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"Alwato," the Universal Language. (New York Letter.) Stephen Pearl Andrews is a man whom his enemies call a fool, whom his friends call a prophet and pantarch, and whom a great body of the unclassified multitude by the generic name of "crank." He is unconventional. He calls himself reformer and revolutionist. I dropped in on him the other day at his study on Thirty-fourth street. A woman, pen in hand, was sitting down on either side of him, writing down his thoughts as uttered. I knew it was "Alwato," the universal language. "I inquired about its progress. "We are making a dictionary," he said. "The new language will be much shorter than any existing tongue—about twice as short, I should say. It is founded on my discovery that every vocal sound meant something—not arbitrarily, but intrinsically. Every vowel and consonant has its analogue in nature. Existing languages are a clumsy and unscientific effort to get at this. Show me a thing and I will give you a natural name for it—so of a thought, feeling, or what not. Vocal sounds have a natural meaning in speech, just as they have in music. "How many words will the new language have in it? "Millions. That is, there will be certain fundamental bases of speech explained, and from these every speaker will make whatever new words he needs, and these will be at once understood by all hearers. Every word will be only a compound of well known meanings. Do you understand?"

Round the World. (The Current.) There has returned to St. Paul an honored citizen, Judge Flandrau, who has been round the world; and in his recital to The Pioneer Press he has said more in half a column than most authors have been able to squeeze into a whole volume of travels. Canton surprised him; it has 1,000,000 people. He saw Col. Mosby, the ex-Congressman at Hong Kong, and Arabi Bey at Colombo, Ceylon. Cairo is the most cosmopolitan city in the world; the mosque of Mehemet Ali is the finest building the judge ever looked upon. He saw an ostrich ranch with several thousand birds; the eggs are hatched by steam. All Egypt is in the hands of the British, just as much as India. Rome is having a great building boom; it reminds the judge of a western town; money could be made there by a western real-estate speculator. Vienna is as handsome as Chicago, and as full of life. Barney castle is the finest ruin the judge saw. He was gone just six months, the exact length of time he desired to spend, and his opinion of the earth has not been lessened because he could so easily circle it with railroad and steamship tickets.

Prussian Letter-Boxes. [San Francisco Chronicle.] A newly patented method for emptying letter-boxes has been adopted by the Prussian postmaster general, Dr. Stephan. The letters and packages are taken from the boxes in such a way as to render it absolutely impossible for the thief to handle the postal matter. This invention will not only do away with letters being tampered with, but will also control the carrier both as to time and the thorough emptying of the box.

Caryize on the Piano. [London Truth.] I recommend the following passage in "Caryize's Life," to those young pests who without a real notion of music, make the air around them hideous by their everlasting strumming on a piano: "The miserable young woman in the next house to me spends all her young bright days, not in learning to darn stockings, sew shirts, bake pastry, or any art, mystery or business that will profit herself or others; not even in amusing herself or skipping on the grass plots with laughter of her mates, but simply and solely in raging from dawn to dark, to night and midnight, on a hapless piano, which she would never in this world render more musical than a pair of horn clappers! The miserable young female!"

Brick of Silica. [Exchange.] It is said that the sand used in the manufacture of mirrors is now used by a Paris company to make white bricks and blocks, said not to be injured by frost, rain, etc., and to be very light, the specific gravity being only 1.50 to 1.85 of clay bricks. The sand is first strongly pressed by hydraulic power, and then baked in ovens at a very high temperature. The bricks are almost pure silica.

A Novel Enterprise in London. A novel exhibition is to be opened in London in May, 1885, its object being the representation of American life for the benefit of Englishmen who have never crossed the Atlantic ocean. It is proposed to have a complete display of all the products of the United States, manufactured and natural, and an immense panorama is to be provided for the presentation of American scenery.

Generous to a Fault. "You may talk as much as you please," remarked the frangible man, "but let me tell you that I consider your arguments as well as yourself beneath my notice. I don't give you so much as a thought. I hope not," was the response. "I wouldn't have you bankrupt yourself on my account."

A company in New Jersey is making counterpanes and pillow-shams of paper.

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THE CURRENCY ACT. The New Gold Law. FEW COPIES OF THE WEEKLY Pacific Commercial Advertiser of the 29th July, 1884, containing the FULL TEXT of the Currency Act, can be had on application to the P. C. Advertiser Office. Price 25 cents each. Publisher P. C. ADVERTISER.

Advertisements.

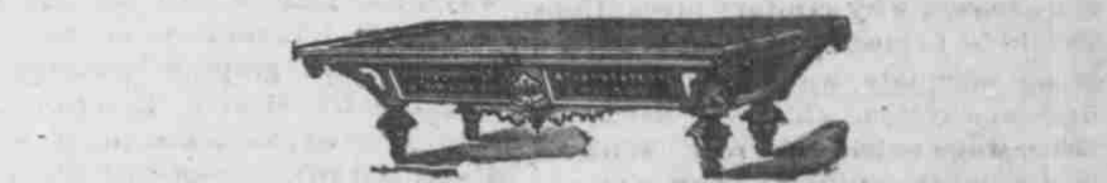
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