

THE TRUE DEMOCRAT

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NO 36.

The six-foot man has some consolation. He is one out of every 203 men in the world.

Tennessee has a law prohibiting the employment of children under 14 years of age in factories, mines and shops.

Uncle Sam has a foothold in Japan. That country has just executed a lease in perpetuity for the site of the new American hospital at Yokohama.

There is a German movement against pessimism. A society has been formed to look for the real things in art, science, literature and life, and inspire people with the joy of freedom.

The succession to the Italian crown is governed by the Salic law. Hence the newly born daughter of the Italian King cannot inherit it. It must follow the male line. The Salic law prevails in Austria and Russia as well as in Italy.

Cattlemen in Greenwood county, Kansas, are making hard times for lawyers. They have established a system of arbitrating differences. Three men are chosen as an arbitration committee. They investigate the trouble and make a decision, which is final. A fuss involving \$60,000 was settled in Eureka the other day by an arbitration committee.

Consul Mahin, of Reichenberg, in a communication to the state department at Washington, says that a Belgian engineer has discovered a method by which smoke can be turned into light. The inventor collects the smoke from any kind of fire and forces it into a receiver. It is then saturated with hydro-carburetted and a brilliant light results.

The disciples of Isak Walton will be interested in knowing that the dolphin is credited with a speed of considerably over 20 miles an hour. For short distances the salmon can outstrip any other fish, accomplishing its 25 miles an hour with ease. The Spanish mackerel is one of the fastest of food fishes, and cuts the water like a yacht. Predatory fish are generally the fastest swimmers.

The valleys in western Virginia near the state boundary are narrow, flat-bottomed basins traversed by mountain streams which drain a large area of hill country, and such catastrophes as the recent fatal flood in that section along the Norfolk and Western Railroad are due to the human necessity of taking risks for the sake of coal mine development and other industrial advantages. The dwellers in that dreary region of coal breakers and miners' shanties should be exempt from cruel visitations of the elements, if only by way of compensation for their hard and dreary life in life.

A very serious state of affairs developed recently during the trials of the new French battleship Iena. From the beginning of the tests, friction between the executive and the engineer officers was noticeable; acts amounting to insubordination were common; and many minor accidents to the machinery compelled constant recourse to the drydock. The last time that the Iena was docked, investigation showed that the machinery was being heated and damaged by the introduction of ashes into the working parts. The commandant of the dock yard caused an inquiry to be made, the result of which has been kept secret. Instances of similar trouble in naval history are very rare. If not, wholly unknown; the matter is of the utmost importance, in view of the naval position of France.

The yearly cost of crime to the people of the United States is an astounding total. A recent investigation undertaken by the authority of Congress places the financial loss to the nation at almost if not quite a \$1,000,000,000—a sum equal to the national debt. And this is a very conservative estimate, and includes simply the taxation charge and the average income of criminals. The actual loss and damage caused by crime; malicious destruction of property; the value of life and labor sacrificed; the cost of locks, bolts and bars, would jump the total easily to \$2,000,000,000 per annum. The control and eventual extermination of the habitual criminal, which hard-headed prison officials say is possible, is the first important step to be taken. That several thousand earnest investigators, for practically the first time in history, are devoting their lives to painstaking scientific study of the problem, is a hopeful indication that their work will result finally in successful solution.

THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

It Furnishes Many Examples of the Might of Small Things.

"I have been very much impressed with the importance of small things in late years," said an old steamboat man, "and the Mississippi River has furnished me some rather good examples. I can understand now why Caesar looked upon the Nile in such curious amazement and offered all that he stood for to the Egyptian priest if he would show him the source of that wonderful river. But the antics of the Nile look like insignificant nothings to me when compared with the strange conduct of the stream that oozes out of the earth at Itasca and hurries on its murky and devious way toward the Gulf of Mexico. Towns along the Mississippi that stood right on the bank of the river have been isolated even in my day, and there are, too, all along the course of the stream little empires in view where the river has encroached upon small centres of population, finally eating the earth away and forcing the inhabitants to seek other quarters. There are hundreds of these places that are almost forgotten now even by the men who are constantly on the river.

"What brings about these violent changes along the banks of the river? Not floods. It is just the ordinary doings of the stream. In the first place the current of the Mississippi is wonderfully swift, and the sediment deposited at any point where resistance to the flow is offered is very great. Tie a string to the neck of a bottle and sink it with the mouth of the bottle up and open.

"If held in one place where the flow is normal in an extremely short period of time the bottle will fill with sediment. Stretch a net across the river, a net so finely woven that nothing but the pure water of the river can pass through, and on account of the rapidity of the flow and the greatness of the deposit of sediment, almost in a twinkling the river would be dammed at that point. Experts have admitted this. This brings me to the point of my narrative.

"The flow of currents is frequently interfered with by sunken boats, perhaps by a jackstaff sticking up above the surface. The current is diverted by degrees, generally touching the far side of the stream a mile from the point where it again meets resistance, and immediately begins the building of a sandbar. I have seen a thousand examples of this sort during my career on the river, and I have known of instances where the root of a tree or the mere twig of a willow have brought about similar conditions. These things have tended to make a riddle out of the river; yet the stream after a while will be handled so as to undo all that has been accomplished in this way."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

What Are the Bounds of Creation?

It may occur to some persons that we cannot conceive of an end of space, and it is hardly likely that infinite space would exist without matter; and hence that the universe necessarily is infinite, says T. J. J. See in the Atlantic. This argument proceeds upon the supposition that we can conceive all things which exist—an admission hardly warranted by experience. For as we can conceive of many things which do not exist, so also there may exist many things of which we can have no clear conception; as, for example, a fourth dimension to space, or a boundary to the universe.

The Act of Dying.

The popular idea that the act of dying is a painful process often causes a fear of death. But death from even the most painful mortal diseases is usually preceded by a period of cessation from suffering and partial or complete insensibility, resembling falling asleep, or the pleasant gradual unconsciousness caused by an anesthetic. The common phrase "death agony" is not warranted by what occurs in natural death, which is a complete relief from all pain. When death is owing to heart failure or syncope it is sudden and painless—perhaps pleasant. Death by hanging, there is reason to believe, is attended by a voluptuous spasm. Death by decapitation or electricity is only a momentary shock, hardly felt. Death by poisoning varies in painfulness according to the poison employed. Opium and other narcotics probably give a painless, perhaps a pleasant, dreamful death. Hemlock, as we know from the account of the death of Socrates, causes gradual insensibility, from below upward. On the other hand, arsenic, strychnine, carbolic and mineral acids, corrosive sublimate, tartar emetic, and other metallic poisons inflict slow and torturing death. Prussic acid and cyanide of potassium cause quick and painful death.—The Humanitarian.

Thirty years since newspapers were not known in Japan. Now there are over 700 periodicals.

"SHORTY" AND HIS MACHINE.

How a Tall Telegraph Operator's Original Ideas Caused a Mixup.

There is a telegraph operator in Kansas City so tall that every one calls him "Shorty." Some time ago he brought a new typewriter, and thereby hangs a tale.

The common everyday machine wasn't quite up-to-date enough for him, so he had one made to order. The keyboard is along different lines from the ordinary machine and even the type has a peculiarity of its own. He realized that he needed a word-counting attachment, but the counters on the market were ordinary affairs, so he bought a bicycle cyclometer, and for three months has been putting it in all of his spare time in an effort to convert it into a word counter.

Another of "Shorty's" up-to-date improvements is a "secret sounder." A "secret sounder" is an instrument which fits over the head and brings close to the ear the delicate instrument used in receiving messages from the wire. There is no sound audible to any one excepting the operator who is wearing the device, hence the name—secret sounder. The sounder is connected by a flexible cord, long enough to allow the operator to have a little freedom. A stranger dropped into the newspaper office where "Shorty" was employed one evening and, seeing the man on the end of a rope, asked why they "didn't" take that fellow outside if they had to keep him tethered up that way.

"Shorty" was at a newspaper office a few nights ago and had occasion to use his typewriter on a long story. To say that the copy he turned out was artistic would be putting it mildly—it was a work of art. It pleased him so much that after exiting over it for 15 or 20 minutes and showing it to "the gang," he laid it down on the table, took his typewriter in and placed it on the telegraph editor's desk. Then he returned to the telegraph room well satisfied with himself and every one else.

The typewriter took up too much room on the editor's desk, and he finally came out and asked "Shorty" what he should do with it. It was then discovered that he had delivered his machine to the telegraph editor instead of the story.

In the excitement that followed there was a wild mixup of operators, telegraph editors and beer bottles, and the office devil who came in to see what the row was about got so tangled up in the wires of the secret sounder that they both had to be laid up for repairs.—Kansas City Journal.

Americans in Europe.

The Americans are invading Europe this summer in immense numbers. Some of our countrymen are going there for business, and some of them for pleasure. Europe has been acquainted with the latter these many years, and while the innkeepers, shopkeepers, hack-drivers, and other useful citizens of the monarchies, empires and republics of the Old World were always glad to see us, it cannot be said that they respected us. They were amiable, and were paid for their amiability. What they chiefly liked about the Americans was his easy good-nature in the presence of a large bill. An American would pay a charge that would have landed the innkeeper in jail if it had been presented to the chamberlain of a king. Perhaps this relation between the foreigner and the American will remain. There is a cafe in Paris which charges an American \$9 for a \$3 dinner, for which a Frenchman is charged five francs. It will be difficult for this restaurant keeper to break such an agreeable habit. Most Americans are rich, and those who are care little for the small items of a bill of fare. Americans who are poor, and who know the language, are not liked so much in Paris as the rich Americans, because they decline to pay more for a dinner or a drive than is charged for the same essentials of life to a Russian prince or a branchissime.—Harper's Weekly.

The Old-Fashioned Boy.

At a little dinner of a few old-timers the other night one of the speakers said:

"What has become of the old-fashioned boy? The one who looked like his father when his father carried the sort of pomposity which was like the divinity that hedged a king in the time when kingdom was in its brack o' day. The boy who wore a hat which threatened to come down over his ears. The boy whose trousers were made over from his father's by his mother, or aunt, or grandmother. The boy whose hair had a cow lick in it, before, and was sheared off the same length behind. The boy who walked with both hands in the pockets of his trousers and who expectorated between his teeth when his teeth were clamped together. The boy who never wore knickerbockers or a round-about coat. The boy whose chirography was shaped by the gymnastics of his tongue. The boy who believed his father was the greatest man in the world, and that he could have been president if he had wanted to be. The boy who was his mother's man when the man was away from home."—New York Sun.

She Learned Quickly.

Bridget was just over, and didn't understand the uses of the call bell, so her mistress explained that she was to come to her when she rang it. The next day mildly missed her bell. She called Bridget to inquire about it, and Bridget replied:

"Sure, mum, I have it, and when I want you I'll ring it."—New York Times.

ABOUT ITALIAN PEOPLE.

Noted by Professor F. S. Luther After Three Months in Italy.

One can find districts in the large cities where strangers are uncommon, and can sometimes visit little country villages where the natural life of the people has not been greatly disturbed by the apparition with a guide-book. It is such experiences, all too new and fragmentary, to which I owe a new and most sincere admiration for the Italian people. They are so courteous, so honest, so efficient in their crude handicrafts, that one earnestly wishes them more prosperity than seems likely to come to them. Where the tourists go, begging and petty fraud are greatly in evidence. Move over so little out of the main stream of foreign travel and you find a polite and dependable native population. Undoubtedly these people are sinners most of them, like other Christians; but one need not be constantly on the lookout for the lead lira nor be afraid to smile upon a child lest the mother demand a fee.

I think we often forget that Italy is one of the youngest of the nations; that in only 40 years she has had to do almost all those things whose accomplishment marks the material separation of present civilization from that of the middle ages. The work that has been done is simply enormous. Cities have been torn down and rebuilt, splendid roads have been constructed, railways and electric tram lines are reaching in every direction. Except in unhappy Naples these things seem to have been done by the Italians themselves. The towns are well lighted and generally are furnished with an adequate supply of excellent water. Great progress has been made in the hygienic drainage of the principal cities. Traveling is easy and pleasant wherever I have been, though certainly the trains are slow. This, however, helps reconcile one to the rather high price of tickets and to the charge for carrying baggage. The traveler remains so long on the train that he can justly regard a part of the expense as house rent. Many stories are in circulation about the opening and robbing of trunks in the baggage cars, but I have not been able to fix a definite instance, though I have tried. I dare say such a thing may have happened, but I should regard a trunk as being quite as safe in an Italian car or station as anywhere else out of sight. Possibly the stories are circulated by the tourist agencies that are quite ready, for a consideration, "to insure the safe delivery of luggage."

Evidently these internal improvements thus far mentioned were possible only by reason of the amazing cheapness of labor. Twenty cents a day is the usual wages of the unskilled workman. Think of it! Yet—and this is the darkest side of the situation—in spite of these starvation wages, in spite of the tremendous taxing of all property and incomes, the natural poverty of the country is such that the public works are at a standstill. No more can be paid for at present. At the same time there are strikes in most of the cities (including Pompeii, which certainly seems old enough), and there has been serious trouble in Genoa and Milan. In the present phase of industrial competition, what is a nation to do that has no coal or iron and which cannot live on its own products? Well, it can take boarders. This is what Italy is doing. But it is not good for a people to be mainly dependent on tourists.

In one way and another I have been able to see a good deal of the Italian soldier, and have come to entertain a great respect for him. As a private, he is of just the right size for marching, and he is as strong as iron. The officers, too, are exceptionally fine-looking fellows. Perhaps there is among them the usual proportion of gaudy, tin soldiers, but for the most part they are quiet, self-poised men, with the keen, intellectual look of one who knows how—the face of the confident engineer at whose instance things begin to happen. These gentlemen will pretty surely be heard from if Italy ever comes to blows with her neighbors, a thing which, fortunately, there seems to be no immediate probability.—From a Letter from the Hartford Courant.

A Literary Revulsion.

The stricken wife burst into the library where the husband was busily writing and cast herself at his feet. "Oh, Harold," she pleaded, "don't do it. Please don't do it. Try to master your revenge for my sake and for the sake of your children. Think of your being cast into a murderer's cell! Think of the court trial! Think of the hangman's noose and—"

"There, there, little woman," interrupted the husband; "you have a bad case of hysterics. Try to calm yourself."

"No, I was listening at the door," went on the tearful wife, "when Mr. Publish called. I heard you tell him that you intended to kill Althea—that her death was necessary. I don't know who Althea is, but please spare her life for your happiness and my own."

Then the murderous minded husband took the wife in his arms and explained to her that Althea was the heroine of his latest story, and that to make it interesting her death was necessary.—Ohio State Journal.

Stonehenge Fenced In.

Stonehenge is now shut off from the public by a wire fence, which Sir Edmund Antrobus, the owner of the portion of Salisbury Plain on which the monument stands, is having erected around the stone. A charge of one shilling is made to visitors who may desire to pass this barrier and get a near view of the monument.

THE VILLAGE SMITHY.

No more the roan and chestnut, the plow and the gray.

Pound their iron hoofs upon the smithy's floor;
No more the gig and buggy, the buckboard and coupe
Stand broken down and helpless at the door.

He'll pump you full of ether with an auto sorter laugh,
He's fixtures ready-made to mend the fake
If your tire has collapsed he'll swell it for a half,
With perhaps another dollar for a break.

No more he talks of 'hoss' as he stands upon the green,
And waits the auto traveler on his way.
He's an artist now in wind, and he's happy and serene,
For he's pumping, pumping dollars all the day.

—New York Sun.

HUMOROUS.

Sillicus—Gotrox has a great talent for making money. Cynicus—That isn't a talent; it's a habit.

Blobbe—You seem to have an unpleasant sort of cold. Slobbs—Yes; I never did have luck enough to get a pleasant one.

"Life is at best but a fleeting show," sighed the pessimist. "That's better than no show at all," remarked the optimist.

Nell—Cholly tells me he belongs to the "smart set." Belle—I don't doubt it. He's certainly stupid enough to be eligible.

"The fat lady says she is going to marry you," said the living skeleton to the human centipede. "Well, forewarned is four-armed," remarked the freak who had them.

Poet—But you told me I could see the stars up in this attic. Landlord—And so you can. Just stand up straight and let your head come in contact with the rafters.

"Jenks was telling me he felt blue today, because he had to eat his luncheon alone." "Likes company at his meals, eh?" "Yes; because he usually manages to let the other fellow pay."

"It's pretty hard to select a wife nowadays," remarked Mr. Con Seat; "the average girl of today doesn't know enough." "I've found," replied Mr. Mittens, "that they 'No!' estirilo too much."

"Has there ever been any insanity in your family?" thundered the attorney for the prosecution. The witness for the defence squirmed. "My eldest daughter flitted a milkman and ran off with a poet," he replied sadly.

Scribbler—What are you writing now? Scrawler—A series of articles calls "Advice to Young Girls on Choosing Husbands." Scribbler—Huh! What do you know about it? Scrawler—Well, I've been refused by nine.

"You don't look as if you were all there," remarked the hitching post. "You're right," replied the new garage fence; "I won't feel myself altogether until that lazy carpenter gets a gait on him and gets a gate on me."

"My daughter," said the father of the beautiful girl, "young Mr. Millyuns will very likely propose tonight, and—" "Father," she cried, "I cannot marry him." "No? Well, put him off for a week. I want to borrow another thousand from him."

NUTS AS FOODS.

Highly Concentrated Nourishment, but Difficult to Digest.

Considerable interesting and valuable data relating to the value of nuts in dietaries has been brought together in a recent government bulletin. The conclusions to be drawn from this matter hardly sustain the exaggerated claims in regard to the usefulness of nuts as articles of food. They are unique in the proportion of their assimilable contents. They are extremely high in percentage of fat, running up as high as 71 percent in the case of English walnuts, with a minimum of 37 and 38 percent in the case of acorns and peanuts—that is, if chestnuts be excepted, as they average only 6 or 7 percent. Another unusual characteristic in nuts is the very small water content, averaging only 5 or 6 percent, while, except cereals, the bulk of most food products, such as vegetables and meats, consists of water—beefsteak containing 60 percent and potatoes nearly 80 percent. Protein, the chief food constituent of beefsteak, in the proportion of from 15 to 25 percent, together with carbohydrates or starches, in a somewhat smaller proportion, make up the food elements of nuts. Considering the edible portion of all the nuts, either as dessert nuts or between meals or embedded in confectionery, it is apparent that they represent very concentrated foods. For this reason they are unsuitable for consumption either in large quantities or by themselves, except in the diets of disease-stricken individuals. As regards their indigestibility, the consensus of opinion is that they are very difficult of digestion, and this condition is only made worse by the common practice of over-taxing the digestive organs by eating nuts for dessert when the stomach already had a sufficiency. There is a widespread belief that salt aids the digestion of nuts, and experience appears to bear out this opinion.

RAIDED THE POOL ROOM.

Newport Sports Seem to be "Up Against It."

Cincinnati.—Sheriff Miller Tuesday again raided the pool room at Newport, Ky. The sheriff seized all the tickets, record sheets and all the general paraphernalia of the pool room. With an ax the blackboards were torn down and together with a lot of plunder loaded into a patrol wagon. The paraphernalia will be held for evidence. The proprietors of the pool room declare that Tuesday will find them at the same place again, equipped and ready for business.

Lexington, Ky.—Macklin Cooney,

white, aged 16, was brought here from Versailles to escape a mob. He is charged with attempting to criminally assault Mary Hays, aged 9, near Versailles.

New York.—James T. Harahan,

second vice president of the Illinois Central, who returned from Europe on Saturday, denies the report that the presidency of the Southern Pacific railroad has been offered to him.

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JUST A FEW WORDS

To tell you of some of the many bargains that we have for you. Beginning on

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6,

We will sell some of our new goods for early Autumn wear, at a little less than their real value.

Finest Satteens, worth 50 cents at only	9 CENTS
Best Indigo Blue Prints at only	4 CENTS
Children's Fast Black School Stockings, worth 15 cts at only	10 CENTS
Ladies' Extra Fine Hose, sold everywhere at 25 cents at only	15 CENTS
China Matting, worth 20 cents at only	15 CENTS
Yard wide Bleached Cotton, worth 64 cents at only	5 CENTS

In every department we have special bargains for you, so if you are not already one of our customers, it is time you were coming with the great majority, we will give you better goods for your money every time than any house in the State.

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Trespass Notices

Hunting of any kind on Greenwood plantation, likewise seining, is positively prohibited under penalty of trespass. Any permission heretofore granted is now revoked. No exceptions.

Mrs. B. REED.

From and after this date all hunting of any kind on Ambrosia and Independence plantation is positively prohibited under penalty of trespass. Any one found on these places without permission will be considered trespassing, and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

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The public is hereby warned against buying wood, posts or timber of any kind from tenants on Ogden and Oakley plantation.

Mrs. L. MATTHEWS.

The public is warned against buying fire wood, posts or timber from tenants on Rosewood, Texas and Hazlewood plantations.

JAS. P. BOWMAN.

From and after this date all hunting of any kind in my place, Solitude and Swamp Tract is positively prohibited under penalty of trespass. Any one found on these places without permission will be considered trespassing and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

W. B. SMITH.

From and after this date, all hunting and fishing on the Cottage plantation is positively prohibited under penalty of trespass. Any one found on this place without permission will be considered trespassing and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

RICHARD BUTLER.

Hunting of all kinds, with dog or gun, on the Rosebank, Pecon and Indian Mound plantations, is hereby prohibited under penalty of trespass. Persons found so engaged on any of these places will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Mrs. M. RYLAND.

From and after this date all hunting of any kind on the Pecan Grove plantation is positively prohibited under penalty of trespass. Anyone found on this place without permission will be considered trespassing and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

H. M. LEAKE.

From and after this date all hunting of any kind on the Greenwood plantation is positively prohibited under penalty of trespass. Anyone found on this place without permission will be considered trespassing and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

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