

NOTES OF INTEREST.

Brief items from the Four Quarters of the Globe. Onago, Kan., hasn't a lawyer. Wood fiber underwear is new. Chicago has 30,000 unemployed. India has forty women doctors. Our railroads cover 171,000 miles. Chicago has a woman's baking company. Labor bureaus are in twenty-eight states. Denver has a builders' and laborers' union. Germanium is worth sixty times its weight in gold. Twelve average tea plants produce one pound of tea. The English Government is constructing steel plants in India. A light steel telegraph pole has been patented by a Wisconsin man. Only citizens who can read and write are allowed to vote in Bolivia. Immense bituminous deposits recently have been found in Alsace. A home for aged tailors is talked of by the International Union of Tailors. Kansas City freight brakemen won a strike for extra pay for extra switching. Nearly four-fifths of the sugar plantations of Hawaii are owned by Americans. Poor persons are supplied with spectacles free of charge by a Boston society. The pin factories of the United States manufacture about 18,000,000,000 pins a year. There are 20,000 women in the United Kingdom who earn their living by nursing. The largest bean ranch in the world is in Ventura county, Cal., and embraces 2,300 acres. Sixty gas motors were shown at the last Paris exposition. In 1863 only three were exhibited. The profits of the Thomson-Houston Company for the past ten months were \$1,700,000 it is stated. The recent strike in Southern France cost \$650,000 in lost wages, though it only lasted fifteen days. The Atlanta, Ga., Telephone Company proposes to construct an underground conduit system for its lines. The Pope's way, in part, of celebrating Christmas was to bestow \$10,000 for distribution among the poor in Rome. A telephone wire has just been completed between Melbourne and Adelaide, in Australia, a distance of 500 miles. Recently at Amador, Cal., a block of marble weighing 100 tons was quarried and cut up into columns for a new theatre. Siberia is soon to have a railroad from the Ural Mountains to the Sea of Japan, a distance of 4,785 miles, costing \$183,825,000. In Ireland less than 800 persons own one-half the land; 492 members of the House of Lords own 14,250,012 acres, which rents for \$7,864,680. It is said that three-quarters of the entire manufacturing capital of the United States, or \$6,000,000,000, is directly or indirectly based upon patents. An electrical stop watch has been tested in a bicycle race, where it determined the winner, although he was only one-hundredth of a second ahead. A new lead headed nail for use on corrugated roofs has appeared in London. The head flattens under the blow of the hammer, and prevents leaking. A sugar fifteen times sweeter than cane sugar and twenty times sweeter than beet sugar has been extracted from cotton seed meal by a German chemist. It is reported that an English ship-building firm has ordered an order for a steamship to carry 4,000 tons cargo, the largest freight vessel yet constructed. The approximate cost of the sailing stock on all the railroads in the United States foots up \$1,500,000,000, a sum much more than enough to pay the national debt. The postal card factory in Shelton, Conn., is turning out 2,500,000 cards a day. The biggest day's output so far is one of a few days ago, when 2,800,000 were printed. The Lancashire miners have now in their union between 41,000 and 42,000 miners. The union miner wears a medal, hence the comparatively few goats are easily picked out. There is no machinery in the Sierra Leone Islands except the sewing machine. The colony is 103 years old and contains 50,000 people without a sawmill or any other kind of a mill to do any kind of saw-work. A glass has been the work one out of the 700 long level of the Anaconda copper mine at Butte, Mont. It is said to sit on the rafters and give orders, and resembles a former fireman of the mine who was killed there. The Earl of Aberdeen has purchased a ranch of 130,000 acres adapted for fruit culture in the Coldstream Valley, British Columbia, for \$250,000, and has announced his intention to erect a fruit canning establishment.

THEY MET ON THE TRAIN.

Neither of Them Had Changed Very Much With the Passing of Time. A plain, middle-aged woman had been sitting in the passenger coach at my left hand for the last thirty miles, when a man about 50 years of age and plainly dressed got on at a small station. He had taken the seat ahead of me, but happening to look around and observe the woman he jumped up and went over to her with a: "Wall, by gosh! but who'd a thought it! Howdy do, Mary?" "Howdy do, Samuel," she replied as they shook hands and he sat down besides her. "What 'ye goin'?" he asked. "Down home to Ellendale." "Livin' down thar," he ye?" "Yes." "You look jest the same as ever. I'd a knowed you in China." "Yes, I don't suppose I've changed much." "Wall, I often think about ye, and I hope you'll do well. I had to git a divorce from you because we couldn't agree, but I don't lay it up agin you as some would. Married agin, I'm told." "Yes." "Purty decent sort o' feller?" "He's a good man—a very good man." "I'm glad on it. Good provider, is he?" "Yes." "Willin' you shoule burn plenty of dry wood, and have two kerosene lamps goin' at once?" "Yes." "Wall, he must be purty fair. Does he 'low you to run in debt when you want to?" "I haven't wanted to yet." "Shoo! You have changed since we got divorced; you allus wanted to be runnin' in debt, you know. That and you're bein' so mighty independent brought on most of our quarrels." "If I wanted to run in debt I never got the chance," she curtly replied. "Thar' want no need to. I was a good provider, as everybody knows." "Yes, I had one pair of shoes in three years!" "Now, Mary?" "And I don't believe in a wife creepin' and crawling to her husband." "Thar you go—same sass as you used to give me." "If you don't like it you needn't stay here." "An I stay here I won't!" he exclaimed as he rose up. "You are jest like you used to be—jest as mean and techy as ever." "And I have no doubt you are the same old skinflint and fault-finder." "What! What! Some folks blamed me for gittin' a divorce, but I gness they wouldn't if they could hear you talk." "I don't care whether they would or not." "Wall, by gum!" said the old man, as he sat down besides me, "but this carries me right back to three years ago! Seems as if we was jawin' about who'd git up and build the fire of a January mornin', and that she was sassin' me after the same old fashion and declarin' she'd lay there till the bed sunk through into the cellar afore she'd build a fire for me or any other man on earth!" Human Nature in Village Life. "I should think in a small village like this the people would all know each other." "They do." "You must be mistaken." "Why do you think so?" "I saw two men pass each other on the street a few minutes ago and they neither saluted nor spoke to each other." "Oh, they're not on speaking terms; they're brothers."

IT PAYS

To be cautious in the choice of medicines. Many are injured by trying experiments with compounds purporting to be blood-purifiers, the principal recommendation of which would seem to be their "cheapness." Being made up of worthless, though not always harmless, ingredients, they may well be "cheap;" but, in the end, they are dear. The most reliable medicines are costly, and can be retailed at moderate prices, only when the manufacturing chemist handles the raw materials in large quantities. It is economy, therefore,

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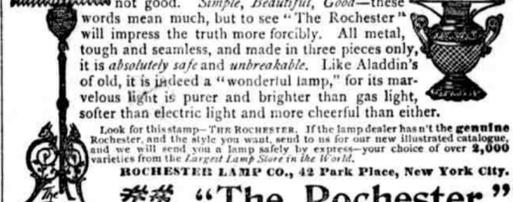
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