

Science and Invention

At a speed of sixty miles an hour a train covers 165 feet each second.

The terrific heat of the acetylene gas blow-pipe is being used in the welding of steel.

The Slaby-Arco wireless telegraph system is being installed by Russia on the Baltic Sea.

A side wind retards the speed of a train more than a head wind, because of the flange friction it produces.

The volcanic dust from Mont Pelee proves to have little fertilizing value. An analysis by an American engineer of specimens from Barbadoes, where—though ninety miles away—the fall on May 7 was about three inches, has shown only 0.675 per cent of potash and 0.141 of phosphoric anhydride.

A large blank on the meteorologic map of the world has just been filled by the organization of a weather office under the Argentine Department of Agriculture. An American, Walter G. Davis, is at the head of it, and daily weather-maps are published, covering not only Argentina proper, but Patagonia.

The nasal passages are stated to have a surface area of not less than twenty square inches. A new preventive of lay fever is the rubbing with surgical cotton twice daily of as much of this inner surface, or mucous membrane, as can be reached. The massage hardens the membrane, lessening its over-sensitiveness.

New Jersey has long been famous for its mosquitoes, and it seems appropriate that the State should lead in the scientific warfare on the malarial pests. The Legislature has appropriated \$10,000 for a preliminary investigation of the subject; but the whole sum being, for some technical reason, not available, the Governor has set aside \$1,000 from his emergency fund to get the work under way. A scientific investigation is to be made in a malarial district of the State, where the dreaded anopheles is abundant, and the result of his inquiries is expected to guide the future steps in the campaign.

How the electric waves used in wireless telegraphy follow the earth's curvature is still an unsolved problem. E. Lasher supposes that the waves run along the surface of the earth, and especially of the sea, in the same manner that they follow a wire, and that part of the electric energy enters the earth's surface as part of it penetrates the surface of the wire. A suggested test of the theory is signaling between two balloons, when the difficulty of communication should increase with the height. The electrical oscillations being at right angles to the wire or earth's surface, another interesting experiment would be the sending of signals up a precipice, using both horizontal and vertical antennae.

Many details of the backwardness of the world's metropolises in those applications of practical science with which we are so familiar in America have been pointed out from time to time. None of them is, perhaps, more surprising than the absence of telephone connections among the London police stations. The householder who finds a burglar on his premises cannot call up the police to assist him. In truth, few private houses in London have telephones, and recently the operations of the police in an important burglary case were much hampered by the lack of a telephone service at Scotland Yard. The fire department refuses to allow private alarm connections with the fire stations. English conservatism is blamed for the absence of many of the conveniences of modern life which the progress of science has afforded in almost every other great city more abundantly than in London.

AS TO ARCHITECTURAL ART.

One Writer Declares America is Developing a National Type.

How about an American style? Is such a thing discernible through the apparent chaos of varied local requirements and practice and individual idiosyncrasies?

Surely not, if by "style" we mean a certain definite and uniform combination of unvarying details; styles have sometimes meant this in the past. But there is no reason why they should be distinguished by the same definitions in all ages. If by "style" we mean distinguishing character we have a style or styles which clearly set off American work from English, French or German work, however varied its decorative details may be, says a writer in the Forum. In every line of design the American type is clearly marked. American country houses, from the smallest shingled seaside cottage to the largest "colonial" mansion at Lenox, are distinctively American, by reason of characteristics which are not found in any European type. Certainly American office buildings possess style, unmistakable and insistent, and the question whether their decorative details are derived from the Renaissance, the Renaissance or any other historic style is utterly unimportant beside the fact of their application to a new type of edifice unknown outside the United States. The difference between the Chicago type and the New York type is one of exterior detail, and may be likened to that between the French and the Italian Renaissance, or the French Norman and Anglo-Norman churches of the twelfth century.

We are developing national types in our church architecture, our college architecture, our public libraries, our regimental armories, our railway sta-

tions, school houses, banks and Young Men's Christian Association buildings. In each of these classes our architects are fitting their work with intelligence and, for the most part, with taste to the changing requirements, the special conditions, the scientific advances of our rapidly developing culture. No doubt they make many mistakes, at which critics will carp. No doubt some of them lack artistic training, and on others the Paris Ecole des Beaux Arts has set the stamp of its influence a little too strongly. Perhaps in some quarters there is too much of Louis Quinze escutcheons and carouches, and in others too much reliance on the five orders of Vignola. In church architecture the English perpendicular is now in fashion, as the Richardsonian Romanesque was fifteen years ago. These are the defects of an age of transition and development; the faults of youth and enthusiasm. Beneath and through them all there is discernible, if I am not mistaken, the evidence of growth and progress and of constant striving to shape the tendencies and conditions that control our building activities into forms of beauty.

Most of the architects I know are enthusiasts. They are not plying a trade or merely pursuing a business; however businesslike, they are predominantly concerned with producing the most beautiful buildings of which they are capable. They are not grumbling about the worn traditions and monotonous sameness of their art. Almost without exception they delight in their work; they are proud to show and discuss it. These are symptoms of a living art. Art is not dying when artists are eager and enthusiastic and earnest partakers in the strenuous activities about them.

SILLY PRACTICAL JOKES.

Means Should Be Adopted to Punish the Asinine Perpetrators.

Among recent arrivals from Europe is a man who went thither in response to a cable message which notified him that his sister was dying. That was some idiot's idea of a funny practical joke, as the woman was not ill. The victim of such a cruel and wicked joke is ready to urge legislation which will impose on the practical joker penalties but little less severe than those which are provided for cases of assault and injury to the body. He maintains that no bodily harm which is not permanent can be worse than the distress of mind which he has been made to suffer. There are other practical jokes which result in wounded self-esteem or in a feeling of humiliation and which hurt more than any bodily bruise. It was a French critic of penetration who said that man's best satisfaction is in not being a dupe. No one, however, can always protect himself against the ingenuity of the practical joker.

There is room for discrimination as to practical jokes. The injury which is inflicted on an unsuspecting person by a loaded cigar or whatever wounds or disfigures or endangers life is in no way different (save that it is more cowardly) from any other brutality. It does not belong to the category of such practical jokes as those which strike at a contemptible weakness or at unwarranted vanity and self-control, or which expose a humbug or a braggart. It was an excellent thing to ring in on the experts at the New York cat show a stray veteran of the alleys as a \$3,000 prize, since it proved that the judges (who awarded the first prize to the mongrel) were humbugs. The same jester fattened up a retired street car horse, and by the gorgeousness of its harness and blankets and the style of its hostlers caused the New York horse show judges to give a high rating to the animal. Never was a justice better done than in the case of a fool who pretended to have hydrophobia, and who terrorized the people in a cafe by growling and trying to bite. Two men seized him, and, having enlisted the aid of a doctor, they put him through a course of treatment which was almost as distressing as hydrophobia would have been. The Connecticut man who thought it was fun to spring from behind a tree and cry "boo!" to a girl escaped with a fine of \$1,000, which was light punishment considering the permanent injury to the nervous system of the victim.—Philadelphia Record.

Single Officers in Demand.

The overcrowded condition of the residential quarters at the various military posts in this country, due to the return of regiments from the Philippines, is embarrassing the military authorities. The trouble is not so much with respect to housing the officers themselves as with the members of their families, says the Washington Star. The situation has reached a point where bachelors are favored over benedicts in assignment to stations with limited living accommodations where such discrimination is possible. And it is even asserted that where there is no other choice between two young candidates for a commission it is bestowed on the single man in preference to one who is married. Even then it is recognized, however, that the bachelor appointed is not likely to continue long in single blessedness. The powers that be admit that their authority does not reach to the extent of interfering with subsequent affairs of the heart. It is made plain that there is no official prejudice against matrimony—quite the contrary—but just at present the military posts would afford better accommodations for more officers if it were not for the family attachments of some of them. Congress provided liberally for the army in this respect during the session just closed, but it will be many months before the additional quarters authorized are ready for use.

A man hates to stand idly by and see his dog whipped.

QUEER STORIES

The hay harvested in the United States in 1901 amounted to 51,000,000 tons.

A first-class ocean steamer, it is said, requires the services of about 120 firemen.

Of all the newspapers published in the world 68 per cent are in the English language.

The number of government officials in France is 416,000. Fifty years ago it was 188,000.

A beetle one-third the size of a horse would be able to pull against more than a dozen horses.

Salmon rarely live more than ten years, but pike and carp sometimes live to be 150 years old.

The sun's surface radiates eighty-seven times as much heat as the same area of molten steel.

People buy Hamlin's Wizard Oil because they have learned by experience that it cures pain of every kind.

Europe has five reigning princes who are over 80 years old, and nine others who are more than 70.

Rock salt is mined and prepared for use in the States of New York, Kansas, Louisiana and California.

The per capita consumption of spirits in the United States is smaller than in any other of the great nations.

A ship's cable is usually 720 feet long, but in charts a cable equals 607.56 feet, or the tenth of a sea mile.

In the last thirty-three years \$240,000,000 have been spent in this country upon an Indian population of 180,000.

A man turns 112,000 spadefuls of earth in digging an acre of ground, and the soil he has moved during his work weighs 850 tons.

It is a strange fact that the right hand, which is more sensitive to the touch than the left, is less sensitive than the latter to the effect of heat or cold.

Bicycle wedding trips are all the rage in France. One couple recently returned to Paris after a tour of 1,100 miles, all made on their wheels. They were absent seven weeks, and had visited 314 villages.

CANCEROUS ULCERS

Are in many respects like other ulcers or sores, and this resemblance often proves fatal. Valuable time is lost in fruitless efforts to heal the sore with washes and salves, because the germs of Cancer that are multiplying in the blood and the new Cancer cells which are constantly developing keep up the irritation and discharge, and at last sharp shooting pains announce the approach of the eating and sloughing stage, and a hideous, sickening cancerous sore begins its destructive work.

No ulcer or sore can exist without some predisposing internal cause that has poisoned the blood, and the open discharging ulcer, or the festering sore on the lip, cheek or other part of the body will continue to spread and eat deeper into the flesh unless the blood is purified and the Cancer germs or morbid matter eliminated from the circulation.

S. S. S. cleanses the blood of all decaying effete matter. It has great antiseptic and purifying properties that soon destroy the germs and poisons and restore the blood to its natural condition. And when pure blood is carried to the ulcer or sore the healing process begins, the discharge ceases and the place heals over and new skin forms. S. S. S. is a strictly vegetable blood purifier containing no mercury or minerals of any description.

If you have an ulcer or chronic sore of any kind, write us about it, medical advice will cost you nothing. Books on Cancer and other diseases of the blood will be sent free.

THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., Atlanta, Ga.

An Irish Bull.
Thomas Barry, a Boston lawyer, was recently examining an Irish witness in a suit growing out of a street-railroad accident. Here is the result of Lawyer Barry's suggestion that the witness should tell the story in his own words: "Well, the man fell in th' str'et as the car-r passed; thin th' car-r stopped, an' we all ran out. The cr-owd gathered ar-round th' man and shouted: 'He's kilt! He's kilt!' Then O' Jumped in, pulled a dozen of the spalpeens out uv th' way, and yells at 'em: 'Yes thick heads, yez! If th' man's kilt, why in hivvin's name don't yez stand to waas side an' let him have a breath of air-r?'—Brooklyn Eagle.

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children during the teething period.

Fund for Educating Catholic Priests.
Mrs. Ann Eliza Walsh, of New York, has created a fund of \$1,250,000 for the purpose of educating candidates for the Catholic priesthood in dioceses lacking means for that purpose. Many scholarships will thus be created in seminaries in the United States and elsewhere. The fund has been created as a memorial to her brother, the late Henry McCaddin, of Brooklyn.

Man owes his feet a mighty debt, but little interest do they get, Or ordinary care; Till corns and bunions come apace, Than which there's naught torments our race

That's worse for us to bear; But they may painless walk who use ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE in their shoes.

English in Egyptian Schools.
English is studied by 95 per cent of the students attending the higher schools of Egypt.

A man who never made a fool of himself is unable to appreciate human sympathy.

The Filipinos are beginning to use very largely a curious device to teach their children to walk. It is a rough affair, of course, and is composed of a piece of bamboo that revolves around the end of a hardwood pole. A glove is fastened to the revolving stick, and the child thus attached has to follow the lead of the machine.

Black Hair

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If your druggist cannot supply you, send a one dollar and we will express you a bottle. Be sure and give the name of our nearest express office. Address, J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass.

In Rotomahona, New Zealand, there is an immense geyser which covers an area an acre in extent, and constantly throws columns of water to vast heights, some of them ascending 300 feet, with clouds of steam which go much higher.

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The cure of rheumatism by bee stings, an old, and, as it was supposed, exploded, remedy, is being exploited again in some parts of the east. It should be used with great care and discrimination. The Philadelphia Ledger relates that one William Shively, an old farmer of Shady Grove, Pa., who had lost the use of his arms by rheumatism, was stung by bees and ran from them so fast that he discovered he had left his rheumatism behind. Thereupon he made much boast of the bee cure, hearing which one Carl Apragle, also a rheumatic victim, decided to try it. So convinced was he of its efficacy that he invited his neighbors to witness the cure. He made the experiment clad only in a long, thin robe, hooded up to the knees on his crutches and upset two of them. Instantly the bees began to apply the remedy with all the industry characteristic of the insect, and probably would have improved a whole shining hour had it not been that Apragle yelled most lustily for help. As he was unable to run away, some of his neighbors came to his relief by lassoing him and dragging him away from the infuriated bees. The unfortunate man has such a beautiful case of bee stings that it may be some time before he knows whether he has been cured of rheumatism. It may turn out that what is one man's cure is another man's poison.

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CONSUMPTION

It is impossible for young people to marry in Germany without the consent of their parents or legal guardians. Captain prescribed forms must be gone through or the marriage is null and void. When a girl has arrived at what is considered a marriageable age her parents make a point of inviting young men to the house, and usually two or three are invited at the same time, so that the attention may not seem too pointed. No young man, however, is invited to the house until after he has called at least once, and thus signified his wish to have social intercourse with the family.

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