

Topics of the Times

Some things go without saying, but a woman's tongue isn't in that class.

The Kickapoo Indians are now governed by a woman. Civilized at last.

We could see through some people before the X-ray was ever invented.

Russia's reign of terror appears to have settled down to a steady drizzle.

After a girl gets to be about so old she ceases to want to go on the stage.

A boy can inherit all his father's bad habits, even when the old man hasn't got them.

The Isle of Pines is now said to be pinning for trouble and is again trying to annex the United States.

Time works wonders. Even life doesn't look the same to a woman of 35 as it did when she was sweet 16.

A Western alderman is reported to be suffering from an application of X-rays. Very few aldermen will bear looking into.

A bachelor says that fully one-third of a woman's pleasures in life are derived from her ability to shed tears at will.

A manufacturer promises to put flying machines on the market at \$1,000 each. Put in your order now, before they go up.

One man says the Duke of Wellington never won a battle; but the news comes too late to be of any comfort to Napoleon.

What a man and his wife say to their guests and what they say about them after their departure are different, quite different.

The German doctor who says that baldness is caused by stifling the imagination evidently must have a luxuriant head of hair.

In relation to this best cure for rheumatism, it at least causes the patient to forget all about his rheumatism for several exhilarating seconds.

Men think they can fool some women all of the time and all women some of the time, but as a matter of fact, they can't fool any of the women any of the time.

Andrew Carnegie thinks many people now living will see England, the United States and Canada merged under one government. He doesn't mention the name of his candidate for President of the united countries.

An English periodical, the Bystander, says New York's "400" is made up of people who lack refinement and adds that there is no such thing as culture in America. How our English cousins do love us—when they can use us for their own profit.

A Missouri man has discovered a new way to get rid of mosquitoes. He says to rub alum on your face and hands. When the mosquito takes a bite it puckers his buzzer so it can't sting. It sits down in a damp place, tries to dig the pucker loose, catches his death of cold, and dies of pneumonia.

Alfred Mosely came to America from England three years ago with thirty carefully selected men to study the schools of this country. His report showed a keen understanding of the merits and the faults of American education. That the merits outweighed the faults is shown by the announcement of his intention to send to the United States and Canada five hundred teachers to learn the educational methods of this continent.

The visit of a scientific expedition to Greeley County, Kansas, in search of information about a meteor which exploded there, has lately called attention to the way history is preserved in names. The Greeley County Court-House is in the village of Tribune, and the nearest railroad station is Horace. It is probable that all the school children in that part of Kansas know the story of Horace Greeley and his great fight in the Tribune for freedom not only in Kansas, but in the rest of the country.

It used to be the fashion, widely prevalent, to scold Eugenie when she was empress of the French for her extravagance in dress. She was criticised for it by all sorts of monitors, more from abroad than at home. It may surprise some who rebuked her so often to know that she has lately told a friend in this country, now when she can have no inducement to misrepresent anything, that only three times in her life—once when she was married, once when her son was baptized and on one other occasion not specified—had she ever worn a gown that cost as much as \$200. Yet in her time she was excoriated as the most richly dressed woman in the world, when millions of American women outclass her in costly raiment every year.

The great lesson of the Russo-Japanese war was that ignorance and corruption can not successfully contend with integrity. The Japanese were educated in the sense that their natural

talents had been developed; in the administration of their affairs there was little or no corruption. The Russians, on the other hand, were densely ignorant. A people of fine talent, those in the ranks had been permitted to sink into a condition little above that of the brute. In the administration of the several departments corruption was in everything, from the corrupt tip of the lowest commissioned officer to the graft of the grand duke charged with supplying the navy with coal. And Russia, the great nation, went down in defeat before Japan, the small. But the fight was lost to Russia before a regiment left for Manchuria or a battle ship sailed for the China Sea.

No matter how much or how little talent a man may have, the first requisite to his success in life is the choice of a calling. There is no way of ascertaining how many men out of 1,000 miss their calling, but apparently the world is almost full of square men in round holes and a large proportion of the manhood of the race is misdirected and practically thrown away. The reason of this is that there is nothing more difficult for a young man or for his parents and friends to do than to tell what he is made for and what he should devote his life to. Take the young man himself first, and he has two obstacles to deal with. In the first place, his best talent may be slowest of all his powers to develop. Some parts of his body grow faster than other parts and it is so with his mental faculties. Most frequently his master passion will show itself from infancy, but in many cases he reaches manhood before he develops the gifts or traits which mark out his life work. In the second place, self-knowledge is the last faculty that any human being develops. During childhood and early manhood, when he needs self-knowledge to determine what occupation to follow, he knows absolutely nothing about himself. Indeed, a man is fortunate if by the time he is gray headed he understands his strong and his weak points and knows what he can do and what he can not do. Of course, these two considerations make it difficult also for a young man's parents to advise and direct him. They have seen his tastes and inclinations change several times already and they do not know but they may change several times more. Sometimes a youth's instincts will lead him aright and mislead those who have the control of him. It is related of a famous painter that his choice led him in boyhood to obtain employment in an artist's studio and that the artist, after watching him a while, advised him to limit his ambition to grinding the colors. This accounts for the large number of eminently successful men who start wrong and change from one calling to another before they achieve success. Some great men have, indeed, in this way acquired a reputation for instability and general worthlessness before they struck the gait that made them famous. This makes it an exceedingly perplexing problem for a young man to determine what he will do and the perplexity is tenfold greater now than it was fifty years ago. There were hundreds of years before that time during which the leading trades and professions were stable and almost stationary, but within one or two generations, owing to the ravages of inventions and labor-saving machinery, they have all either disappeared or been transformed. There is scarcely a business that a young man can take up to-day which may not become obsolete in a few years. In fact, the only thing that is permanent is knowledge. The time will never come when it will not help a man in the race of life to be acquainted with mathematics, physics, history, geography, physiology, chemistry and manual training. Unless he knows something of these sciences he may be unable to discover what he is made for or to do it after he discovers it. Beyond this—such is the present condition of the arts, manufactures, science and politics—a young man is literally compelled to be an opportunist. That is, he must do what he can until he can do something different and better. If he is industrious, sober, economical and watchful a kind Providence will little by little direct him aright.

How He Knew.
In a Kansas City court recently, a negro on the witness-stand was being questioned about a sick horse.
"What was the matter with the horse?" asked the lawyer.
"He was allin'," replied the witness.
"Yes, I know," said the questioner, "but what was the matter?"
"He was jes allin'."
"But what was wrong? With what disease was he suffering?"
"Jes allin'," persisted the negro.
The lawyer was quiet a moment. Then he had a bright idea. He would try to get at the horse's symptoms.
"Well, how do you know he was allin'?" he asked.
"Cause he died," replied the witness.—Kansas City Times.

Clown.
Clown was at first a tattooed person. In Britain and France the country people retained the habit of tattooing or of painting the faces in imitation of tattooing long after it had been abandoned in the cities.

When a girl has to wash dishes and hates it, she finds a melancholy joy in going up to her room at intervals between the spoons and plates, and looking out of the window with what she thinks is a sad, wistful expression in her eyes.

How men are abused! Yet is it not a fact that you know a dozen good men to every unreliable one?

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