themselves, and even take a turn outside, after the fashion of the theater between the acts." The adoption of "some of these sensible ways" would cause the churches of England, the correspondent thinks, to be "generally filled, even in spite of the hot weather." This imaginary picture could have been made appropriately complete if the writer had added that, "while taking a turn outside," the overheated congregation occasionally shoot a bear or indulge in the luxury of a brief encounter with Indians.

As a persistent and tireless questioner it is probable that Li has few equals. Instead of being interviewed to any great extent he has interviewed everyone who came within his range, and with appalling capacity for greedy absorption of facts. He asks the railway magnates what salaries they are paid for their official services. He asked the president of the Pennsylvania Railway Company to give him the gauge of his railway and rebuked him for not giving it accurately to the half inch. When a lady newspaper correspondent attempted to interview him he asked her what salary she received, how much she saved out of it and if she ever had any of her articles rejected. Instead of accepting banquets and other silly and unprofitable stomach-destroying functions Li has requested to be taken through factories, shipyards and locomotive works, where he asked comprehensive and practical questions.

Persons who have regarded Central Park in New York as a sort of umbrageous fringe for 5th avenue, through which pleasure ground wind roadways in a large measure devoted to the equipments of the smart set, are to experience a distinct shock. By special order of the park commission a motley assemblage of invalids is to be allowed to walk barefoot over the north meadow, simply that this contact with mother earth may cure individuals of certain ills afflicting them. Since the day on which the Central Park police arrested Jeanquin Miller, the poet of the Sierras, for walking on the grass of that sacred precinct, park sod has been held sacred in New York. Boys have been reared in Gotham who have no distinct notion of what would happen should they step on green grass with hobnailed shoes; they have been schooled into the belief that it would be something dreadful. Now, with shoes and stockings removed, the public may walk on the grass within a certain prescribed area and at certain hours of the day, provided there is something the matter with them; all well persons would be yanked up immediately under any circumstances. All of which promises to make Central Park shunned of society, unless the advent of winter shall discourage this barefoot brigade. The idea of driving around, through and across an out-of-door sanitarium, hospital and chiropodist's lawn combined in all probability would discourage New York society from alighting itself and its puddles in that beautiful reserve.

Un-American Names of Hotels. There is room for a little healthy Americanism in the naming of New York hotels. The Victoria and the Brunswick have lately been closed. We have the Empire and an Imperial, but no Republic. We have the Windsor and St. James, but no White House, Monticello, Montpelier or Washington. There are Mt. Vernons in many cities, but they are generally of an inferior class. We have a Marie Antoinette, but no Martha Washington. We have a Holland House and Savoy, Vendome and Normandie, and St. Cloud and Grenoble. In other American cities there are a few American, United States and Congress houses, but most of them were named a great many years ago, and Washington houses are generally of the third class. Are travelers so un-American that hotels must have foreign names to attract them?—Pittsburg Bulletin.

Dawn in an African Village. I slept in a house belonging to the African Lakes Company, a creepy sort of habitation at night. Rats galloped about the roof, chasing one another, and squealing most piteously. I was awakened in the morning by rooks crowing. There was a hush of night insects; the houses in the dawn-light were an indistinct, dull brown; the grass was wet with dew. I heard the shuffling of reed doors slid to one side, or their grating on clay flooring when flung open. A few natives begin to appear, exchange morning greetings, and start to blow up fires; men, women and children crowd around the fires, the gilded clouds in the east withdraw, the sun peeps on the horizon, fires are soon deserted, and daily work begins.—Century.

A man who lately arrived in town says that where he came from he made nine dollars a day. What is he doing here?

It must be pleasant to be a dog's nose in summer.

A RIVAL OF THE EIFFEL TOWER.



The Eiffel Tower, which was the sensation of the last Paris Exposition, is to be paralleled or excelled in the Universal Exposition of 1900 by the Mammoth Globe of M. Borgal-Court, which measures 150 metres in diameter and 245 metres in height. It is a perfect world in miniature. Every considera-

ble town and natural feature of the globe will be exhibited on the exterior, and the interior will be a panorama of the earth's inhabitants, customs, and productions. A system of electric railroads will convey spectators to every part, and the boast of M. Borgal-Court is that he will give them a realistic tour around the world in eighty minutes.

TWO COMPLETE BODIES.

One Head Supplies the Food to Keep Them Alive.

An Arkansas chicken has two bodies, consequently the one head will be kept busy furnishing food to keep them alive. The chicken has two bodies, with four wings, four legs, but only



CHICKEN WITH TWO BODIES.

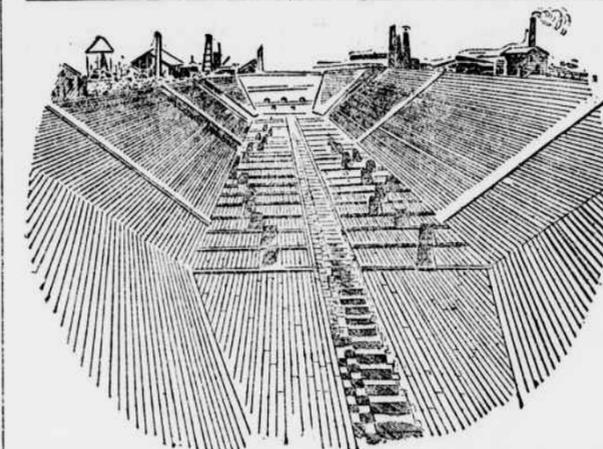
one head. The two birds are joined at the neck. There are two crops, and each body is separately nourished.

This queer freak is owned by Mr. A. P. Hutchison, of Yellville, Ark. He keeps it at his shop and exhibits it to all comers. It has attracted a great deal of attention. Not only all of Yellville has seen it, but every farmer who comes to town steps around to look at it. If ever that chicken graces Mr. Hutchison's festive board there will be enough of choice parts to go around. Evidently it was made for eating purposes.

UNCLE SAM'S NEW DRY DOCK.

Gigantic Structure Capable of Accommodating the Largest Ships.

Uncle Sam at last has a dry dock where the largest ships can be repaired. This was not the case prior to the completion, a short time ago, of the gigantic new timber dock at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The dimensions of the dock are as follows: Six hundred and seventy feet on top, 600 feet at the gate, 151 feet wide on the top and 64 feet 4 inches on the bottom. At the gate the dock measures 108 feet 8 inches on top and 71 feet 6 inches on the bottom, and will be capable of taking in the largest ship now afloat, with plenty of room to spare. At high water there will be 2 feet of water on the sills. The gate will be 25 feet 6 inches high. The work on the dock began early in 1892. The first contract was annulled, as the work was unsatisfactory, and another award



UNCLE SAM'S NEW DRY DOCK AT THE BROOKLYN NAVY YARD.

ed June last, the price being \$370,000. Besides the three pumps, with a capacity of 200,000 gallons a minute, the dock can be floated without their assistance by simply turning a valve. All the bilge and keel blocks are of oak. The bilge blocks are operated by chains and can be easily placed under or taken away from the ship without the men getting wet. They work on slides.

How He Got His Zither. A musical instrument dealer tells a good story at the expense of a musically inclined and wealthy resident of the little Missouri town of Hermann, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Some time ago he wanted a fine zither and searched the local market for one that

would suit him. The time he spent was of sufficient value to pay for an ordinary instrument, and yet he did not succeed in getting anything that quite satisfied him. Confident that there was nothing in this country that would answer he wrote to European dealers and finally ordered one that he thought would go ahead of anything ever seen in this section.

His friends were all posted and awaited the arrival of the instrument in anxious expectancy. It came a few days ago and the package was carefully opened in the presence of half a dozen admiring friends. The zither was a beauty, there was no mistaking that, but on closer examination there was the maker's stamp, indelibly placed on the frame, and it read:



BURYING A PERSIAN ALIVE IN PLASTER OF PARIS.

"Washington, Mo., U. S. A.," a neighboring town of Hermann. The gentleman might have saved \$50, in addition to the express and import charges, and have avoided all the waiting which he had to endure. But he would never have been satisfied.

The zither is an expensive instrument and difficult to manufacture, being very delicate and requiring the best of material and most skillful of workmen, but dealers say it is a fact that the manufacturers of this country make the best ones placed on the market. There are but three factories in this country, one in this State and two in the East. Their instruments

EXECUTIONS IN PERSIA.

Hideous Punishment Inflicted Upon Those Who Offend the Law.

A short time ago the mountains of Persia were overrun with robbers who intercepted travelers by day and night, despoiling them of all they possessed. The police were unable to apprehend any of the guilty parties, but in the hope of staying their hands made an example of five prisoners then in custody charged with like offenses. These were executed by the process known as "gatching." The gatch consists of a hollow pillar being erected over a hole about two feet deep, so that the hole forms a well into which the prisoner is put, sometimes (the most merciful method) head downward, and at others with his head sticking out over the top; plaster of paris is then emptied in, and between each basketful water is poured down the well. The gatch then swells, and when it hardens it stops the circulation, causing the most excruciating agony. About 9 a. m. on Sunday, May 10, the five prisoners, chained neck to neck, were marched out of prison, and slowly escorted by a large mob, who were kept from pressing too close by soldiers with fixed bayonets and others with long sticks, they were taken to the Koran Gate, near the Bagh-i-No, on the town side of which, alongside the road, their wells had been prepared. It took one hour to reach the Bagh-i-No, but the torture of this form of execution being unknown to the prisoners, they walked along without a sign of fear.

They were taken into a high-walled garden, a guard being placed at the entrance, and in a short time the first to be executed was brought out. Round his neck was a steel collar with a chain which his guard held tightly in his hand. Someone offered him a pitcher of water, from which he eagerly drank, and then, not knowing to what awful death he was doomed, he walked calmly and without a word to his well. It took nearly half an hour to fill the well with gatch, during all which time the sticks of the soldiers were in use to keep the crowd from pressing too close and hampering the movements of those employed with the gatch.

When the gatch became solid and tightened on the poor prisoner, his yells were frightful to listen to, and as they were carried over the garden wall those waiting their turn realized that the death to which they were doomed, so far as being the painless one

they hoped for, was instead of a terrible nature. As the fourth man was led from the garden he begged the executioner to take him to the bazaar, where he could find someone to give him 10 tumas, after which he could cut his head off. The fifth man became even more frantic as the yells issued from the mouths of his companions. "Spare me! Spare me!" he cried, "and I will show you where 2,000 tumas lie hid," but his offer came too late.

A Trained Shrimp. A Tioga, Pa., man has probably the most curious pet on record. It is nothing more nor less than a trained shrimp. One would scarcely believe a shrimp to be possessed of any intelligence, yet this little crustacean, whom his maker has christened Neptune, really seems to be a most observing little chap. Neptune is the pride of quite a large aquarium, in which he rules supreme. He is very fond of music, and when his master places a mouth organ against the glass side of the aquarium and plays, Neptune shows every manifestation of joy. He hops around on his tail and twirls his body as though dancing to the time of music, and when the strains cease he places his little nose against the glass as though begging for more. His favorite airs are "A Life on the Ocean Wave" and "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep." Neptune's master has a little stick which he places in the aquarium, and the shrimp will play about this for hours, standing on his head, turning handsprings and doing other equally remarkable things.

Implacable.

"I can forget, but never forgive," muttered the enraged husband. This sounds the wrong way 'round, but it was true. He could never forgive his wife for writing to a former sweetheart, but he was able to forget to mail the letter.—New York World.

Merc Force of Habit.

"Force of habit is a great thing." "What makes you think so?" "I just saw Hawkins and his best girl on a tandem and they had the lamp turned down until it was almost extinguished."—New York World.

In His Case.

"Beauty is only skin deep," said the zebra, with an attempt to liven up the gloom of the menagerie. "I know," replied the rhinoceros, trying to be cheerful, "but think what that means in my case."—London Mail



He—Do you ride a bicycle? She—Do you eat?—Cleveland Leader.

A Receiving Teller—A gossiping woman.—Texas Sifters.

Clara—Isn't your love for him very sudden? Maude—Well, his aunt died very suddenly.—Life.

She—I wonder what is "the old, old story?" He—You are the first girl I ever loved.—Indianapolis Journal.

Something to Crow About.—First Rooster—Well, what do you think of my wife? Second Rooster—Very chic.—New York Press.

"Don't you know it is wrong to fish here on private grounds?" "Well, sir, the line must be drawn somewhere."—Yonkers Statesman.

Shaw—What would you recommend for insomnia, doctor? Doctor—Do something to tire you. Shaw—But I can't afford to take a vacation.—Truth.

Tired Souls.—Irk some Ike—Say, Sammie, how'd yer like to be an angel? Sam'l Feweloz—Not er bit. Think of the work it'd take to keep yer wings flappin'.—Up-to-Date.

"How intense are the fires of love?" ejaculated the poet. "Yes," answered the father of six marriageable daughters, "but they do take a lot of coal."—London Pick-Me-Up.

"Little Johnny opened his drum yesterday to find where the noise came from." "Did he find out?" "Yes; when his father came home the noise came from little Johnny."—Life.

Rubbing It In.—Corn—Why do you think women are frivolous? Merritt—Because when a girl makes an enemy of a man for life she always tells him that they can still be friends.—Puck.

"I cannot be your wife, Algy. There is too great a difference between our fortunes." "But, Mabel, I'm sure there would be no difference between them if we could bring them together."—Life.

"The giraffe has a tongue eighteen inches long," said Mrs. Garrill. "And knows how to hold it, too," snapped Mr. Garrill, who had had a long certain lecture the night before.—Harper's Bazar.

Becoming Blonde.—She—This novelist writes of his heroine as a tall girl with becoming blonde hair. He—I suppose he means by that that she was having it bleached.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"Your husband painted the house this spring himself, didn't he?" "Well, yes; I suppose he got some of the paint on the house, but you wouldn't think so if you could see his clothes."—Buffalo News.

Had to Keep Steady.—"Did you feel nervous and tremble when Bikeleigh proposed?" "No; I didn't dare to." "Didn't dare to?" "No. You see, we were riding a tandem at the time."—London Truth.

Young Wife—Oh, John, the rats have eaten all my angel cake. Husband—What! All of it? Young Wife—Every piece! I feel like crying. Husband—Oh, pshaw! Don't cry over a few rats.—Harlem Life.

"Johnny has quit talking about wanting to be a pirate and wallow in gore, I notice." "Yes; he finds enough satisfaction of that sort right here at home in scorching around the corners."—Indianapolis Journal.

"Hannah, what are you standing there staring at me for? Didn't I tell you I was not to be interrupted unless the house was on fire?" "Well, mum, that's it. It do be burning this half hour."—Indianapolis Journal.

"What poor shoppers the men are," exclaimed Mrs. Trotter on her way home from a shopping expedition. "My husband hardly ever pays less than 15 cents for a cigar, and here I have bought a whole box for 75."—Boston Transcript.

"What are you looking for? We've got everything worth taking." "I am looking—" The other burglar continued his search. "—for the much larger booty which the newspaper tomorrow will say we overlooked."—Harper's Bazar.

Mother—Mamma's darling must never use the word "pants." It is very vulgar. The Child (two hours later)—Oh, mamma! Just look at Fido; he's been running in the garden with me, and see how he—he—blooms!—Philadelphia North American.

"Sweet one, I love you," he whispered to his partner at the masquerade. "I should think you would," she replied, "seeing that I am your wife." "Didn't I know it, darling? What other woman do you think I would say that to?"—Boston Courier.

Billings—I've got a safe job now. My employer can't possibly fire me. Polk—Why? You don't mean to say that you have your employer in a compromising position? Billings—Not exactly; but you see I am working for an asbestos company.—Philadelphia North American.

First Moth—May I inquire why you are laughing so heartily? Second Moth—Oh, nothing much; only the antics of that green moth from the country are so amusing. He has been trying for the last two hours to scorch himself to death with an incandescent light.—Cincinnati Enquirer.